



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number: 25-544-CJ

Version Type: AMENDED

Report Date: 7/18/2025 3:02 PM

Status: Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name: Duval County
Sheriff's Dept.

Agency Address: PO BOX 547

Agency City: San Diego

Agency State: TX

Agency Zip: 78384

Director Information

Director Salutation: Sheriff

Director First Name: Romeo

Director Middle Name:

Director Last Name: Ramirez

Reporter Name: KIMBERLY
PEREZ

Reporter Email: kimberly.perez@co.duval.tx.us

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: ERIC

Middle Name: LEO

Last Name: PEREZ

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 8/21/1983

Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 41

Date/Time of Custody (arrest, incarceration) (mm/dd/yyyy hh:mm AM/PM):

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 6/18/2025 11:08 PM

Date/Time of Death (mm/dd/yyyy hh:mm AM/PM):

Death Date and Time: 6/18/2025 11:56 PM

Manner / Cause of Death

Has a medical examiner or coroner conducted an evaluation to determine a cause of death?

Medical Examiner/Coroner Evaluation?: Yes, results are available

What was the manner of death? (select only one)

Manner of Death: Accidental

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Methamphetamine toxicity

Contributory conditions: Cardiomegaly and restraint procedures including conducted energy device (CED)

Had the decedent been receiving treatment for the medical condition that caused the death after admission to your jail's jurisdiction?

Medical Treatment: Unknown

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, who caused the death?

Who caused the death?: Not applicable

If a weapon caused the death, what type of weapon caused the death? (Hold CTRL to select all that apply)

Type of weapon that caused death?: Not Applicable

Was the cause of death the result of a pre-existing medical condition or did the decedent develop the condition after admission?

Pre existing medical condition?: Could not be determined

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, what was the means of death?

Means of Death: Unknown

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address: 401 E COLLINS

City: SAN DIEGO

County: Duval

Zip: 78384

What location category best describes where the event causing the death occurred?

Location Category: Law Enforcement
Facility

What type of custody/facility was the Decedent in at the time of death:

Type of Custody: County Jail

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

Jail - holding cell

What was the time and date of the deceased's entry into the law enforcement facility where the death occurred (mm/dd/yyyy hh:mm AM/PM):

Entry Date Time: 6/18/2025 11:00
PM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location: Medical facility

General Information

Did any other law enforcement agencies respond to calls for service related to this incident?

Other Agencies Respond?: Yes

What were the most serious offense(s) with which the deceased was (or would have been) charged with at the time of death?

Offense 1:

Disorderly Conduct

Offense 2:

Resisting Arrest

Offense 3:

Were the Charges:: Not filed at time of death

What were the types of charges or reason for contact? (Hold CTRL to select all that apply)

Type of Offense: Other, specify

Type of Offense, Other:

Disorderly Conduct
Resisting Arrest

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent display or use a weapon?

Decedent display/use of weapons: No

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Attempt to Injure Others?: No

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Appear intoxicated (alcohol or drugs): Yes

Make suicidal statements?: No

Exhibit any mental health problems?: Unknown

Exhibit any medical problems?: Unknown

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Barricade self or initiate standoff?:	No	Resist being handcuffed or arrested?:	Yes
Physically attempt/assault officer(s):	No	Gain possession of officer's weapon:	No
Verbally threaten other(s) including law:	No	Escape or attempt to escape/flee custody:	No
Attempt gain possession officer's weapon:	No		

Was the deceased under restraint in the time leading up to the death or the events causing the death?

Under Restraint: Yes, mark which restraint devices were used

Type of restraint

Type of Restraint: Handcuffs

Summary of Incident

Summary of How the Death Occurred: (max. 30,000 characters)

Summary:

On June 17, just before midnight, Duval County sheriff's deputies responded to a call about Eric Perez causing a disturbance. Victory EMS, which arrived earlier, advised that Perez's vital signs were good, that he was not cooperative, that he appeared intoxicated, and that he was safe to take to the jail. Perez was arrested for public intoxication and transported to the Duval County jail.

At multiple times throughout the day, Perez refused to complete his booking, fingerprints, and photographs. Perez made requests for medical attention, and San Diego EMS was dispatched to the jail at about 7:00 p.m. Sheriff's office staff and a paramedic attempted to get Perez to exit his cell. Perez refused, saying he would wait until the following morning. EMS left.

At about 7:30 p.m., Perez was informed that he was released. Body-camera footage shows officers' attempts to persuade Perez to exit the cell. Perez asked to have EMS take him to the hospital, and he was reminded that EMS had been there. Officers then lifted Perez, with Perez resisting, and removed him from the cell to the jail's booking area and then to the Sheriff's Office lobby.

Perez remained in the lobby from about 7:44 p.m. to about 8:55 p.m. Recordings show Perez sitting,

standing, and walking in the lobby and show his conversations with at least five officers. Perez again asked for EMS, and after EMS arrived, he again refused transport. Perez asked to speak with his parents. He spoke with his father, on a speakerphone. Attempts to contact Perez's mother were not successful. Perez refused the officers' repeated offers to take him home, to his father's house, to his mother's house, to the hospital, and to other locations of Perez's choice.

At about 8:55 p.m., Perez was told that, if he did not leave the lobby, he would be removed. Video footage shows that officers, with Perez resisting, carried him downstairs and to the exit. A few minutes later, three sheriff's office employees attempted to leave through the same exit. Perez refused additional offers for a ride and said that he would not leave and would stay there until morning.

At about 10:23 p.m., two sheriff's deputies observed Perez walking in and out of the downstairs entrance and shouting. They engaged their body cameras. Perez refused repeated offers to take him home, to his father's house, or to the hospital. Perez was advised that if he did not accept a ride or leave, he would be arrested for disorderly conduct.

At about 10:43 p.m., the officers attempted to arrest and handcuff Perez, who resisted. Two jailers came downstairs to assist. Perez continued to resist, despite warnings that a taser would be used. The taser was used in drive-stun mode, and Perez continued to resist. The officers completed handcuffing of Perez at about 10:48 p.m. After a short break, at about 10:52 p.m., the officers then attempted to assist him walking up the stairs, but he did not cooperate. The officers, assisted by a state trooper that had just arrived, carried Perez up the stairs, through the lobby, and into the office area of the Sheriff's Office. After another break, officers then carried him to a holding cell, placing him there and removing the handcuffs at about 11:00 p.m.

At about 11:03 p.m., a jailer checked on Perez. At about 11:08 p.m., that jailer again checked Perez, saw that he appeared unresponsive, and notified the four sheriff's and two DPS officers in the office area. Officers, jailers, and a dispatcher immediately began CPR, and EMS was summoned. Victory EMS arrived at 11:28, took over CPR, and left with Perez at 11:41 p.m. for the hospital in Alice, where he was pronounced deceased. A Texas Rangers investigation began that night and is pending.