KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	26-365-UF	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	5/8/2026 9:53 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Houston Police Dept.	Agency Address:	1200 Travis, 16th Floor
Agency City:	Houston	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	77002		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	J. Noe
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Diaz		
Reporter Name:	Angeline Grimes	Reporter Email:	angeline.grimes@houstonpolice.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Emerson

Middle Name: Josue

Last Name: Hernandez-Donis

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 2/3/1991 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 35

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 4/11/2026 1:12 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 4/11/2026 2:20 AM

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: Homicide (includes Justifiable Homicide)

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Gunshot wound to the torso right hand with injury of the left axillary artery.

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

Medical Treatment:	Not Applicable

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

Who caused the death?:	Law enforcement/correctional personnel

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?:	Handgun

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?:	Not Applicable; cause of death was accidental injury, intoxication, suicide or homicide

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

Means of Death:	Firearm

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	5400 Airline Drive	City:	Houston
County:	Harris	Zip:	77076

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

Location Category: Parking lot/garage

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

Type of Custody: Pre-Custodial Use of Force

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

Custody of Law Enforcement Personnel during/fleeing arrest

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:

Entry Date Time N/A: ✓

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?: No

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:

Assault of a Public Servant

Offense 2:

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:

Traffic Code Violation

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: Yes, mark all that apply

Decedent Display or Use Weapon Details: Used other weapon, specify:

Specify Weapon Used:

Handcuffs

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

Attempt to Injure Others?:	Yes (select all that apply)
Ways Decedent Attempted To Injure Others:	Injured law enforcement personnel

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

Appear intoxicated (alcohol or drugs):	Unknown	Make suicidal statements?:	No
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	No	Exhibit any medical problems?:	No

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):	Yes	Gain possession of officer's weapon:	No
Verbally threaten other(s) including law:	No	Escape or attempt to escape/flee custody:	Yes
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 Saturday, April 11, 2026, at approximately 0110 hours, a Houston Police Department (HPD) sergeant assigned to North Division observed a speeding vehicle southbound on Airline Drive and followed it. The sergeant followed the vehicle into the parking lot located at 5400 Airline Drive, Houston, Harris County, Texas. The suspect parked his vehicle. The sergeant., positioned directly behind, activated his emergency lights. The suspect then exited his vehicle and attempted to walk away. The sergeant stopped the suspect, identified himself as Houston Police, speaking in Spanish, said that he did not have a license and insurance. The sergeant went to detain the suspect, and after placing one handcuff on the suspect's right hand, the suspect resisted, and struggle ensued.

During the struggle, they both fell to the ground, and they were wrestling on the ground. The suspect eventually got on top of the sergeant and struck the sergeant with an unknown object. The sergeant unholstered and discharged his duty weapon, striking the suspect. The suspect fled on foot and was apprehended shortly after by responding officers. The suspect was transported to HCA Northwest hospital where he was later pronounced deceased at 0220 hours. The sergeant sustained multiple minor injuries. No other officers or citizens were hurt during this incident.