



# KEN PAXTON

## ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

### CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

## Agency Information

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CDR Number: 17-698-UF

Version Type: ORIGINAL  
VERSION

Report Date: 1/9/2018 9:14 AM

Status: Submitted

## Agency/Facility Information

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Agency Name: Mineral Wells  
Police Dept.

Agency Address: PO BOX 460

Agency City: Mineral Wells

Agency State: TX

Agency Zip: 76068

## Director Information

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Director Salutation: Chief

Director First Name: Dean

Director Middle Name:

Director Last Name: Sullivan

Reporter Name: Dean Sullivan

Reporter Email: policechief@mineralwellstx.gov

## Decedent Information

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## Identity of Deceased

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First Name: Ronnie

Middle Name: Lee

Last Name: Hart

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 11/10/1954

Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 63

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

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Date/Time of Custody or  
Incident: 12/9/2017 4:43 PM

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

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Death Date and Time: 12/11/2017 2:15  
PM

## Manner / Cause of Death

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

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

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

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Manner of Death: Homicide (includes  
Justifiable

Homicide)

Medical Cause of Death:

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Medical Cause of Death:

MULTIPLE GUNSHOT WOUNDS OF ABDOMEN

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

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Medical Treatment: Yes

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

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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)

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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?

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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?

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Means of Death: Firearm

## Location / Custody Information

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Where did the event causing the death occur?

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Street Address: 505 SW 20th St

City: Mineral Wells

County: Palo Pinto

Zip: 76067

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

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Location Category: Residence/Home

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

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Type of Custody: Pre-Custodial Use  
of Force

Specific type of custody/facility:

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Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

N/A

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):

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Entry Date Time:

Entry Date Time N/A: ☒

Where did the death occur?

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Death Location: Medical facility

## General Information

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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:

Aggravated Assault on a Peace Officer

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: Violent Crime  
Against Persons;  
Alcohol / drug  
offense; Medical /  
Mental Health  
assistance call

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: Displayed firearm without discharge

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: Attempted to injure 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): | Yes     | Make suicidal statements?:     | Unknown |
| Exhibit any mental health problems?:   | Unknown | Exhibit any medical problems?: | Yes     |

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?:     | N/A |
| Physically attempt/assault officer(s):    | N/A | Gain possession of officer's weapon:      | No  |
| Verbally threaten other(s) including law: | Yes | 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: No

## Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

Summary:

Initial Call

Around 1646 hrs. on December 9, 2017 Officer responded to a 911 call for medical assistance at 505 SW 20th St. Mineral Wells for the subject, Ronnie Hart. For several months, law enforcement has responded to

this location after Mr. Hart previously assaulted EMS personnel during a call for service, and had continued to make threats towards first responders during subsequent calls to this location. First responders had noted the presence of a weapon, firearm, beside Mr. Hart's bed during previous calls of service. The location had also been identified as a potentially hazardous location to all first responders. A Law enforcements response was included to make the scene safe before medical personnel entered to provide medical assistance. On numerous occasions Mr. Hart was found to be heavily intoxicated and belligerent to first responders. Upon arrival by the officer on this occasion, the officer attempted to calm Mr. Hart as Mr. Hart made direct threats to this officer. At one point during this encounter, Mr. Hart grabbed a holstered weapon from beside the bed. The Officer began giving verbal commands to Mr. Hart to drop the weapon while the officer sought cover and attempted to retreat. Officer lost his footing, once the Officer regained his footing, Mr. Hart had upholstered the weapon and had it pointed at the Officer. The Officer perceived this threat, was in fear, and discharged his duty weapon in response striking Mr. Hart.