KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	22-1814-PF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	1/17/2023 10:58 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:	Troy
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Finner		
Reporter Name:	Kimberly Fowler	Reporter Email:	kimberly.fowler@houstonpolice.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Ricky

Middle Name:

Last Name: Ortega

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 12/10/1992

Sex: Male

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 30

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 12/26/2022 2:26 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 12/26/2022 3:43 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: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Gunshot wound of head

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?: Decedent

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:	12640 Hempstead Road	City:	Houston
County:	Harris	Zip:	77092

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

Location Category: Residence/Home

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

Type of Custody: Private Facility

Specific type of custody/facility:

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):

Entry Date Time:

Entry Date Time N/A: ☑

Where did the death occur?

Death Location: Scene of incident

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:

Felony Warrant-Evading

Offense 2:

Misd Warrant-DWI

Offense 3:

Misd Warrant-DWI 2nd Offense

Were the Charges:: Filed

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:

Call for service-Welfare Check

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:

Semi-automatic handgun

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

Attempt to Injure Others?: Unknown

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?:	Yes
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Yes	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?:	Yes	Resist being handcuffed or arrested?:	No
Physically attempt/assault officer(s):	No	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:

On Monday, December 26, 2022, Houston Police Officers assigned to Northwest Patrol were dispatched to a call for service regarding a male complainant threatening to hurt himself and his mother inside of a trailer home. Officers arrived and attempted to contact the male and he refused to come outside to speak to officers. Officers had been advised by family that the suspect had access to a gun inside the trailer. After receiving the male's full name, officers found that the male had an outstanding felony warrant. Officers contacted SWAT and were waiting outside when the male suddenly walked outside and toward the back of the trailer where he fired on shot from a handgun, injuring himself. The male was transported to a Memorial Hermann Greater Heights where he was pronounced deceased. Officers did not discharge their firearms. No officers were injured.