



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number: 23-257-UF

Version Type: ORIGINAL
VERSION

Report Date: 3/14/2023 10:23
AM

Status: Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name: Port Arthur Police
Dept.

Agency Address: 645 4th St.

Agency City: Port Arthur

Agency State: TX

Agency Zip: 77641

Director Information

Director Salutation: Chief

Director First Name: Timothy

Director Middle Name:

Director Last Name: Duriso

Reporter Name: Timothy Duriso

Reporter Email: timothy.duriso@portarthurtx.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Jovanny

Middle Name: Israel

Last Name: Vanegas

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 7/25/1994

Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 28

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

Date/Time of Custody or
Incident: 2/23/2023 4:49 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 2/23/2023 5:20 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: Other - specify

Manner of Death Description:

According to JP Joseph Guillory after reviewing the autopsy report, Mr. Vanegas did not suffer any trauma, however, the toxicology report is pending.

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

The medical cause of death is awaiting the toxicology and final reports.

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?: Unknown whether
decedent sustained
a fatal injury

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: Other, specify

Means of Death Other: Mr. Vanegas
passed and a
preliminary autopsy
was completed
indicating no trauma
was involved.

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address: 800 block of San Jacinto Avenue

City: Port Arthur

County: Jefferson

Zip: 77641

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

Location Category: Roadway/highway/street/sidewalk

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 subsequent to 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: 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:

Resisting Arrest and Attempt to take a Weapon

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:

Family Disturbance

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?: 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?:	No
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Unknown	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:	Yes	Escape or attempt to escape/flee custody:	No
Attempt gain possession officer's weapon:	Yes		

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 February 23, 2023, Officers responded to the 800 block of San Jacinto Avenue, Port Arthur, Jefferson County, Texas, in response to a disturbance. Officer R. Bray arrived on scene and spoke with family members of Mr. Jovanny Vanegas, the decedent. When Officer L. Johnson arrived to assist Officer Bray, both

Officers approached Mr. Vanegas in an attempt to de-escalate the situation, however, he did not comply. Mr. Vanegas advanced towards Officers and attempted to take Officer Bray's taser. Officer Bray was able to retain his taser and separate himself from Vanegas, before deploying it. According to a police report filed by Officer Bray, after taser and OC spray were deployed, Mr. Vanegas remained combative, so Officer L. Johnson deployed (at some point) her taser in an attempt to gain compliance. Eventually Officers were able to control the situation and EMS was called to the scene. After the incident with the Officers and before reaching the hospital, Mr. Vanegas passed.