KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	23-923-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	1/23/2024 2:51 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Bell County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	104 S. Main
Agency City:	Belton	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	76513		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Eddy
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Lange		
Reporter Name:	Shane Sowell	Reporter Email:	shane.sowell@bellcounty.texas.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Tyler

Middle Name: Thomas

Last Name: Ross

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 12/21/1999 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 23

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 7/3/2023 7:50 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 7/11/2023 2:56 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: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Hanging.

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

Medical Treatment:	No

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?:	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?:	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:	Hanging, strangulation

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	2405 S. Loop 121	City:	Belton
County:	Bell	Zip:	76513

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:	7/3/2023 7:50 PM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location:	Law enforcement facility/booking center

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:

PC 22.02(a)(2) / Agg Assault w/deadly weapon warrant #2020-517-C1

Offense 2:

PC 38.04(b)(2)(A) / Evading arrest Det w/veh

Offense 3:

Were the Charges:: Filed

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

Type of Offense: Violent Crime Against Persons

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):	No	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?:	No

Physically attempt/assault officer(s):	No	Gain possession of officer's weapon:	No
Verbally threaten other(s) including law:	Unknown	Escape or attempt to escape/flee custody:	Yes
Attempt gain possession officer's weapon:	Unknown		

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 July 3, 2023, at approximately 7:50 pm, Tyler Thomas Ross was brought into the temporary triage area of intake and screened by jail staff. Once screened by staff, he was placed in a temporary holding cell waiting to be changed out and moved to intake for processing. Inmate Ross was found to be hanging inside the cell. A medical emergency was called and life saving measures were performed until Temple EMS arrived and took over for medical personnel. Inmate Ross was transported by ambulance to Baylor Scott and White emergency room and admitted.

On July 11, 2023, Justice of the Peace Larry Wilkey pronounce Tyler Ross deceased at 2:56 pm and ordered an autopsy. At the time of this report, final autopsy report is still pending.

Updated January 23, 2024
Autopsy Report -
July 14, 2023 at 0730 hours
Pathologist Jagbir Khangura, M.D. Hill Country Forensics LLC, 2334 Rockride LN, Bldg 1, Georgetown, Tx 78626

Findings:
I. Hanging
a. Lighly abraded, upward slanting ligature furrow partially encircles the neck.
b. Severe cerebral edema (prolonged hospitalization).
c. Per history, the decedent was found hanging with a cord from his clothing around his neck in his prison cell. The descendent was transported to a hospital where he later expired.

Cause of Death: Hanging

Manner of Death: Suicide

Signed off by Jagbir Khangura, M.D. Forensic Pathologist on 9/26/2023