KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

# CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

## Agency Information

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|---|---|---|---|
| CDR Number: | 24-1677-UF | Version Type: | ORIGINAL VERSION |
| Report Date: | 1/2/2025 8:40 AM | Status: | Submitted |

### Agency/Facility Information

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Agency Name: | Texas Department Of Public Safety | Agency Address: | PO BOX 4087 |
| Agency City: | Austin | Agency State: | TX |
| Agency Zip: | 78773 | | |

### Director Information

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Director Salutation: | Director | Director First Name: | Freeman |
| Director Middle Name: | | | |
| Director Last Name: | Martin | | |
| Reporter Name: | Joanne Scarbrough | Reporter Email: | joanne.scarbrough@dps.texas.gov |

## Decedent Information

### Identity of Deceased

First Name: Jose

Middle Name: Manuel

Last Name: Ruiz-Sanchez

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 9/24/1978 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 45

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 12/18/2024 6:03 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 6/17/2024 6:17 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 pending

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

Manner of Death: Homicide (includes Justifiable

Homicide)

## Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Gun shot wounds

## 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: | Not Applicable |

## 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?: | Rifle/shotgun |

## 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

## Where did the event causing the death occur?

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Street Address: | 2405 Church Street<br>Lot #54 | City: | Gonzales |
| County: | Gonzales | Zip: | 78629 |

## 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: 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: Scene of incident

# General Information

## 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:

Arson

Offense 2:

Attempted Capital Murder of Peace Officer

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: Crime Against Property

## 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 other weapon, specify:

Specify Weapon Displayed:

Large kitchen knife

### 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?: | 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?: | Yes | 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: | No | | |

### Was the deceased under restraint in the time leading up to the death or the events causing the death?

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| Under Restraint: | No |

## Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

On December 17, 2024, Jose Manuel Ruiz-Sanchez ("Ruiz") was identified on video setting fire to a residence in Gonzales County. Law enforcement officers went to Mr. Ruiz' residence to speak with him about

the arson. Mr. Ruiz yelled expletives at officers, refused to exit, and discharged a fire extinguisher from a window. Officers established a perimeter around the residence. A district judge signed a warrant to arrest Mr. Ruiz and search his home.

On December 18, 2024, at approximately 5:00 AM, officers re-initiated negotiations with Mr. Ruiz to effectuate his peaceful surrender. Instead, Mr. Ruiz held a large kitchen knife at his residence's front door. Officers commanded Mr. Ruiz to drop his knife. When Mr. Ruiz refused, officers deployed less-than-lethal weapons to get him to drop his weapon so they could arrest him peacefully. Mr. Ruiz continued to ignore officers' repeated verbal commands to put down his knife. When Mr. Ruiz approached officers with his knife, they shot him.