KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	20-1966-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	1/9/2025 1:59 PM	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:	Director	Director First Name:	Sheryal
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Armstrong		
Reporter Name:	Kimberly Fowler	Reporter Email:	kimberly.fowler@houstonpolice.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Ariel

Middle Name: Esau

Last Name: Lujan

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 3/5/1991 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 29

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 10/9/2020 7:14 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 10/9/2020 7:46 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: Homicide (includes Justifiable Homicide)

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Gunshot wound to the head and upper extremities

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?: Law enforcement/correctional personnel

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?: Rifle/shotgun

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: 6229 Almeda Genoa Road

City: Houston

County: Harris

Zip: 77048

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

Location Category: Other, specify

Other Location Category:

Trailer Home Park

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?: 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:

Capital Murder

Offense 2:

Aggravated Assault on a Public Servant

Offense 3:

Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon

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:

Shooting in Progress

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: Discharged firearm

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; Killed civilian(s) or other inmate(s)

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?:	Yes	Resist being handcuffed or arrested?:	Yes
Physically attempt/assault officer(s):	No	Gain possession of officer's weapon:	No
Verbally threaten other(s) including law:	No	Escape or attempt to escape/flee custody:	Yes
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 Friday, October 9, 2020, at approximately 1906 hours several officers with the Southeast Patrol Division were dispatched to a shooting in progress at a Trailer Home Park located at 6229 Almeda Genoa Road #19. Officers were informed that a suspect, later identified as Ariel Esau Lujan, was armed with rifle and was attempting to kill his pregnant girlfriend. While enroute, numerous additional 911 calls were made by neighbors reporting that shots has been fired. One update informed officers that a child had been shot at the scene. Officers arrived minutes later to see Mr. Lujan walking in the Trailer Home Park while pointing a rifle at a male. At this point officers confronted the suspect and ordered him numerous times to drop the gun. Mr. Lujan ignored these commands and took up a tactical position behind a vehicle and pointed his assault type rifle at the responding officers. Fearing for his life and the life of his fellow officers, Officer D. Passarella discharged his duty rifle multiple times striking Mr. Lujan to the point he was incapacitated. Officers approached and rendered first aid to Mr. Lujan. Mr. Lujan was transported to Ben Taub Hospital by the Houston Fire Department where he succumbed to his gunshot wounds.

Detectives late learned that prior to the police arrival Mr. Lujan did in fact to go to his girlfriend, Mr. Veronica Valencia's home, where he was attempting to break into the house. Mr. Lujan fired numerous rounds into the home striking Mr. Valencia and her three year old son. Ms. Valencia was transported to Memorial Hermann Hospital with non-life threatening gunshot wounds, and her son was transported to Texas Children's Hospital where he succumbed to a single gunshot wound to his head. This investigation is still ongoing.