



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number: 25-352-CJ

Version Type: AMENDED

Report Date: 5/9/2025 10:45 AM

Status: Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name: Austin County
Sheriff's Office

Agency Address: 417 N. Chesley St..

Agency City: Bellville

Agency State: TX

Agency Zip: 77418

Director Information

Director Salutation: Sheriff

Director First Name: Jack

Director Middle Name:

Director Last Name: Brandes

Reporter Name: Donald Darracq

Reporter Email: donalddd@austincountyso.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Michael

Middle Name: Dewayne

Last Name: Portis

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 6/8/1974

Sex: Male

Race: Black or African
American

Age At Time Of Death: 50

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

Date/Time of Custody or
Incident: 5/1/2025 2:51 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 5/8/2025 5:07 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: Natural

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Diabetic Ketoacidosis

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?: Not applicable

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: Not applicable, cause of death was illness/natural cause

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address: 417 N. Chesley St

City: Bellville

County: Austin

Zip: 77418

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:

Hospital/Infirmary

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: 5/1/2025 2:51 PM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location: Medical facility

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:

Possession of controlled substance PG 1/1-b >=1g,4g

Offense 2:

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: Alcohol / drug
offense

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): 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?: N/A

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: No

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 05/05/2025 around 1739 hours, decedent was moved, for his safety, to separation cell 3 after being assaulted by two other inmates reported decedent walking around naked and "talking crazy". Decedent refused medical attention post as had him examined by jail nurse on 5/6/2025 around 0727 hours. and found to be ok.

On 05/07/2025 around 0754 hours, jail sergeant contacted the jail doctor to inform him that decedent was detoxing and staff helped him up and attempted to get decedent to eat and drink fluids. The jail doctor advised he would instruct the jail staff to monitor decedent's vitals and that the jail staff should continue attempting to get decedent to drink fluids. Jail sergeant advised jail nurse would not be working that day. Jail doctor acknowledged and advised jail sergeant to phone him if anything changed. On 5/7/2025 around 11:45 hours, decedent was placed on "medical watch" (15 minute checks).

On 5/8/2025 around 0320 hours, jailer checked on decedent and became concerned whether decedent was breathing. Jail sergeant to assist. When decedent was rolled over, jail sergeant noticed a small quantity of vomit on the floor and decedent was not breathing. Jail sergeant directed jail staff, via radio, to contact emergency medical services (EMS) and directed the jailer. Jail captain and jail lieutenant were both contacted and advised of the situation. EMS arrived and advised the jail sergeant was able to get a pulse. Decedent was transported, by ambulance to Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital and pronounced on 05/08/2025 at 0507 hours.

Texas Rangers were notified and responded to conduct the investigation.

Texas Jail Commission was notified.

Decedent was sent for autopsy – result pending

Autopsy Report dated May 9, 2025 - Cause of Death: Diabetic Ketoacidosis Manner of Death: Natural