KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-729-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	9/15/2025 4:49 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Dawson County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	PO BOX 1268
Agency City:	Lamesa	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	79331		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	MATT
Director Middle Name:	I		
Director Last Name:	HOGG		
Reporter Name:	MATT HOGG	Reporter Email:	matt.hogg@co.dawson.tx.us

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: ROSENDO

Middle Name:

Last Name: GAITAN

Suffix: JR

Date of Birth: 7/26/1992 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 33

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 9/12/2025 2:15 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 9/12/2025 2:26 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 back

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?: Handgun

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:	2200 Block of TX Hwy 137	City:	LAMESA
County:	Dawson	Zip:	79331

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:

N/A

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:
Evading Arrest or Detention in a vehicle	
	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:	Medical / Mental Health assistance call

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

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Appear intoxicated (alcohol or drugs):	Unknown	Make suicidal statements?:	Unknown
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Unknown	Exhibit any medical problems?:	Unknown

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):	Yes	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 Friday, 09-12-2025, at approximately 2:10 p.m., a traffic stop was attempted by deputies on the decedent, Rosendo Gaitan, Jr. Gaitan refused to stop his vehicle and was forced to stop by deputies. As Gaitan exited his vehicle, he immediately began to shoot from a semi-automatic rifle at a deputy's vehicle while running east from TX 137 in Dawson County, TX. The deputy's vehicle was struck in the front windshield by one of the bullets that was fired by Gaitan. The deputy returned fire from the front seat of the patrol vehicle as Gaitan was running with the rifle, striking Gaitan. EMS was summoned and pronounced Gaitan deceased at 2:26 p.m. This incident is being investigated by the Texas Rangers.