KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-780-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	10/1/2025 9:08 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Denton County Sheriff's Office.	Agency Address:	127 N. Woodrow Ln. Suite 300
Agency City:	Denton	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	76205		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Tracy
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Murphree		
Reporter Name:	Michael Tutt	Reporter Email:	michael.tutt@dentoncounty.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Donald

Middle Name: King

Last Name: Dunlap

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 7/8/1948 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 77

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 3/9/2024 4:02 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 9/26/2025 1:18 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: Natural

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

During the initial medical intake assessment, Mr. Dunlap reported having stage 3 kidney failure, Parkinson’s disease, and degenerative disc disease. On 01/22/2026, DCSO received the ME's report confirming the Cause of Death to be complications of Parkinson's disease and Pancreatic neoplasm.

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

Medical Treatment: Yes

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?: Pre-existing medical condition

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:	127 N. Woodrow Lane	City:	Denton
County:	Denton	Zip:	76205

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:	3/9/2024 4:02 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?: 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:

Agg Sexual Assault Child

Offense 2:

Agg Sexual Assault Child

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?: Unknown

Exhibit any medical problems?: Yes

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?:	N/A
Physically attempt/assault officer(s):	N/A	Gain possession of officer's weapon:	N/A
Verbally threaten other(s) including law:	N/A	Escape or attempt to escape/flee custody:	N/A
Attempt gain possession officer's weapon:	N/A		

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:

Inmate Donald Dunlap (SO #245876) is a 77-year-old male who was booked into the Denton County Jail on March 9, 2024, on two counts of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child. During the initial medical intake assessment, Mr. Dunlap reported having stage 3 kidney failure, Parkinson’s disease, and degenerative disc disease.

Since his incarceration, Mr. Dunlap has required multiple hospitalizations, the most recent occurring from August 26, 2025, to September 3, 2025. When not hospitalized, he has been continuously housed in the Tower Jail Medical/Infirmary since March 5, 2025.

On September 4, 2025, Correctional Health Administrator John Kissinger notified Chief Rich that a Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) order was in place for Mr. Dunlap. On September 5, 2025, Chief Rich received further updates regarding Mr. Dunlap’s condition. His daughter signed an authorization for hospice to come into the jail. Hospice was scheduled to start coming into the jail at least three days per week.

On 09-05-2025. medical files document that Mr. Dunlap's health had deteriorated to the point of hospital dependence and that he was being transitioned to Hospice/palliative care. Mr. Dunlap's admitting diagnosis for Hospice was Malignant Neoplasm of the Pancreas.

On September 6, 2025, Sergeant Esmeralda Diaz was observing camera (TWR-M-C118 Medical Inmate Cell C) footage for Mr. Dunlap's cell. Sergeant Diaz observed Mr. Dunlap's chest not rising. Sergeant Diaz responded to his cell and called out his name and received no response. Sergeant Diaz placed her right hand on Mr. Dunlap's shoulder and did not observe his chest rising and he was not responsive. Sergeant Diaz notified medical staff. Medical staff Jonathan Barnes determined that Mr. Dunlap had passed away. The hospice nurse was notified along with Denton County Sheriff's Office deputies to respond to the jail. According to documentation on Report #25-009354, hospice nurse Christi "Molly" Patterson pronounced the time of death at 1:18 pm on September 26, 2025.