KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-963-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	12/1/2025 1:42 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Chambers County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	PO BOX 998
Agency City:	Anahuac	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	77514		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Brian
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Hawthorne		
Reporter Name:	Nate Shelton	Reporter Email:	nshelton@chamberstx.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Christopher

Middle Name: Taylor

Last Name: Elder

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 2/19/1985 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 40

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 11/15/2025 7:00 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 11/16/2025 12:50 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: Alcohol/Drug Intoxication

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Acute methanol poisoning

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?: Decedent

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?: 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: Drug overdose

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	201 North Court	City:	Anahuac
County:	Chambers	Zip:	77514

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:
Jail - single cell

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:	11/15/2025 7:44 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:

Public Intoxication - Misdemeanor C

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:	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?:	No	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 Saturday, November 15, 2025, at approximately 1900 hours, a deputy was dispatched to the 1300 block of SH 124 in Winnie, Chambers County, Texas 77565, regarding an unwanted subject who was bothering customers. Upon arrival, the deputy located the subject, later identified as Christopher Elder, in the 1400 block of SH 124. While speaking with Elder, the deputy observed the following signs of intoxication: unsteady gait, pinpoint pupils, glassy eyes, along with thick/slurred speech. Elder was believed to be intoxicated on an unknown illegal narcotic and was subsequently arrested for Public Intoxication - Texas Penal Code 49.02 Misdemeanor C. Elder was transported to the Chambers County Jail and released to jail staff. During the booking process, Elder refused to cooperate with jailers during the medical screening. Elder was placed into a single cell and was monitored by jailers. At approximately 2343 hours, Elders was found in the cell unresponsive but was breathing and had a pulse; first aid and life-saving measures began. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) was dispatched to the jail, where Elder was transported to Bayside Hospital in Anahuac, Texas. Elder was pronounced deceased on November 16, 2025, at 0050 hours by the doctor. The Department of Public Safety—Texas Rangers Division was notified and responded to the scene to investigate the incident. An autopsy was conducted that resutled in the forensic pathologist concluding Elder died as a result of acute methanol poisoning. The manner of death was ruled an accident.