KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	26-605-CJ	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	8/10/2026 3:32 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Bowie County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	100 North State Line, BOX 18
Agency City:	Texarkana	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75501		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	JEFF
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	NEAL		
Reporter Name:	Robby McCarver	Reporter Email:	robby.mccarver@bowiecounty.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Billy

Middle Name: Lyon

Last Name: McDonald

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 11/8/1963 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 62

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 8/7/2026 4:27 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 8/7/2026 5:03 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 pending

What was the manner of death? (select only one)

Manner of Death: Pending autopsy results

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Pending autopsy results

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

Medical Treatment: Unknown

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: Unknown

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	105 West Front Street	City:	Texarkana
County:	Bowie	Zip:	75501

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 - multiple occupancy 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:	1/7/2026 2:07 AM

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:

Evading Arrest with a Vehicle

Offense 2:

Possession of a Controlled Substance PG2 Under 1 gr

Offense 3:

Hold for AR Parole Violation

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; Other, specify

Type of Offense, Other:

Evading Arrest with a Vehicle, Parole Violation out of the State of AR

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?:	No	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?:	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 8-7-2026 (approximately 4:27pm) personnel with the Bowie County Detention Center called for medical assistance after finding an unresponsive inmate. Inmate Billy McDonald w/m 11-8-1963 was found not breathing after cell mates called for assistance from one of the correctional officers. CO Austin Edwards entered the cell and found Inmate McDonald in his bunk, not breathing. He was moved to the floor, and lifesaving efforts were started. Facility medical staff arrived and also assisted until Life Net EMS responded and took over life-saving efforts. Those efforts ultimately failed and McDonald was pronounced dead at 5:03pm. There were no indications of foul play. McDonald had significant health issues and was obese. He was being treated in our jail facility for heart issues as well as diabetes.

Justice of the Peace Jay Womack responded and ordered the autopsy of McDonald. We also contacted TX Ranger Joshua Mason to complete the investigation into the death. McDonald was transported to the Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences at Dallas to determine the cause of death.