KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	18-1086-CJ	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	11/8/2018 11:08 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Harris County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	1200 Baker Street
Agency City:	Houston	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	77002		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Ed
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Gonzalez		
Reporter Name:	Ronny Taylor	Reporter Email:	ronny.taylor@sheriff.hctx.net

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Debora

Middle Name: Ann

Last Name: Lyons

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 10/29/1959

Sex: Female

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 58

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 8/14/2018 8:04 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 8/15/2018 3:07 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: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Hanging

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?: 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: Hanging, strangulation

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	1200 Baker Street	City:	Houston
County:	Harris	Zip:	77002

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:	7/22/2018 4:36 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?: No

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:

Theft <$2,500 / 2/More Prev.

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: Crime Against Property

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?: Yes

Exhibit any mental health problems?: Yes

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:

On August 15, 2018, Inmate Debora Lyons, SPN 02401790 died in custody at Ben Taub Hospital located at 1504 Taub Loop Houston, Texas 77030. Inmate Lyons was pronounced deceased by attending physician Dr. M. Tolcher at 1357 hours. Inmate Lyons, a black female 58 years of age had been in the custody of the Harris County Sheriff's Office since her arrest by Houston PD for Theft <$2500 2/more previous, case # 159885, with a $1,500 bond as-signed to the 263rd District Court.
Preliminarily, the video indicates on August 14, 2018, at 1758 hours, Inmate Lyons exited the cell 4D1A to receive insulin. At this time, Inmate Lyons had secured a sheet around her waist and concealed it. At 1804 hours she opened the door to a Multi-purpose Room and entered, closing the door behind her. At 1848 hours Inmates attending a church service in the Multi-purpose Room opened the door to enter discovering Inmate Lyons hanging inside the door. Staff immediately responded, began CPR and contacted medical staff. At 1857 hours medical staff arrived in the clinic with Inmate Lyons on a stretcher. At 1858 hours the Houston Fire Department (HFD)was notified. At 1905 hours HFD arrived on scene and transported inmate Lyons to Ben Taub Hospital.

On August 15, 2018 at 1357 hours Inmate Lyons was pronounced deceased by attending physician Dr. M. Tolcher.