KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	21-115-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	8/10/2021 9:14 AM	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: William

Middle Name: Neal

Last Name: Kennedy

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 3/18/1954 Sex: Male

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 66

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 1/12/2021 5:04 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 2/8/2021 6:32 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:

Per autopsy findings: "William Neal Kennedy, a 66-year old black man, died as a result of Covid-19. Hypertensive and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease in conjunction with diabetes mellitus contributed to his death."

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: Unknown

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	100 North State Line Avenue	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:

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:	1/12/2021 5:04 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:

Probation Violation for Possession of a Controlled Substance PG1 U/1gr

Offense 2:

Offense 3:

Were the Charges:: A probation/parole violation

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):	No	Make suicidal statements?:	Unknown
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		Gain possession of officer's	

officer(s):	No	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:	Yes, mark which restraint devices were used

Type of restraint

Type of Restraint:	Handcuffs

Summary of Incident

Summary of How the Death Occurred: (max. 30,000 characters)

Summary:

Inmate William Neal Kennedy was in our facility and had been scheduled to appear before Bowie County District Judge Bill Miller (5th District Court of Bowie County TX) due to Probation Violation. He was arrested on 1-12-2021 and was scheduled to appear in Judge Miller's Court on 1-25-2021. While waiting outside of the courtroom, Kennedy appeared ill and fell unconscious. Emergency medical services were summoned and he was transported to Wadley Hospital for treatment. It was then determined that Kennedy was positive for Covid-19 and also suffered from diabetes and high blood pressure. Kennedy's condition rapidly declined and he was placed on a ventilator to aid in his care. On 2-8-2021, Kennedy was placed on Hospice care and the decision was made to remove the ventilator. Kennedy died later the same date (approximately 6:32pm). Captain David Biggar notified TX Ranger Joshua Mason and requested assistance from their agency as required for custodial death investigation. Justice of the Peace Nancy Talley ordered an autopsy and Kennedy was transported to the Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences at Dallas (SWIFS) for examination. Medical records from Wadley Hospital will be forwarded to SWIFS to assist in their investigation.

Amendment....Due to a typing error on the initial report, the date used in the above narrative was incorrectly listed as 1-25-2021 for the inmate's appearance date in Judge Miller's Court. Inmate Kennedy was to appear on 1-26-2021 but fell ill as describe above.

Amendment....Medical findings from forensic medical exam determined that William Neal Kennedy died of natural causes.