KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	21-865-MJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	7/7/2022 10:01 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Brownsville Police Dept.	Agency Address:	600 E. Jackson
Agency City:	Brownsville	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78520		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Felix
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Sauceda Jr.		
Reporter Name:	Fernando Flores	Reporter Email:	fernando.flores@brownsvilletx.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Veronica

Middle Name: Carmona

Last Name: Peranez

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 7/21/1988 Sex: Female

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 32

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 6/17/2021 6:08 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 6/17/2021 10:17 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: Accidental

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Combined Liver Lacerations due to Motor Vehicle Collisions and Acute Combined Cocaine and Ethanol Toxicity.

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?: Vehicle-involved death

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:	600 E. Jackson St.	City:	Brownsville
County:	Cameron	Zip:	78520

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:	Municipal 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:	6/17/2021 6:13 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:

Abandoning or Endangering Child

Offense 2:

Abandoning or Endangering Child

Offense 3:

Resisting Arrest/Search/Transportation

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; Crimes Against Child(ren); 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: Yes, mark all that apply

Decedent Display or Use Weapon Details: Used vehicle as weapon

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Attempt to Injure Others?: Yes (select all that apply)

Ways Decedent Attempted To Injure Others: Injured civilian(s) or other inmate(s); Attempted to injure civilian(s) or other inmate(s)

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?:	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?:	Yes
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:	Yes
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:

On June 17, 2021, at approximately 5:44pm, the Brownsville Police Department began receiving multiple calls for service in reference to a reckless driver. The callers described the vehicle the reckless driver was operating as a white Chevy Suburban.

The initial calls placed the Suburban in the area of FM 802 Rd. and Coffee Port Rd. near the CVS pharmacy. Some of the callers described the reckless behavior as the vehicle driving against traffic, the driver side door being open while the vehicle was in motion, the vehicle moving at a high rate of speed and the vehicle swerving nearly crashing into vehicles multiple times. As this took place, multiple callers also advised they could see children inside the Suburban.

At approximately 5:52pm, a caller advised that a child had exited the Suburban. Shortly thereafter, the Suburban crashed into a fixed object (traffic sign) off Coffee Port Rd. near the H-E-B parking lot located at 2155 Paredes Line Rd. The Suburban then made a wide turn into the H-E-B parking lot, went over the curb, and nearly struck multiple vehicles. After driving recklessly around multiple rows in the parking lot, the Suburban crashed into an unoccupied parked vehicle. After striking the unattended vehicle, the Suburban proceeded to go around the parking area one more time, nearly striking multiple pedestrians, before exiting the parking area on Paredes Line Rd. As per the callers, they could still see another child inside the vehicle.

The Suburban now traveled south on Paredes Line Rd. towards Price Rd. Once at the intersection of Paredes Line Rd. and Price Rd., the Suburban turned eastbound on Price Rd. towards Homer Hanna High School. The Suburban then made a wide right turn into the BISD Police Department parking lot (2477 E. Price Rd.), went over the curb, and nearly struck multiple parked vehicles. The Suburban drove around the parking lot erratically at least twice, before exiting the parking lot area and making a right hand turn onto Price Rd. nearly striking a motorcyclist.

The Suburban now traveled westbound on Price Rd. towards Paredes Line Rd. Once at the intersection of Price Rd. and Paredes Line Rd., the Suburban turned left onto Paredes Line Rd. and traveled southbound towards Boca Chica Blvd. At the intersection of Paredes Line Rd. and Boca Chica Blvd. (on Paredes Line Rd. itself), the Suburban crashed into a vehicle stopped at the traffic light. After striking the vehicle, the second child passenger exited the vehicle at approximately 6:01pm.

The Suburban then continued to travel southbound on Paredes Line Rd. and approached the intersection with of N. Frontage Rd. Once there, the Suburban made a right turn and proceeded to enter the expressway and traveled northbound. At approximately 6:05pm the Suburban exited the expressway on the Price Rd. off ramp and crashed into multiple fixed objects to include the S&F apartment complex (420 N. Frontage Rd.). At approximately 6:07pm, police arrived on scene.

Officer Jesus Olvera and Officer Pedro Dominguez made contact with the driver as she stood on N. Frontage Rd. The driver was later identified as Veronica Carmona Peranez. As the officers attempted to arrest Mrs. Peranez, she resisted arrest by temporarily refusing to put her hands behind her back. After securing handcuffs on Mrs. Peranez, she began to actively resist again and attempted to get away from Officer Olvera's grasp by swinging her arms and pulling away. At that point Mrs. Peranez was escorted to the ground. Officer Dominguez then assisted Officer Olvera in getting Mrs. Peranez back on her feet and escorting her near the backseat of his police vehicle. Once there, Mrs. Peranez temporarily sat down on the edge of the seat and then resisted transport by getting up on her feet and attempting to leave. Officer Dominguez was able to grab Mrs. Peranez by the arms and struggled in placing Mrs. Peranez back inside the backseat. While Mrs. Peranez continued to show resistance, both officers were eventually able to place her inside the backseat.

At approximately 6:09pm, Mrs. Peranez was transported to city jail (600 E. Jackson St.). Mrs. Peranez actively resisted transport prior to arriving at city jail by banging her head at least twice on the police car partition panel. At approximately 6:13pm, Officer Olvera arrived at city jail with Mrs. Peranez. At approximately 6:20pm, Mrs. Peranez was placed inside a single padded cell. She was subsequently booked in for multiple criminal charges.

At approximately 10:02pm, Mrs. Peranez was found unresponsive inside her single padded cell. Brownsville Fire/EMS was requested and they responded to the scene. At approximately 10:17pm, Mrs. Peranez was declared deceased at the city jail. The Texas Rangers were notified of the custodial death and are investigating the case. An autopsy report is still pending to determine the medical cause of death.

Update: See Manner / Cause of Death for results of final Cameron County Forensic Pathology autopsy report.