KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	21-1199-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	9/22/2021 10:06 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Houston Police Dept.	Agency Address:	1200 Travis, 16th Floor
Agency City:	Houston	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	77002		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Lieutenant	Director First Name:	Melissa
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Countryman		
Reporter Name:	Kimberly Fowler	Reporter Email:	kimberly.fowler@houstonpolice.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: William

Middle Name: Daniel

Last Name: Escano-Yah

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 3/7/1998 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 23

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 9/9/2021 9:30 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 9/9/2021 11:00 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: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Gunshot wound of the head

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?: Handgun

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: Firearm

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	6300 Alder Drive	City:	Houston
County:	Harris	Zip:	77081

What location category best describes where the event causing the death occurred?

Location Category: Roadway/highway/street/sidewalk

What type of custody/facility was the Decedent in at the time of death:

Type of Custody: Pre-Custodial Use of Force

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

Custody of Law Enforcement Personnel during/fleeing arrest

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:

Entry Date Time N/A: ☑

Where did the death occur?

Death Location: Scene of incident

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:

Capital Murder x4

Offense 2:

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle

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: Violent Crime Against Persons; Crimes Against Child(ren)

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: Discharged firearm

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?:	No

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

Barricade self or initiate standoff?:	Yes	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:	Yes, mark which restraint devices were used

Type of restraint

Type of Restraint:	Other device, specify
Other device, specify:	His vehicle was pinned in by Police

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

Homicide investigators were working the quadruple murder which involved the house fire (1199687-21). The investigation led to the identification of this suspect, Mr. William Daniel Escano-Yah. Through investigation the suspect was located in the 6300 block of Alder street. The suspect was sitting in a parked white Nissan Titan, bearing Texas license plate HLJ4164, which showed to be stolen. Numerous Crime Suppression Team Tactical officers assigned to Southwest Patrol along with members of the Gulf Coast Task Force agents performed a Vehicle Containment Technique in order to pin the vehicle at the location and stop it from leafing.

Moments after pinning the vehicle in and as the officers began to give verbal commands on a felony stop, the suspect lifted a pistol to his head and shot himself one time in the head. No officer fired towards the suspect. Officers then cautiously approached and found the suspect was incapacitated from a single self inflicted gunshot wound to the head. The suspect was transported to Memorial Hermann Hospital where he was pronounced deceased at 1100 hours. No other person was hurt during this incident.

This incident is being treated as a Death in Custody and is being worked separately from the Homicide Investigation under HPD case # 1217566-21.