



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number: 24-271-CJ

Version Type: ORIGINAL
VERSION

Report Date: 3/4/2024 4:50 PM

Status: Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name: Reeves County
Sheriff's Dept.

Agency Address: PO BOX 910

Agency City: Pecos

Agency State: TX

Agency Zip: 79772

Director Information

Director Salutation: Sheriff

Director First Name: Arturo

Director Middle Name:

Director Last Name: Granado

Reporter Name: Ernesto Lazcano

Reporter Email: elazcano@reevescounty.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Pedro

Middle Name:

Last Name: Mendoza

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 8/19/1968

Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 55

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

Date/Time of Custody or
Incident: 2/20/2024 9:15 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 2/20/2024 2:38 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:

Pneumonia as Complication of intravenous drug abuse. Arteriosclerotic and hypertensive cardiovascular disease.

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?: 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?: Deceased developed condition after admission

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, what was the means of death?

Means of Death: Not applicable, cause of death was illness/natural cause

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address: 500 S Oak St

City: Pecos

County: Reeves

Zip: 79772

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 - holding 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: 2/16/2024 8:11 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?: 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:

Possession of a Controlled Substance Penalty Group 1/1-B<1G

Offense 2:

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: 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?: 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 February 16th, 2024, at 2011 hours, Mendoza, Pedro was brought into the custody of the Reeves County Sheriff's Office by the Pecos Police Department on a count of Possession of a Controlled Substance Penalty Group 1/1-B<1G and a bond of \$10,000 Surety. Upon arrival to the Reeves County Jail, a suicide screening was conducted on Inmate Mendoza, Pedro and answered no to all questions. However, on Suicide Screening form from the Pecos Police Department, he did answer yes to having a back surgery about a year ago and that he would be withdrawing from heroin. Suicide watch was not warranted at the time of booking and Inmate Mendoza, Pedro was housed in Segregation (Medical Observation) and on 20-minute segregation checks where he remained the for the weekend to have a better visual of him. Inmate Mendoza received all meals and water throughout his stay here.

At approximately 2030 hours on 02/19/2024, inmate Mendoza, Pedro was rehoused in General Population in Tank 4 Cell 401 due to needing to house another inmate on Suicide Watch in the Seg Cell. At around 2250 hours, the decision was made by Sergeant Mariana Arpero (Nightshift Supervisor) to rehouse Inmate Mendoza, Pedro in Holding Tank 2 to have better visual and conduct more frequent checks on him the rest of the night. On the morning of 02/20/2024, at Officer Suany Castillo (Dayshift Officer) pulled inmate Mendoza out for a phone call to his sister. Inmate Mendoza was assisted on to wheelchair to make it easier to get to the phone. Nurse Shonah Lozano cleaned the Holding 2 Cell and exchanged inmate's bedding, towel and mattress. At around 0915 hours, Nurse Lozano checked Inmate Mendoza's vitals. Due to oxygen stats were being low, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) was activated. Inmate Mendoza was transported to Reeves Regional for further evaluation.

Inmate Mendoza, Pedro was placed on ventilator upon arriving to RRH. Inmate's family was notified of his condition. Family arrived to RRH to make decisions for inmate Mendoza. Medication was stopped for inmate Mendoza at 1438 hours. Inmate Mendoza was pronounced deceased by Dr. Yatsu. Justice of the Peace 2 Jim Riley arrived at 1631 to speak with family of Mendoza.

Reeves County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigation Division and Texas Rangers were summoned to investigate the incident.