KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	19-1274-UF	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	12/4/2019 1:35 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Abilene Police Dept.	Agency Address:	450 Pecan St.
Agency City:	Abilene	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	79602		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Stan
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Standridge		
Reporter Name:	Mark Watson	Reporter Email:	mark.watson@abilenetx.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Ryan

Middle Name: Lee

Last Name: Blair

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 7/9/1996 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

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: 11/30/2019 12:18 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 11/30/2019 3:20 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 pending

What was the manner of death? (select only one)

Manner of Death: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Gunshot wound

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?: 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:	1401 Lawyers Lane	City:	Abilene
County:	Taylor	Zip:	79602

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

Location Category: Residence/Home

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:

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:

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:

Aggravated Assault (First Degree Felony)

Offense 2:

Terrorist Threat (SJF)

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: Other, specify

Type of Offense, Other:

Check welfare danger to self and public

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: Displayed firearm without discharge

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?:	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?:	N/A
Physically attempt/assault officer(s):	No	Gain possession of officer's weapon:	No
Verbally threaten other(s) including law:	Yes	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 11/30/19 at approximately 0014, the Abilene Police Department received a call to check the welfare of Ryan Blair at 1401 Lawyers Lane in Abilene, TX. The calling party was Blair's immediate supervisor in the USAF and received notification from a third party that Blair had verbalized suicidal intentions.

Upon arrival at the scene officers observed Blair inside his residence in possession of an optics equipped rifle and a semi-automatic pistol. The officers retreated back to their vehicle in order to not provoke a response by Blair. He then exited his residence with both weapons and confronted the officers from his front yard.

For the following approximately thirty minutes patrol officers negotiated with Blair in an attempt to peacefully bring a peaceful resolution to the situation. Blair consistently refused to disarm and comply with the directions of patrol officers and shouted numerous times for officers to shoot and kill while pointing the rifle at the officers. Blair moved freely from his yard to the street and back while threatening the officers. With Blair's continuing refusal to disarm, a tactical officer, equipped with a scoped rifle, responded to assist the on-scene patrol officers.

At approximately 0040, Blair assumed a defensive firing position utilizing a vehicle and dumpster for cover and support. With the increased threat posed and Blair again pointing his rifle at officers, the tactical officer discharged one round from his rifle at approximately 0046 striking Blair and knocking him to the ground.

Blair dropped the rifle but maintained the pistol and crawled into the partial cover of surrounding bushes. Officers continued giving verbal commands for Blair to show his hands but to no avail. As officers made arrangements to have an armored vehicle brought to the scene to provide cover for an apprehension, a single shot was fired by Blair from his prone position. Officers observed that Blair ceased all movement after the final shot and with support from the armored vehicle moved to Blair's position. He was confirmed deceased and later examination revealed that he had placed the pistol underneath his chin and fired the pistol resulting in his own death.

The scene was secured and assets from the Department's Criminal Investigation Division along with Texas Ranger Jason Shea were notified. A concurrent investigation was then conducted by APD and the Texas Rangers.