KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	19-197-UF	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	3/6/2019 1:43 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Snyder Police Dept.	Agency Address:	400 37th St.
Agency City:	Snyder	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	79549		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Terry
Director Middle Name:	R		
Director Last Name:	Luecke		
Reporter Name:	Brian Haggard	Reporter Email:	bhaggard@ci.snyder.tx.us

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Morgan

Middle Name: Shane

Last Name: West

Suffix: N/A

Date of Birth: 4/30/1980 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 38

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 2/7/2019 6:33 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 2/7/2019 6:35 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 pending

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

Manner of Death: Homicide (includes Justifiable Homicide)

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Penetrating Gunshot Wounds to Chest

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?: Law enforcement/correctional personnel

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:	3600 Block Jacksboro Ave.	City:	Snyder
County:	Scurry	Zip:	79549

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 subsequent to 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: 2/7/2019 6:33 PM

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?: 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:

Assault of Public Servant

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:	Medical / Mental Health assistance call

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?:	Yes (select all that apply)
Ways Decedent Attempted To Injure Others:	Attempted to injure law enforcement personnel

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):	Yes	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:	Yes		

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 Thursday, February 7, 2019, at approximately 6.33PM Officers with the Snyder Police Department were dispatched to the 3600 block of Jacksboro Ave. in Snyder Texas in reference to a suspicious male outside of a residence knocking on doors. Officer Merket was the first officer on the scene and made contact with a white male subject later identified as Morgan West. The mail subject approached Officer Merket and began asking for her keys. Officer Merkat attempted to ask the maile subject if he was alright, but began walking towards her and wanted her keys. The male subject then attempted to grab Officer Merket and she had to physically fight Mr. West off of her. She also deployed a taser, with no effect. Mr. West continued to move towards Officer Merket and began yelling for her to shot him. Officer Merkat gave verbal commands for Mr. West to stop coming towards her and to stop grabbing at her. Officer Merkat backed up about 80 feet in an attempt to stay away from Mr. West. At that time Mr. West grabbed at Officer Merkat and started to put his arms around her neck with Officer Merket pulled her duty weapon and fired two shots at Mr. West. Mr. West was struck by two gunshot wounds to the chest. Mr. West died on scene. The investigation has been turned over to the Texas Rangers for Investigations.