KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	19-460-UF	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	5/14/2019 10:17 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Grand Prairie Police Dept.	Agency Address:	1525 Arkansas Ln
Agency City:	Grand Prairie	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75052		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Steve
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Dye		
Reporter Name:	Gary Newton	Reporter Email:	gnewton@gptx.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Jorge

Middle Name: Alberto

Last Name: Merino

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 8/4/1981 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 37

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 5/2/2019 10:22 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 5/2/2019 11:27 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: Homicide (includes Justifiable

Homicide)

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: Not Applicable

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:	101 S. Hwy 67	City:	Cedar Hill
County:	Dallas	Zip:	75014

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

Location Category: Parking lot/garage

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?: 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:

Evading Arrest/Detention

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: Other, specify

Type of Offense, Other:

Traffic violation
Evading Arrest/Detention

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?:	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):	Unknown	Make suicidal statements?:	Unknown
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Unknown	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:	Unknown	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:	No

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

The officer, in uniform and driving a marked police vehicle, utilized his overhead lights and attempted to make a traffic stop on the decedent's vehicle for a traffic violation. The decedent failed to yield and began to evade

the officer, attempting to flee at high speeds. The vehicle pursuit went through parts of Dallas, Cockrell Hill, Duncanville, and ended in Cedar Hill at 101 S. Hwy 67 in a business parking lot. Three other Grand Prairie police officers had joined the pursuit as back up officers. The officers surrounded the decedent's vehicle and began giving commands for him to exit the vehicle and surrender. The decedent refused to comply with the orders. He displayed a pistol and pointed it at his head. The decedent was moving around in the driver seat and not complying with commands to drop the pistol. The vehicle windows were rolled up and there was no two way communication, only the officers giving commands to drop the pistol and surrender. Approximately four (4) minutes after displaying the pistol, the decedent made a furtive movement, suddenly turning his head and upper body to his right as if to point his pistol at the police vehicle behind him. The officer who initiated the pursuit and who was positioned facing the driver door, discharged his duty pistol and struck the decedent.