KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	19-628-C	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	12/31/2019 11:22 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Lubbock Police Dept.	Agency Address:	PO BOX 2000
Agency City:	Lubbock	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	79457		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Gregory
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Stevens		
Reporter Name:	William Drumma	Reporter Email:	wdrumma@mylubbock.us

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Michael

Middle Name: Benjamin

Last Name: Najera

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 1/5/1979 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 40

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 6/12/2019 1:54 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 6/12/2019 5:25 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 chest

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?: Rifle/shotgun

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:	7010 Ironton Ave	City:	Lubbock
County:	Lubbock	Zip:	79424

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: Police Custody (pre-booking)

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:

PC 38.04 Evading motor vehicle

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: 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?: 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?:	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:	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:

Patrol Officers were dispatched on three separate occasions on the late night of 06/11/2019 and early morning of 06/12/2019 to check the welfare of a possible suicidal subject (Michael Najera). Patrol Officers located the subject inside his vehicle on the parking lot of his ex-girlfriends apartment complex. Patrol Officers attempted to make contact with the subject, he fled the scene in his vehicle. Patrol Officers pursued the vehicle through the gated apartment complex parking lot. The pursuit came to a stop when the exit gate failed to open. The subject exited his vehicle with a shotgun and pointed it towards his chest. Patrol Officers began negotiations with the subject. The subject refused to drop the weapon. Negotiators and the SWAT team responded to the scene. An extended negotiation period ensued, during which the subject refused to drop the shotgun numerous times. Several attempts were made to appease the subject to gain compliance. During the course of the negotiations it was learned that the subject was diagnosed with PTSD with severe major depression involving psychotic features. Negotiations with the subject continued for three and one half hours. The subject kept the shotgun pointed at his chest with his finger on the trigger the entire time. The subjects demeanor did not change during the extended negotiations. The subject stated he did not want to live anymore, did not want help and did not want to go to the hospital. The subject requested that no medical attention was to be given to him and that his last rites were administered. The subject moved his hand away from the trigger. Two SWAT Officers utilized Less Lethal 12 gauge drag stabilized impact munitions on the subject causing him to fall to the ground and momentarily lose control of the shotgun. The subject regained control of the shotgun and shot himself in the chest. One SWAT Officer attempted to utilize a Taser on the subject, he was beyond the effective range of the projected probes. The subject was not struck with either probe from the Taser. Michael Najera was pronounced deceased at the scene.