KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	19-968-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	4/24/2020 4:14 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Terry County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	PO BOX 1106
Agency City:	Brownfield	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	79316		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Timothy
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Click		
Reporter Name:	Timothy Click	Reporter Email:	tclick@terrycounty.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Rodney

Middle Name: Shane

Last Name: Howard

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 4/21/1987 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 32

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 9/12/2019 8:30 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 9/24/2019 11:09 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:

Hanging

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?:	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?:	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?:	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:	Hanging, strangulation

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	1311 Tahoka Road	City:	Brownfield
County:	Terry	Zip:	79316

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 - single 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:	8/2/2019 1:56 AM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location:	Law enforcement facility/booking center

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 with a Deadly Weapon

Offense 2:

Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon

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: Violent Crime Against Persons

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?: 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?:	No
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:	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:

At about 08:30 PM, Jailer Corina Trevino was making round and looked into the cell where Hoard was being housed. She saw what appeared to be the inmate hanging in the shower stall. Trevino called for help and when the other jailer arrived, they entered the cell and found Howard hanging in the shower stall. Trevino called the Control Room and advised what she had and requested Deputy backup and EMS. She also went to the control room to get the tool to cut Howard down. When she returned, they cut the sting holding Howard up. He was laid on the floor and appeared to go into convulsions. The string was removed from Howard's throat. He was convulsing and coughing at that time. Once EMS arrived, the inmate was transferred to the Ambulance. EMS worked on Howard for about 45 minutes before transferring him to the Brownfield Regional Medical Center Emergency Room. At the E.R., Howard was finally stabilized and transferred to University Medical Center in Lubbock. At UMC, Howard was placed in MICU room 14 in an induced coma. The Doctor on staff did EEG's on Howard and stated that Howard was almost completely brain dead. Howard's charges were dismissed and the family was notified on Monday, September 16, 2019. On Monday, September 23, 2019, we were notified that Howard was taken off life support. On Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at about 01:15 PM, I was notified by UMC that Howard had passed away at 11:08 AM that morning. An autopsy will be performed, but it will be 60 to 90 days minimum before it is done.