KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	20-1283-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	12/16/2020 8:44 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Nueces County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	PO BOX 1940
Agency City:	Corpus Christi	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78403		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	John
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Hooper		
Reporter Name:	Martin Arnold	Reporter Email:	martin.arnold@nuecesco.com

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Richard

Middle Name:

Last Name: Mendiola

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 5/29/1980 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: 9/10/2020 1:45 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 9/11/2020 3:35 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 are available

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

Manner of Death: Natural

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical complications of Hepatic cirrhosis

Had the decedent been receiving treatment for the medical condition that caused the death after admission to your jail's jurisdiction?

Medical Treatment:	Unknown

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, who caused the death?

Who caused the death?:	Not applicable

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?:	Pre-existing medical condition

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, what was the means of death?

Means of Death:	Not applicable, cause of death was illness/natural cause

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	600 Elizabeth Street	City:	Corpus Christi
County:	Nueces	Zip:	78404

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

Location Category: Other, specify

Other Location Category:

Hospital

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:

Hospital/Infirmary

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: 6/21/2020 12:25 AM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location: Medical facility

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 Family/House Member Impeding Breath/Circulation (F)

Offense 2:

Possession of Controlled Substance PG 1 < 1G (F)

Offense 3:

Violation of Parole

Were the Charges:: Filed

What were the types of charges or reason for contact? (Hold CTRL to select all that apply)

Type of Offense: Violent Crime Against Persons; Alcohol / drug offense; Medical / Mental Health assistance call; Other, specify

Type of Offense, Other:

State Parole Viiolation

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?:	Yes

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:	No	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:	Yes, mark which restraint devices were used

Type of restraint

Type of Restraint:	Handcuffs; Leg Shackles

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

On September 10, 2020, at approximately 06:40, Officer San Juanita Hernandez was assigned hospital duty at Christus Spohn Shoreline in I. C.U 417 located at 600 N. Shoreline Corpus Christi, TX.
At approximately 13:45, Officer Hernandez notified Lt. Michael Hall regarding the status of Inmate Richard Mendiola. Officer Hernandez informed Lt. Hall that two-family members of Inmate Mendiola wanted

permission to visit him after signing a DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) and the hospital would soon be removing Inmate Mendiola's ventilator. The family was then granted permission to visit by on call Captain Patrick Whitmore.
Dr. Megan Edwards entered the room and pronounced Inmate Mendiola deceased at 15:35. Nueces County Criminal Investigation Division Sgt. Marilyn King and the Medical Examiner Office were notified along with Texas Ranger Steve West.
Officer Hernandez was instructed to secure the room and began logging all personnel coming in and out.
C.I.D. Sgt. King arrived at 16:23 and started their investigation. During that time CNA's Fedrick Hendon and James Burton entered the room and prepared the body for the Medical Examiner's Office.
At approximately 17:58 Medical Examiner Cinde Lazano and Jacob Underwood arrived at the hospital and departed with the body of Inmate Mendiola at 19:12.