KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	20-1697-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	6/4/2021 12:29 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Nederland Police Dept.	Agency Address:	PO BOX 1165
Agency City:	Nederland	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	77627		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Gary
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Porter		
Reporter Name:	Gary Porter	Reporter Email:	gporter@ci.nederland.tx.us

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Daron

Middle Name: Markieth

Last Name: Jones

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 1/29/1991 Sex: Male

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 29

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 11/10/2020 10:18 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 11/10/2020 10:18 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 wounds of torso perforating trachea, spleen, lungs,and spinal cord

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: 700 Texas Ave.
City: Nederland
County: Jefferson
Zip: 77627

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 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:

Burglary of a Habitation with Intent Other Felony

Offense 2:

Interference with Emergency Phone Call

Offense 3:

Deadly Conduct Discharge Firearm

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: Yes, mark all that apply

Decedent Display or Use Weapon Details: Displayed firearm without discharge; Discharged firearm

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Attempt to Injure Others?:	Unknown

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?:	Unknown

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):	N/A	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:

On 11/10/2020, The City of Port Neches Police Department officers were dispatched to 2250 6th Street, Port Neches in reference to a disturbance. Central Dispatch advised the officers that a B/M subject identified as Daron Jones was tearing up the inside of the residence. The officers were advised that Jones was in possession of a black 9 mm handgun. Central Dispatch further advised the officers that Jones had left the residence. Jones was said to be on foot walking. Jones was described as wearing khaki shorts and a black shirt.
A Port Neches Police Department officer arrived at 2250 6th Street and spoke with Daron Jones' girlfriend. Jones' girlfriend advised the officer that Jones had forced his way into her residence by kicking open a side entry door. Jones' girlfriend reported that Jones was in a rage and thought to be on some type of drug. The girlfriend further reported that once inside the residence, Jones began to tear up the inside of the house and punched her in the eye with a closed fist and slapped a phone out of her hand when she called the police.

During the investigation, the girlfriend further reported that Jones had fired a shot from a Glock handgun in the residence and then left on foot with the handgun.
Meanwhile, other officers from the Port Neches Police Department and officers from the Nederland Police Department checked the area of 2200 6th Street for Jones. The 2200 block of 6th Street, Port Neches is a short distance from the city limits of the City of Nederland. Texas Avenue separates the north city limits of Nederland from the south city limits of Port Neches. Central Dispatch dispatches for the City of Nederland Police Department as well as the City of Port Neches Police Department and the City of Groves Police Department.
Nederland Police Department Officer Tanner Thompson responded to the area. Officer Thompson was in full uniform and driving a fully marked patrol vehicle. Officer Thomson was driving in the 700 block of Carriage Lane when he located Jones on foot going southeast on Carriage Lane. Jones passed Thompson's vehicle on a lawn on east side of the roadway. Officer Thompson advised the dispatcher that he had the suspect and got out of his vehicle. Thompson ordered Jones to let him see his hands and for him to get on the ground. Jones ignored Officer Thompson. As Jones passed Thompson's patrol vehicle he had begun to run. Jones fled south through the front yards of the residences on Carriage Lane as Thompson pursued him on foot.
To stop the foot pursuit of a suspected armed person, Officer Thompson deployed his department issued taser at Jones. The taser proved to be ineffective as Jones continued to flee. Jones ran around the southern entrance to Carriage Estates and continued north on Texas Avenue. Officer Thompson again ordered Jones to get on the ground and to let him see his hands. Officer Thompson observed Jones put his hands in his pants pocket. Officer Thompson ordered Jones to get his hands out of his pockets. Officer Thompson observed Jones pull a handgun out of his pants pocket.
At this time, Officer Thompson felt that Jones was going to fire the handgun at him placing him in immediate danger of serious bodily injury or death. In response, Officer Thompson drew his duty weapon and quickly fired 11 shots at Jones. Jones was struck by four rounds causing him to collapse in the roadway. Officer Thompson advised the dispatcher that shots had been fired and requested EMS. Other officers quickly arrived at the scene and attempted to administer life saving measures on Jones. The life saving measures proved to be ineffective. Jones died at the scene.
Investigators from the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office and The Texas Rangers were called to the scene to conduct the death investigation. The scene was processed by the Jefferson County Crime Lab. The handgun Jones was suspected of having pulled from his pants was recovered near his body.
An autopsy was performed on Jones' body on 11/11/2020 by Pathologist Dr. Selly Rivers, M.D. of Forensic Medical of Texas. Dr. Rivers showed the preliminary cause of Jones' death as gunshot wounds of torso, perforating trachea, spleen, lungs and spinal cord. Preliminary manner of death is Homicide. Toxicology is pending.
Daron Jones' death is presently under investigation by the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office the Texas Rangers and the Nederland Police Department.
On 12/16/2020, Texas Ranger Joshua Benson presented his investigative findings to a Jefferson County, Direct Grand Jury #2020-91. The Grand Jury took no action.
A subsequent Internal investigation by the Nederland Police Department was conducted and Officer Thompsons actions were found to be that of a reasonable officer in a similar situation and within the guidelines of the Nederland Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual.