KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	20-335-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	4/22/2020 2:17 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Texas Department Of Public Safety	Agency Address:	PO BOX 4087
Agency City:	Austin	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78773		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Director	Director First Name:	Steven
Director Middle Name:	C		
Director Last Name:	McCraw		
Reporter Name:	Jorge Ortega	Reporter Email:	jorge.ortega@dps.texas.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Dewayne

Middle Name: Curtis

Last Name: LaFond

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 4/18/1975 Sex: Male

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 44

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 4/7/2020 7:30 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 4/7/2020 7:30 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 pending

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

Manner of Death: Homicide (includes Justifiable Homicide)

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Pending autopsy results

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?: 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:	109 East Depot Street	City:	Refugio
County:	Refugio	Zip:	78377

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

Location Category: Residence/Home

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 subsequent to 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: 4/7/2020 7:30 PM

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:

Aggravated assault with deadly weapon

Offense 2:

Aggravated sexual assault

Offense 3:

Kidnapping

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

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?:	Yes (select all that apply)
Ways Decedent Attempted To Injure Others:	Injured civilian(s) or other inmate(s)

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?:	Yes
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?:	Yes	Resist being handcuffed or arrested?:	No
Physically attempt/assault officer(s):	Yes	Gain possession of officer's weapon:	No
Verbally threaten other(s) including law:	Yes	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:

On 04-07-2020, at approximately 2:30 AM, a suspect, later identified as Dewayne Curtis LaFond broke into his estranged wife's house. Neighbors contacted the Refugio Police Department to report hearing gunfire inside the residence. Officers responded and found LaFond holding his wife at gunpoint. LaFond told the officers he would kill his wife if they refused to leave. The officers left, established a perimeter, and contacted the Beeville Police Department for Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) and negotiator assistance. Beeville SWATT officers and negotiators arrived and took the lead. A few DPS officers also arrived and took on a supportive role. Officers discovered that LaFond had a history of domestic violence charges and was wanted on four felony warrants. Beeville Police Department established negotiations, and the suspect demanded million dollars in cash and a helicopter.

At approximately 8:20 AM, Refugio Police Department Chief of Police requested that DPS SWAT and negotiators take the lead of the hostage situation. More DPS officers arrived at the scene and established a perimeter around the residence. DPS negotiators established communications with LaFond who continued to threaten to kill the hostage and demand a helicopter. LaFond also threatened to kill any officers who entered the residence. Over the next eleven hours, negotiators communicated with the suspect who refused to cooperate with law enforcement and continued to threaten to kill the hostage and officers.

At approximately 7:21 PM, negotiations failed as the suspect indicated he would kill the hostage and then himself. DPS SWAT officers entered the house and located LaFond inside a bedroom with the hostage.

LaFond pointed a pistol at the hostage. In response, three SWAT officers fired multiple shots at LaFond, striking and killing him, allowing them to rescue the hostage.