KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	20-54-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	9/14/2020 10:05 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Angelina County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	2311 E. Lufkin Ave.
Agency City:	Lufkin	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75901		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Greg
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Sanches		
Reporter Name:	Nick Gardner	Reporter Email:	ngardner@angelinacounty.net

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: James

Middle Name: Laverne

Last Name: Denmond

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 8/4/1972

Sex: Male

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 47

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 1/19/2020 4:30 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 1/20/2020 9:49 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:

Preliminary autopsy findings are:
1. No significant acute injuries identified.
2. Cardiomegaly (1500 grams).
3. Pending toxicology, investigation report and medical record review.

It appears as though he had an enlarged heart, which may be the reason for his death.

Summary of Autopsy Findings by: Forensic Medical Management Services, PLC - Beaumont/Jefferson County (Forensic Pathologist John M. Wayne, M.D.)
Cause of Death - Hypertensive cardiovascular disease.
Contributory cause of death - morbid obesity
Manner of Death - Natural.
"In my opinion, the cause of death of James Denmond is hypertensive cardiovascular disease with contributory cause morbid obesity. The manner of death is natural" (John M. Wayne, M.D.)

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

Medical Treatment:	Yes

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:	2311 E. Lufkin Ave	City:	Lufkin
County:	Angelina	Zip:	75901

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:	12/10/2019 4:21 PM

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?: 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:

Assault on a Public Servant (3rd Degree Felony, PC 22.01)

Offense 2:

Offense 3:

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: 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):	Unknown	Make suicidal statements?:	No
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Unknown	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:	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:

RE: Custodial Death of James Laverne Denmond, BM, DOB: 08/04/1972

Summary:

On January 19, 2020, at approximately 14:57, Officer Allen was conducting a visual observation in the Separation Hallway, when he discovered James Laverne Denmond (BM, DOB: 08/04/1972) SO#47132, sitting on the floor of the housing unit directly in front of the toilet. Officer Allen called for other officers and the nurse, Kelsiee, to respond to the housing unit called Separation (Sep.) 6. Inmate Denmond was responsive and coherent, but advised that he was weak. Officers observed feces on the back of the toilet and Nurse Kelsiee began to assess Inmate Denmond, however, she was unable to get a blood pressure reading. Since no immediate, apparent cause for concern existed, due to this Inmate's history of similar behavior, the officers exited the cell. A mattress was placed beside the inmate for him to lay on, as the officers did not want to risk the inmate falling off of his bunk accidentally. At approximately 16:30, Officer Allen was again conducting his observation walks and noticed Inmate Denmond laying over on the mattress, with his hands drawn up in front of his chest, and his eyes appeared to be rolled up into his head to where you could only see the sclera of his eyes. Nurse Kelsiee again responded and at approximately 16:35, Lt. Riddley was advised to call EMS to have Inmate Denmond transported to the hospital by ambulance. The inmate was less coherent than before and had what appeared to be slurred speech. At approximately 16:40, EMS arrived at the jail and the officers escorted the paramedics to the housing unit. Due to the size of the inmate, the only way the paramedics

could get him on the gurney was to have him roll over onto a sheet and lift him so a gurney could be placed underneath him. After securing him to the gurney, the paramedics placed Inmate Denmond into the ambulance. Officer Sellers maintained custody of Inmate Denmond and rode in the ambulance to the hospital. The ambulance departed from the jail at approximately 17:00. At approximately 17:45, Officer Sellers advised Lt. Riddley via phone that Inmate Denmond was being placed on a ventilator, and that a ranking officer needed to proceed to the hospital to enforce appropriate protocols. Both of the Wardens were advised. Inmate Denmond's cell was locked down, and instructions were given to not clean or move anything in the housing unit until Warden Strickland approved it. Photos of the housing unit were taken by Lt. Riddley. Asst. Warden Strickland responded to the hospital. At approximately 23:15, Officer Sellers and Asst. Warden Strickland departed the hospital as the inmate was given a PR Bond by a local magistrate.

The jail was notified on January 20, 2019 that Inmate Denmond had passed away.