KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	21-1039-C	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	9/13/2021 1:11 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	McAllen Police Dept.	Agency Address:	PO BOX 220
Agency City:	McAllen	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78505		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Victor
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Rodriguez		
Reporter Name:	Victor Rodriguez	Reporter Email:	vrodriguez@mcallenpd.net

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Ricardo

Middle Name: Rolando

Last Name: Cordova

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 2/25/1966 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 55

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 8/18/2021 3:44 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 8/18/2021 6:17 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: Accidental

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Cardiorespiratory arrest while under the influence of drugs.

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?:	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?:	Could not be determined

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

Means of Death:	Other, specify
Means of Death Other:	Cardiorespiratory arrest while under the influence of drugs.

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	2900 Block Camelia Ave.	City:	McAllen
County:	Hidalgo	Zip:	78501

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: Police Custody (pre-booking)

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

Jail - holding 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: 8/18/2021 4:17 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:

Resisting Arrest

Offense 2:

Public Intoxication

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):	Yes	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?:	Yes
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

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

This information from Call-For-Service (CFS) information.

Nature of CFS: Disturbance (In-Progress).
Date: 08/18/2021.
Time: 3:44 PM.
Location: 2900 Block Camelia Ave. McAllen, Texas.

CFS Summary: Reporting Person (RP) is a health care provider for female at this location. The RP reported that a “fem[ale] at loc[ation] …having a dist[urbance] …female is RP’s client for provider services…male [named] Richard Cordova may be hurting female [and] unk[nown] weapon, un[known] intox[ication] but …has a history of drug and alcohol abuse.” The suspect at this CFS was later identified as Richard Cordova, 55 years of age.

At:
3:53 PM Responding Officers arrive at the CFS location, summoned Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to CFS location.
4:06 PM radio channels are cleared due to struggle with suspect.
4:07 PM responding officers report suspect detained.
4:08 PM EMS posts at the scene.
4:10 PM Responding Officers report situation under control with no injuries. Proceed to McAllen PD Jail.

At the McAllen PD Jail, the suspect refused to cooperate with booking procedures and is combative with Jail personnel. The suspect was placed in a padded cell and once clothing was removed, handcuffs were removed. Jail personnel noted having learned that the suspect may have ingested a “rock” of “METH” and was experiencing irregular breathing.

4:51 PM Officers were requested at the Jail to assist to transport the suspect for medical clearance. The suspect however remained uncooperative and combative with all personnel. Based upon such, EMS was requested at the jail to attempt to transport the suspect on a gurney for the requested medical clearance; and at

5:34 PM EMS transported the suspect to McAllen Medical Center. The suspect passed away at MMC. Autopsy is pending.

The suspect has been identified as: Ricardo R. Cordova, 55 yrs. of age with last known address at McAllen, Texas.

The female that was reported as having a disturbance with the suspect is suspect’s “girlfriend” and victim in this incident.

A search at the scene of this call resulted in seizure of a drug substance believed to be “METH”.