KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	21-1125-CJ	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	9/2/2021 10:09 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Dallas County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	133 N. Riverfront Blvd.
Agency City:	Dallas	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75207		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Marian
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Brown		
Reporter Name:	TERESA HERNANDEZ	Reporter Email:	tahernandez@dallascounty.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Christopher

Middle Name: Darnell

Last Name: Williams

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 9/4/1991 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: 7/14/2021 3:05 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 7/22/2021 8:34 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: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Decedent died as a result of hanging.

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?:	Decedent

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?:	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:	Hanging, strangulation

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	111 W. Commerce St.	City:	Dallas
County:	Dallas	Zip:	75207

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 - 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:	7/18/2021 4:21 AM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location:	Law enforcement facility/booking center

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 FV / Impeding Breath/Circulation

Offense 2:

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):	No	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):	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:	No

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

On July 14, 2021, Christopher Williams B/M 09/04/1991 (Decedent), was booked into the Dallas County Jail by the Dallas Police Department for the offense of Assault Family Violence / Impeding Breath/Circulation, under warrant number F2156768.
On July 15, 2021, the Decedent was assigned to the West Tower Jail, a maximum custody facility, and was housed in 4P14, a behavior observation unit.
On July 18, 2021, the Decedent was transferred to the North Tower Jail. a maximum custody facility, and was housed in 4E06, a general population unit.
On July 20, 2021, at approximately 4:10am, the Decedent was observed by Detention Training Officer (DTO) M. Pena #6057, being forced into the vestibule of 4E06. The Decedent had injuries on his nose and told officers that he was "jumped" but could not identify any person(s) involved. In addition, the jail surveillance cameras were inconclusive in identifying those involved. The Decedent refused to be seen by medical staff and was escorted to holdover number 10, on floor 1M, for his safety and to await a new housing assignment.
At approximately 3:45pm, the Decedent was found hanging by a brown blanket. One end of the blanket was attached to a fire cage on the ceiling of the holdover, the other end of the blanket was wrapped around the Decedent's neck. Registered Nurse R. Williams responded to the scene and started chest compressions.
Dallas Fire & Rescue (DFR) unit number 18 arrived, at about 4:03pm, and then transported the Decedent to Parkland Memorial Hospital (PMH), at approximately 4:22pm, Detectives S. Martinez #1038 and C. Greenlee #823 with the Physical Evidence Section responded to the scene at approximately 4:40pm, Inmates in the adjoining holdovers wrote statements and photographs were taken.
At approximately 5:10pm, I, Detective G. Whaley #651 with the Criminal Investigation Section (CIS) was notified by Senior Sergeant (SSGT) Y. Williams #936 with CIS of the attempted suicide.
On July 21, 2021, I was notified, by SSgt. Williams that the Decedent's prognosis was listed as critical. SSgt. Williams contacted the Decedent's next of kin.
On July 22, 2021, at about 9:09pm, I was notified that Christopher Williams was pronounced deceased at 8:34pm, by Dr. Jerry Yi-Liu.
On July 23, 2021, SSgt. Williams and i attended the autopsy of the Decedent at the Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office (DCME).

DSO Service number #21-043743
DCME IFS #21-15152

AUTOPSY REPORT
COVID-19 QUALITATIVE TEST RESULTS: Negative
FINDINGS:
1. Hanging:
a. Patchy contusions and abraded-contusions of the anterior and lateral aspect of the neck.
b. Rare palpebral conjunctival ptechiae.
c. Subcutaneous hemorrhage of the anterior neck.
2. Other injuries:
a. Cutaneous abrasions and contusions of the face.
b. Patchy subscalp hemorrhages.
c. Left temporalis muscle hemorrhage.
d. No cranium fracture.
e. No intracranial hemorrhage.
3. Cardiomegaly (440 grams) with concentric left ventricular hypertrophy.
4. Evidence of resuscitative measures.
5. Reported history:
a. The decedent was found hanging by a bedsheet in his jail cell.
b. He was alone in a secured cell.

CONCLUSIONS:
Based upon the autopsy and the history available to me, it is my opinion that Christopher Darnell Williams, a 29-year-old black male, died as a result of hanging.
MANNER OF DEATH: Suicide

Chester S. Gwin, M.D.
Medical Examiner
08-23-2021