KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	21-599-CJ	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	5/12/2021 10:49 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Williamson County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	508 S. Rock Street
Agency City:	Georgetown	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78626		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief Deputy	Director First Name:	Kenneth
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Evans		
Reporter Name:	Jason Braeutigam	Reporter Email:	jason.braeutigam@wilco.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: McNatt

Middle Name: Ray

Last Name: Joshua

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 12/13/1983 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 37

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 4/9/2021 3:51 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 4/22/2021 2:22 AM

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:

Hanging

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?:	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:	306 W. 4th Street	City:	Georgetown
County:	Williamson	Zip:	78626

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:
Hospital/Infirmary

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:	4/9/2021 3:51 AM

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:

Felony Assault Family / Household Member with Previous Conviction

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?:	Unknown
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Yes	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		Gain possession of officer's	

officer(s):	No	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 April 9, 2021, at 0351 Hrs., Joshua Ray McNatt was arrested by the Cedar Park Police Department for felony Assault Family / Household Member with Previous Conviction. On April 9, 2021, at 0423 Hrs., he was booked into the Williamson County Jail for that charge.

On April 12, 2021, at approximately 1413 Hrs., Williamson County Corrections Officer Fernando Ortiz was conducting his rounds (inmate checks) in the jail from the officers run located in B9-L. This run allows officers to walk through an area of cells that provides a view of inmates housed on both sides of B9-L. McNatt was housed alone in cell #1 of B9-L with no other inmates housed in this run area. Upon checking McNatt's cell, Ortiz observed he, McNatt, was hanging from a bed sheet. The sheet was secured to the cells bunk handle and then tied around McNatt's neck. Officer Ortiz immediately ran out of the officer`s run and called for assistance. Several other Correction Officers were in the hallway and heard Ortiz's call for help and came to his aid. Ortiz unlocked B9-L and several Correction Officer's, along with Ortiz, ran to McNatt's cell. Once inside the cell, corrections staff cut the ligature from the handle and McNatt was laid on the floor. Corrections staff then removed the sheet and began life saving measures until relieved by Georgetown Fire Department EMT's. McNatt was then transported to Seton Williamson Emergency Room, 201 Seton Pkwy, Round Rock, TX 78665, by Georgetown Fire Department / EMS.

Upon arriving at Seton Williamson Hospital, the initial status was that McNatt was breathing on this own. This status was changed as he was no longer breathing on his own and was therefore moved to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and put on life support. McNatt was kept on life support until Seton medical staff revealed that he had no brain activity and would not recover if taken off this life support system.

Due to McNatt's current medical condition, the decision was made to have him released from custody so that his family could decide on how they wanted to move forward with care. On April 14, 2021, at approximately 1725 Hrs., 368th District Court Judge, Rick Kennon, released McNatt on a Personal Recognizance bond. This allowed family to make these medical decisions. At this time, the family elected to take McNatt off life support and he passed away at Seton Williamson on April 22, 2021 at 0222 Hrs. An autopsy was ordered by Williamson County Precinct #2 Justice of the Peace, Edna Staudt. Prior to this examination, McNatt did have several organs harvested for donation.

On April 22, 2021, The Round Rock Police Department Criminal Investigations Division was contacted. They agreed to conduct a parallel investigation along with Williamson County Detective, Peter Parks.

On April 23, 2021, at 0800 Hrs., the autopsy performed at Hill Country Forensics, 809 Tradesman Park Loop

Hutto, Texas, 78634, by Dr. Satish Chunru MD. Detective Parks and Round Rock Police Department Major Crimes Sergeant, Blake Bearden, both attended the autopsy. The preliminary results showed that both of McNatt's superior thyroid horns were broken and there was no sign of foul play.

On May 12, 2021 Detective Parks received the final autopsy results from Hill County Forensics. The findings are as follows:
Cause of Death: Hanging
Manner of Death: Suicide .