KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	21-751-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	3/14/2022 10:23 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Forest Hill Police Dept.	Agency Address:	3336 Horton Rd.
Agency City:	Forest Hill	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	76119		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Other	Director First Name:	Lee
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Sumpter		
Reporter Name:	Lee Sumpter	Reporter Email:	lsumpter@foresthilltx.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name:	Michael
Middle Name:	Lee
Last Name:	Ross
Suffix:	Jr
Date of Birth:	9/7/1988
Sex:	Male
Race:	Black or African American
Age At Time Of Death:	32

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident:	6/9/2021 5:13 AM

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

Death Date and Time:	6/9/2021 6:01 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:	Homicide (includes Justifiable

Homicide)

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Shotgun wounds.

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: 6549 WICHITA ST
City: FOREST HILL
County: Tarrant
Zip: 76119

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

Location Category: Field/woods/lake/waterway/beach

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 during/fleeing 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:

Entry Date Time N/A: ☑

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?: 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:

Murder

Offense 2:

Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon

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: Yes, mark all that apply

Decedent Display or Use Weapon Details: Displayed other weapon, specify:; Used other weapon, specify:

Specify Weapon Displayed:

Knife

Specify Weapon Used:

Knife

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Attempt to Injure Others?:	Unknown

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?:	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?:	Yes
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:	Yes
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 Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at approximately 5:12 a.m., a 911 call was received by the Forest Hill Police Department reporting a stabbing in the parking lot of a convenience store located at 6549 Wichita St., Forest Hill, Tarrant County, Texas, 76119. Preliminary information indicates a male suspect had stabbed and ultimately killed a female victim, then fled to a creek area north of the scene. Officers arrived on scene and began administering first aid to the female victim. Officers located the male suspect, later identified as Michael Ross Jr., still armed with a knife and in the creek bed north of the stabbing scene. A barking dog was located in the creekbed with Ross. Officers, who were atop the creek embankment, gave multiple verbal commands for Ross to drop the knife and to de-escalate the situation. Sergeant retrieved a less lethal shotgun equipped with bean bag type rounds and ultimately discharged four less lethal rounds striking Ross. On the fourth round, Ross fell backwards into the water, then returned to his feet still holding the knife. Sergeant fired a fifth less lethal round, then Ross staggered over to a concrete block and appeared to collapse. Sergeant instructed Ofc. Barr to get his shotgun several times, then clarified less lethal shotgun. Ofc. Barr returned to his unit and retrieved his regular shotgun. During this time, Ross is seated on the concrete block, then stands up, lies down in the water with knife in hand and is later seen standing again and walks away from officers. During this time, Sergeant believed Ofc. Barr had a less lethal shotgun and instructed him to shoot Ross. Ross is seen turning back around to face officers at which time Ofc. Barr fired two rounds at Ross which caused him to fall to the ground. Officer's advanced towards Ross in an attempt to take him into custody, Sergeant then fired a round from his handgun striking the aggressive dog. Ross was taken into custody and transported to an area hospital where he was later pronounced deceased. The female victim was also transported to an area hospital but was pronounced deceased.

The Tarrant County Medical Examiner identified Ross' Cause of Death as Shotgun Wounds and Manner of Death as Homicide.