KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	21-879-CJ	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	7/20/2021 3:02 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Travis County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	5555 Airport Blvd.
Agency City:	Austin	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78751		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Sally
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Hernandez		
Reporter Name:	Alonzo Maldonado	Reporter Email:	alonzo.maldonado@traviscountytx.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Alexander

Middle Name: Jonah

Last Name: McFarland

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 8/8/1989 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 31

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 7/3/2021 10:12 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 7/17/2021 11:07 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:

Hanging.

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

Medical Treatment:	Unknown

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:	3614 Bill Price Road	City:	Del Valle
County:	Travis	Zip:	78767

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:	7/3/2021 10:12 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?: 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:

Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon Felony 2

Offense 2:

Assault with Injury F/V Misd-A

Offense 3:

Resist Arrest Misd-A

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):	Yes	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 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:

On July 11, 2021 at approximately 1513 I was notified via TCSO Dispatch that CPR was in progress for an inmate in custody at the Travis County Correctional Complex located at 3614 Bill Price Road. I called the complex and spoke to Security Coordinator Denise Traylor who advised me that Austin EMS was on the scene giving CPR to an inmate that attempted suicide in Building 3, and they had been conducting CPR for a while. I responded to the Correctional Complex, and while I was en route, I received a message from dispatch at 1542 advising EMS got a pulse on the inmate. I called the Correctional Complex to confirm and was advised by Traylor that EMS obtained a pulse on the inmate and they were transferring him to the hospital. The inmate, Alexander McFarland, hanged himself inside his cell using his bed sheet as a ligature. The unit in which McFarland was housed had the inmates in single cells, and post visuals were conducted in 30-minute increments. The post officer who made the discovery at approximately 1455 was Officer V. Davis. She was conducting her counts during shift change. During her post visual she discovered McFarland appearing pale and nonresponsive in his cell. Officer Davis noticed a sheet tied around McFarland’s neck and his desk shelf. McFarland’s body was in a seated position against the wall next to his desk. Officer Davis pressed her stat alarm button and then other officers and staff members arrived and began life saving measures until relieved by Austin EMS. A pulse was obtained, and then McFarland was transferred to the hospital.
I was informed on July 15, 2021 that McFarland was released from custody on July 14, 2021 at approximately 2047. McFarland had not been declared deceased, but he was not expected to survive. McFarland was kept alive by medical staff and machines to allow for organ procurement. McFarland was pronounced deceased on July 17, 2021 at 2307 hours by Dr. Jason Brocker.