KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	22-133-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	3/29/2022 4:40 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	El Paso County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	3850 Justice Road
Agency City:	El Paso	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	79938		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Richard
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Wiles		
Reporter Name:	James Belknap	Reporter Email:	jbelknap@epcounty.com

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Gilbert

Middle Name:

Last Name: Nunez

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 3/6/1990 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

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: 2/8/2020 8:28 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 1/25/2022 3:53 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:

Acute para - fluorofentanil, levetiracetam, olanzapine, tramadol, venlafaxine, chlorpromazine, and diphenhydramine toxicity

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: Drug overdose

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	601 E. Overland ST.	City:	El Paso
County:	El Paso	Zip:	79901

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: 2/8/2020 8:28 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:

Family Violence PREV 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): No

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?: 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 01/25/2022 Detention Officer Jose Ruelas was conducting physical checks of the 8th floor. At approximately 1440 hrs. Officer Ruelas heard banging and yelling coming from tank 830, Ruelas heard an inmate yelling that help was needed in cell 30. Officer Rivera operated the control panel while Officer Ruelas went inside the cell, Ruelas was told by another inmate that Nunez was not responding to him. Inmate Nunez was housed in a single man lock down cell inside tank 830 and under 30-minute observation due to suicide watch. Inmate Nunez has a history of both mental and physical problems dating back to his original booking in 2020.
Officer Ruelas entered Nunez's lock down cell and observed him in a sitting position on the floor, Ruelas called to him by name and shook his shoulder with his hand. Ruelas observed that Nunez was unresponsive, he then called for medical staff and a supervisor. Officer Ruelas observed that Nunez was not breathing and he immediately started C.P.R. The facility medical staff arrived and took over first aid to include C.P.R. and deployment of an A.E.D. Emergency Medical Ambulance arrived and transported inmate Nunez to an area hospital. At 1553 hrs. Dr. Torrez pronounced Nunez dead.
NOTE:
On 01/27/2022 at approximately 0300hrs. Sheriff's Office Patrol Officers were dispatched to the Downtown Detention Facility reference to recovered narcotics. Officers were informed that an inmate in Cellblock 830 may have possibly been trading narcotics to inmate Nunez for phone time and commissary. Officers recovered several pills from one of the other inmates assigned to cell block 830. The pills tested positive as fentanyl possibly mixed with methamphetamines. Sheriff's Office is working a separate investigation reference the narcotics.