KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	22-1418-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	5/15/2023 8:57 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	San Patricio County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	PO BOX 1382
Agency City:	Sinton	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78387		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Oscar
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Rivera		
Reporter Name:	Cesar Brosig	Reporter Email:	cbrosig@sanpatriciocountytx.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Robert

Middle Name: Charles

Last Name: Cope

Suffix: II

Date of Birth: 9/15/1980 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 42

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 10/9/2022 5:42 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 10/10/2022 12:00 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: Accidental

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Had meth and ecstasy in system, possibly heart attack. Pending autopsy result's. Autopsy Results indicate manner of death as accidental.

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

Medical Treatment:	Yes

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, who caused the death?

Who caused the death?:	Not applicable

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?:	Pre-existing medical condition

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, what was the means of death?

Means of Death:	Not applicable, cause of death was illness/natural cause

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	300 N. Rachal St	City:	Sinton
County:	San Patricio	Zip:	78387

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:	10/9/2022 5:42 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:

Public Intoxication

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:	Alcohol / drug offense

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?:	No
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Unknown	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 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:

Cope was arrested in Mathis Texas on 10/9/2022 for the offense of public intoxication and transported to the San Patricio County Jail where he was booked at 5:46 am and placed in detox. When Correctional Officers went to check on Cope, on one of their checks, on 10/10/2022 at approximately 01:14 am they found him laying down on the far left side of the cell with only his boxers on. When asking Cope questions he was mumbling to the point where Correctional Officers could not understand him. Jail medical was called and it was determined that Cope needed to be transported to the E.R. Near Cope a vape pen was found. Cope was transported to Dr. Regional ICU in Corpus Christi Texas by Allegiance EMS at 2:27am. Cope later passed away and was pronounced deceased at the hospital on 10/10/2022. When attending the autopsy we were told that Cope had meth and ecstasy in his system and the possible cause of death could be a heart issue and other medical issues. No trauma could be seen. Autopsy results and final report are pending.

Autopsy Conclusion prepared by Rajesh P. Kannan MD Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, Nueces County states: After review of autopsy findings and available investigative information, it is our opinion that Robert Cope II, a 43-year-old male, died as a result of methamphetamine and fentanyl toxicity. Contributing causes of death are atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease and cirrhosis of liver.

MANNER OF DEATH: Accident.