KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	22-1464-CJ	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	10/25/2022 2:04 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Ector County Sheriff's Ofc.	Agency Address:	2500 S. Highway 385
Agency City:	Odessa	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	79761		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Michael
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Griffis		
Reporter Name:	Randy Dominguez	Reporter Email:	randy.dominguez@ectorcountysheriff.us

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Douglas

Middle Name: Walter

Last Name: Hassell

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 6/28/1967 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 55

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 10/2/2022 6:45 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 10/21/2022 5:54 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:

Suicide/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:	2500 S. US Hwy 385	City:	Odessa
County:	Ector	Zip:	79763

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:	10/2/2022 6:45 AM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location:	Law enforcement facility/booking center

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:

Possession of Controlled substance SJF

Offense 2:

Theft of Property SJF

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: 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): 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 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:

Hassell was brought to jail on two state jail felony's on 10-02-2022. During his time in jail he was placed in a single cell (2348). On 10-02-2022 Hassell was in his cell alone with the door closed. While in the cell Hassell was observed by video camera to be laying down in his bunk. Hassell gets up and walks to the metal mesh see though bars portion of the cell and covers it with the sheet to his bedding blocking visual from other inmates. Hassell ties the corners of the sheet from end to end of the mesh wall. After tying the sheet up Hassell then wraps a second sheet around his neck and ties it to the mesh wall, and begins to choke himself out while standing against the wall. After a few seconds Hassell looses consciousness and goes limp and begins to hang. Hassell was found a few hours later in his cell deceased. Texas Rangers were contacted and responded to the jail for investigation. Cell 2348 has a active recording camera in the cell, which captured the entire incident. Hassell's next of Kin was located and notified. Hassell is being sent for autopsy.