KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	22-1866-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	10/31/2022 9:38 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Smith County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	227 N. Spring Ave.
Agency City:	Tyler	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75702		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Larry
Director Middle Name:	R		
Director Last Name:	Smith		
Reporter Name:	John Shoemaker	Reporter Email:	jshoemaker@smith-county.com

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Robert

Middle Name: Ernst

Last Name: Price

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 5/16/1969 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 52

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 3/20/2022 11:53 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 3/20/2022 11:53 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 pending

What was the manner of death? (select only one)

Manner of Death: Natural

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Kidney and Liver Failure, Hept C

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: 800 E. Dawson St
City: Tyler
County: Smith
Zip: 75702

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

Location Category: Other, specify

Other Location Category:

Medical 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: 7/23/2020 8:01 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?: 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:

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?: Yes

Exhibit any mental health problems?: No

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:	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:	Yes, mark which restraint devices were used

Type of restraint

Type of Restraint:	Leg Shackles

Summary of Incident

Summary of How the Death Occurred: (max. 30,000 characters)

Summary:

On the 20th day of March 2022, Inmate Robert Price was pronounced dead at approximately 11:53 by Judge John Johnson. Inmate Price was booked into Smith County Jail 7-23-2020 in reference to the charge of Murder. Since being in Smith County Jail Price has had numerous medical issues and had been sent to the hospital a number of times. On 3-15-2022, Price was sent to Christus Mother Frances Hospital in reference to being lethargic and having an altered mental state. When arriving at the hospital Price was tested for Covid-19 and test results returned positive. Price health continued to decline and family was contacted. Prices' Sister Goldman went to Christus Mother Frances and signed a DNR with medical staff on 3-18-2022. On the 20th day of March, I received notification that Price had passed away. Texas Ranger Baggett was notified and will be completing his investigation. Judge Johnson Order the body to be released to Lighthouse Mortuary for transportation to Southeast Texas Forensic Center. Cause of death will be pending autopsy.