KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	22-1868-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	12/19/2024 8:45 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Mesquite Police Dept.	Agency Address:	PO BOX 850137
Agency City:	Mesquite	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75149		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	David
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Gill		
Reporter Name:	Cody Ketron	Reporter Email:	cketron@mesquitepolice.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Joseph

Middle Name: Wayne

Last Name: Butler

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 12/31/1981 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 40

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 1/31/2022 8:34 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 1/31/2022 9:30 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:

Gunshot wound to the head.

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?: Handgun

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: Firearm

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	813 IH 30	City:	Mesquite
County:	Dallas	Zip:	75150

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

Location Category: Other, specify

Other Location Category:

Common hallway (breezeway) of Apartment building.

What type of custody/facility was the Decedent in at the time of death:

Type of Custody: Pre-Custodial Use of Force

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

Custody of Law Enforcement Personnel during/fleeing arrest

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:

Entry Date Time N/A: ☑

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:

Aggravated Assault Against Public Servant

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: Other, specify

Type of Offense, Other:

Warrant Investigation

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: Yes, mark all that apply

Decedent Display or Use Weapon Details: Discharged firearm

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Attempt to Injure Others?: Yes (select all that apply)

Ways Decedent Attempted To Injure Others:	Attempted to injure law enforcement personnel

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:	Yes
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:

A patrol officer received an electronic notification of a person with outstanding warrants associated with a parked vehicle near the offense location. After previously being unable to location anyone associated with the vehicle, the involved officer returned and observed the suspect vehicle on and idling. While attempting to make contact with the vehicle, the suspect exited, ran into an adjacent breezeway, then turned and fired his handgun at the officer. The officer returned fire. After observing the suspect down, medical aid was

attempted, and the suspect was transported to an area hospital, where he later died. Evidence on scene and Medical Examiner report revealed the suspect shot himself in the head (causing his own death) after shooting at the officer.