KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	22-287-CJ	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	3/10/2022 11:44 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Dallas County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	133 N. Riverfront Blvd.
Agency City:	Dallas	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75207		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Marian
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Brown		
Reporter Name:	TERESA HERNANDEZ	Reporter Email:	tahernandez@dallascounty.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Thanh

Middle Name: Van

Last Name: Cao

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 9/3/1967 Sex: Male

Race: Asian or Pacific Islander

Age At Time Of Death: 54

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 5/27/2021 10:38 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 2/26/2022 10:08 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: Natural

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Metastatic adenocarcinoma of the colon.

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

Medical Treatment: Unknown

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?: Could not be determined

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:	5200 Harry Hines Blvd	City:	Dallas
County:	Dallas	Zip:	75235

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

Location Category: Other, specify

Other Location Category:

Parkland Hospital

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:

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 with a Deadly Weapon

Offense 2:

Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon

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):	Unknown	Make suicidal statements?:	Yes
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Yes	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?:	Unknown	Resist being handcuffed or arrested?:	Unknown
Physically attempt/assault officer(s):	No	Gain possession of officer's weapon:	No
Verbally threaten other(s) including law:	Unknown	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 May 27th 2021, at approximately 10:38 a.m., Inmate Cao, Thanh A/M 09-03-1967, was arrested by officers with the Dallas Police Department for two counts of Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, under warrant numbers F2155528 and F2155529. Cao was booked into Dallas County Jail under bookin number 21019367.
On January 28th 2022, at approximately 11:41 a.m., Parkland Jail Health Nurse Practitioner S. Chacko determined that Cao needed to be transported to Parkland Memorial Hospital for medical evaluation/treatment. Cao was transported by Acadian Ambulance - Unit #946 and admitted at Parkland Memorial Hospital located at 5200 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, TX 75235, and remained hospitalized.
On February 26th 2022, at approximately 10:08 p.m., Acute Care Nurse Practitioner April Walker #30449

pronounced Cao deceased.
On February 26th 2022, at approximately 10:46 p.m., Detective K. Hamed #1171 with the Dallas County Sheriff - Criminal Investigation Section was contacted by Dallas County Sherriff's Department Dispatcher regarding a custodian death that occurred at Parkland Memorial hospital.
On February 26th 2022, at approximately 11:35 p.m., Det. Hamed contacted Dallas County Sheriff's Detention Service Supervisor (DSS) W. Roberson #6007 who is assigned to the Special Housing Observation Team located at Parkland Memorial Hospital. DSS Roberson stated that the decedent was placed on Comfort Care for the past 2 weeks and that he refused to take any kind of treatment.
On February 27th 2022, at approximately 2:09 a.m., Det. Hamed contacted the Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office and spoke with Medicolegal Death Investigator Katie Terry. Terry stated that she spoke with Parkland Medical Staff and was informed that the decedent was diagnosed with colon, liver, and lung cancer. Terry also stated that the decedent, prior to his death, mentioned to Parkland Medical staff that he does not have any living family members. Terry provided Det. Hamed with the Dallas County Medical Examiner case number IFS-22-04345-M.E. Terry stated that the decedent would be transported to the Dallas County Medical Examiner Office pending an external examination or forensic autopsy.
DSO Svc #22-009980
IFS-22-04345-M.E.

Office of the Medical Examiner
Cause of Death Report

An External Examination was performed and the cause of death is:
Metastatic adenocarcinoma of the colon.
Part II (Other Significant Contributing Factors): Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
Manner of Death: Natural
Examining Pathologist: Tracy Dyer, M.D., J.D.
03-02-2022