KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	22-538-UF	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	4/27/2022 5:19 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Bexar County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	200 N. Comal
Agency City:	San Antonio	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78207		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Javier
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Salazar		
Reporter Name:	John Mahon	Reporter Email:	jmahon@bexar.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Ardel

Middle Name: Julius

Last Name: Couch

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 2/14/1996

Sex: Male

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 26

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 4/6/2022 1:26 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 4/6/2022 2:32 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 are available

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

Manner of Death: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Substantial Gunshot Wound of 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: Not Applicable

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?: Firearm, unspecified

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:	7009 Hickory Ridge Drive	City:	Converse
County:	Bexar	Zip:	78109

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

Location Category: Residence/Home

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: Scene of incident

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:
Aggravated Assault Deadly Weapon-Family Violence	
	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:	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:	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:	Killed civilian(s) or other inmate(s)

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?:	Unknown	Exhibit any medical problems?:	Unknown

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:	Yes	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:

On 04-06-2022, at about 0126 hours, the Bexar County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) responded to 7009 Hickory Ridge Drive for a shooting. In gist, the victim had reported to the BCSO that she had been shot and the call ended. Subsequently, the BCSO returned the call and spoke with the decedent, who advised BCSO dispatchers he was going to shoot the victim and then shoot himself. Upon BCSO deputies arriving at the aforementioned location, and after deputies knocked on the front door of the residence, they heard two gunshots. After hearing the gunshots, deputies announced on their police radio that gunshots had been heard from inside the residence and awaited the arrival of additional BCSO personnel prior to making entry to the residence. Once additional BCSO personnel arrived forced entry to the residence was made. BCSO deputies began to clear the residence and located the victim and the decedent inside a restroom. The victim was responsive and removed from the residence for medical treatment of her wound(s). The decedent was later pronounced deceased, on the scene, at about 0232 hours. The victim was later pronounced deceased at a hospital.