KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	23-7-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	7/10/2023 11:12 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Watauga Police Dept.	Agency Address:	7101 Whitley Road
Agency City:	Watauga	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	76148		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Robert
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Parker		
Reporter Name:	Kimberly Bruns	Reporter Email:	kmartinez@wataugatx.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Austin

Middle Name: Joesph

Last Name: Schwarz

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 5/12/1993 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 29

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 1/6/2023 3:34 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 1/6/2023 5:53 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 are available

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

Manner of Death: Homicide (includes Justifiable Homicide)

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Gunshot wound of chest

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?: Law enforcement/correctional personnel

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?: Rifle/shotgun

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:	7701 Virgie Court	City:	Watauga
County:	Tarrant	Zip:	76028

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:
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:	1/6/2023 5:50 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:
Aggravated Assault on Peace Officer	
	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:	Medical / Mental Health assistance call

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:	Displayed firearm without discharge; 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):	Unknown	Make suicidal statements?:	Yes
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Yes	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?:	Yes	Resist being handcuffed or arrested?:	No
Physically attempt/assault officer(s):	Yes	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:

On January 6, 2023, at approximately 0335 hours Officers were dispatched to a call for a suicide threat at 7701 Virgie Ct. in Watauga.

It should be noted we dealt with this individual, Austin Schwarz, the evening prior where he stated he had an AR-15 and wanted to use it to kill himself. We were able to talk Austin out of the residence and transport him to John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth for a mental evaluation. Based on knowledge gained during this incident, we knew Austin to have several guns in the residence and to be an officer safety issue.

Once the crisis negotiator made it to the scene, they sat in the unit with a supervisor and the complainant and began trying to contact Austin. Austin stated multiple times he was not going back to JPS and would rather be arrested or taken to another facility. After several minutes of trying to negotiate with Austin, we were told he hung up on the negotiator and return calls were going straight to voicemail.

While trying to get Austin back on the phone, he exited the residence with what appeared to be a rifle. Officers began yelling commands for Austin to drop the rifle. Austin began yelling something back, but we could not understand what was being said. Austin dropped the rifle in his front door and stood there for a

moment before turning around and going back inside the residence.

Austin again exited the residence with a handgun in one hand and a magazine in the other. Austin then loaded the magazine into the handgun, racked the slide and placed it in the waistband of his pants before turning around as if he planned to walk back inside the residence. While walking towards the front door, Austin reached for the waistband of his pants and turned around toward officers and pointed what appeared to be the handgun in our direction. Officers fired a total of 5 shots at Austin, hitting him and taking him to the ground. Austin remained in a slumped position by the front door as the react team made their way to him. Officers gave commands for Austin to release the handgun. When Austin did not comply, officers fired two bean bag rounds at him. Once the gun was secure from Austin, medics were called to the scene and officers began rendering aid. Once medics arrived, officers stepped away and allowed medics to work on Austin. Austin was placed onto a stretcher and loaded into an ambulance before being transported to the hospital where he was later pronounced deceased.