KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	24-1163-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	8/8/2024 2:35 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Williamson County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	508 S. Rock Street
Agency City:	Georgetown	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78626		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Michael
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Gleason		
Reporter Name:	Jason Braeutigam	Reporter Email:	jason.braeutigam@wilco.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Cassis

Middle Name: James

Last Name: Griffin

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 7/25/1979

Sex: Male

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 45

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 4/23/2024 1:50 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 7/25/2024 3:55 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:

Cause of death – Diabetic Ketoacidosis

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?:	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:	306 W. 4th Street	City:	Georgetown
County:	Williamson	Zip:	78626

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

Location Category:	Law Enforcement 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:
Jail - single cell

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:	4/23/2024 1:50 PM

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:

Driving While Intoxicated 3rd or more - Warrant

Offense 2:

Offense 3:

Were the Charges:: Convicted

What were the types of charges or reason for contact? (Hold CTRL to select all that apply)

Type of Offense: Alcohol / drug offense

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?:	No
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: No

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

On September 22, 2023, Cassis James Griffin was arrested by the Austin Police Department for driving while intoxicated and possession of a controlled substance. He was booked into the Travis County Jail and later housed at the Travis County Jail Del Valle facility.

While in the Travis County Jail it was learned that Griffin had an active warrant out of Williamson County for driving while intoxicated 3rd or more. On April 23, 2024, Williamson County Deputy M. Barcenas picked up Griffin from Travis County and transported him to the Williamson County Jail for the warrant.

Griffin was sentenced to 10 years TDCJ suspended for 5 years community supervision with ISF as a condition of the probation and was awaiting transfer.

On July 23, 2024, at 0959 Hrs., Griffin complained of fatigue, a sore throat, and loss of appetite to Williamson County corrections staff. On July 23, 2024, at 1324 Hrs., Griffin was taken to the infirmary where he was evaluated by the Williamson County Jails contracted Nurse Practitioner (NP), C. Adikari. NP Adikari diagnosed Griffin with possible fatigue, and he was placed alone in an infirmary cell so he could be monitored.
On July 25, 2024, at approximately 1407 Hrs., Corrections Officer (CO) J. Abernathy went to check on Griffin and found him unresponsive in his cell. CO Abernathy summoned assistance from other officers and they began lifesaving aid. Georgetown Fire Department and EMS arrived and took over lifesaving aid and transported Griffin to Seton Williamson hospital, 201 Seton Pkwy Round Rock, TX 78665. Griffin was placed in emergency room 7 where Seton hospital staff and Doctors took over lifesaving aid. Griffin was unable to be stabilized and passed away in the emergency room at 1555 Hrs.

The Round Rock Police Department was contacted to investigate this death with assistance from the Williamson County Sheriff’s Office.

On July 25, 2024, at 1918 Hrs., Williamson County Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace (JP), A. Williams, responded to the hospital for an inquest. JP Williams ordered an autopsy be conducted by the Travis County Medical Examiner’s office.

On July 26, 2024, at 0945 Hrs., Travis County Medical Examiner, Doctor K. Calahan, conducted the autopsy.

The final autopsy results were received on January 29, 2025. The cause and manner of death are outlined below.
Cause of death – Diabetic Ketoacidosis

Manner of death – Natural
Other contributing conditions – Hypertensive and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease