KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	24-1422-C	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	10/3/2024 11:52 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Victoria Police Dept.	Agency Address:	306 S. Bridge
Agency City:	Victoria	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	77901		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Charles
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Young		
Reporter Name:	Jason Turner	Reporter Email:	jrturner@victoriatx.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Eric

Middle Name:

Last Name: Saenz

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 12/17/1982 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 41

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 7/15/2024 8:21 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 7/15/2024 9:21 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: Homicide (includes Justifiable Homicide)

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Combined effects of methamphetamine and cocaine toxicity, cardiomegaly, and left ventricular hypertrophy associated with obesity, and physiologic stress and left respiratory compromise associated with restraint.

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?:	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?:	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?:	Pre-existing medical condition

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, what was the means of death?

Means of Death:	Other, specify
Means of Death Other:	Means of death partially attributed to restraint by Law Enforcement.

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address: 2700 Houston HWY
City: Victoria
County: Victoria
Zip: 77901

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

Location Category: Roadway/highway/street/sidewalk

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

Type of Custody: Police Custody (pre-booking)

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

Custody of Law Enforcement Personnel subsequent to 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?:	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:

Resisting Arrest, Search, Transport

Offense 2:

Public Intoxication

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:	

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?:	Yes (select all that apply)
Ways Decedent Attempted To	Attempted to injure law enforcement

Injure Others:	personnel

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

Appear intoxicated (alcohol or drugs):	Yes	Make suicidal statements?:	No
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Unknown	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?:	Yes
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:	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:	Yes, mark which restraint devices were used

Type of restraint

Type of Restraint:	Handcuffs; Other device, specify
Other device, specify:	WRAP Restraint System

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

During the evening hours of Monday, July 15, 2024, at approximately 2018 hours, Victoria Police Department officers responded to a call for assistance by Victoria EMS. Prior to, Victoria EMS was responding to a medical call at the American Inn and Suites, located at 3005 Houston Hwy.

EMS arrived and found the patient no longer at the location. EMS subsequently located the individual walking on the 2700 block of Houston Hwy behaving erratically and called for police assistance.

Police responded and located Saenz in the roadway. He appeared under the influence of an unknown substance. His behavior was erratic, irrational and combative. He was escorted from the roadway but would immediately return. Officers tried a second time to escort Saenz from the roadway, but he resisted. Officers struggled to gain control of Saenz and bring him into custody. Saenz was able to be brought under control and placed in restraints for his safety and to prevent him from striking and kicking officers. Saenz was then transported to Citizens Medical Center a few hundred yards away for medical treatment.

Saenz was pronounced deceased at the hospital soon after arrival.

UPDATE: On Thursday, February 6, 2025, this case was brought before the Grand Jury for the 377th judicial District in and for the county of Victoria. The Grand Jury took no action against the officers involved. The case was No Billed.