KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	24-481-UF	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	4/15/2024 10:46 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Irving Police Dept.	Agency Address:	305 N. O'Connor Rd.
Agency City:	Irving	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75061		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Derick
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Miller		
Reporter Name:	Eric Curtis	Reporter Email:	ecurtis@cityofirving.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Michael

Middle Name: Adrian

Last Name: Cortez

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 1/6/1986 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 38

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 3/13/2024 11:00 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 3/13/2024 11:58 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)

Homicide (includes

Manner of Death:	Justifiable Homicide)

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:
Gunshot wound of the 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?:	Handgun

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:	7300 State Highway 161	City:	Irving
County:	Dallas	Zip:	75063

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: Pre-Custodial Use of Force

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

N/A

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:

Aggravated Assault on a Peace Officer

Offense 2:

Evading Arrest or Detention

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: Other, specify

Type of Offense, Other:

Disregard Traffic Control Device, Evading Arrest or Detention

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 other weapon, specify:

Specify Weapon Displayed:

Box cutter

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?:	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:	No

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

On March 13, 2024, at approximately 1100 hours, Irving police officers had closed the entrance ramp from westbound Interstate Highway 635 (President Lyndon B. Johnson) to southbound State Highway 161 (President George Bush) for a traffic accident that was blocking the roadway. Officers had set up traffic cones and were using marked police vehicles with emergency lights activated to accomplish this.

The decedent (Michael Cortez) drove through the traffic cones, narrowly avoiding a collision with one of the officers. This officer turned on his siren (emergency lights were already on) and pursued Cortez. Cortez stopped his vehicle on the shoulder of the highway and got out of the vehicle, walking south. The officer stopped his vehicle behind Cortez, who was holding a box cutter in his hand, and gave him loud verbal commands to drop the knife and to get on the ground. Cortez refused to do as he was told and ran from the officer. After running several feet, he stopped and looked back at the officer who did not pursue him on foot. Cortez turned around and walked back towards the officer, still holding the box cutter in his hand. The officer stepped back to create distance between himself and Cortez, while giving Cortez loud verbal commands. Cortez continued to advance on the officer while holding the box cutter in his hand. The officer fired his handgun at Cortez in self-defense, striking him. Cortez died from his injuries.