KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-1001-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	12/9/2025 11:32 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Victoria County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	101 N. Glass
Agency City:	Victoria	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	77901		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Justin
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Marr		
Reporter Name:	Joseph Randolph	Reporter Email:	jrandolph@vctx.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Jose

Middle Name: Fidel

Last Name: Tejeda

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 7/26/2004 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 21

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 12/1/2025 4:23 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 12/6/2025 8:45 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: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Hanging - but waiting on autopsy report.
the Autopsy report was received from the Travis County Medical Examiners Officer on 04/14/2026 and states that the cause of death is Hanging and the manner of death is Suicide.

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?: 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?: 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?: 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: Hanging, strangulation

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	101 North Glass Street	City:	Victoria
County:	Victoria	Zip:	77901

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:	12/1/2025 5:56 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?: No

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:

US Marshals - Contract Inmate - Possession of Child Pornography

Offense 2:

Offense 3:

Were the Charges:: Filed

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

Type of Offense: Crimes Against Child(ren)

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?: 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?:	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 12/05/2025 at approximately 1840 Hrs., Detention Officer Gonzales, G. was feeding the supper meal, when she approached cell 1057 which is assigned to Jose Fidel Tejeda, a W/M, DOB 07/26/2004, she observed a blanket to be blocking her view. When Officer Gonzales removed the blanket she observed Inmate Tejeda, with a sheet tied around his neck, suspending from the cell bars in the cell. Officer Gonzales called for assistance. Several Officers, supervisors and medical staff responded and were able to removed the sheet from around Inmate Tejeda's neck and began performing life saving measures. EMS was called and responded and continued to perform life saving measures. Inmate Tejeda was transported to Detar Navarro Hospital, where the medical staff there continued to perform life saving measures. At 0650 hours, on 12/06/2025, Inmate Tejeda was declared brain dead by Dr. Masjid. At this time he was not declared Cardiac dead. At approximately 0915 Hrs. on 12/06/2025, the Victoria County Sheriffs Office received an order from the US Marshals, that Inmate Tejeda's charges had been dismissed and to release him from custody. At 1020 Hrs. on 12/06/2025, Inmate Tejeda was released from custody and the security at the hospital was removed. At approximately 2115 Hrs. Lieutenant Randolph, J. was notified by Lori Horboy, the ICU Charge Nurse at Detar Navarro Hospital, that Dr. Masjid had pronounced Inmate Tejeda cardiac dead at 2045 Hrs. Justice of the Peace Mary Ann Rivera was contacted and she ordered an autopsy. Brandon Tinsley with the Texas Rangers will be investigating Ranger.