KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-1015-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	12/12/2025 4:22 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Hill County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	PO BOX 283
Agency City:	Hillsboro	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	76645		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Hunter
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Barnes		
Reporter Name:	Timothy Westmoreland	Reporter Email:	twestmoreland@co.hill.tx.us

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Billy

Middle Name: Ray

Last Name: Thurman

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 2/12/1960 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 65

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 12/9/2025 12:47 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 12/9/2025 3:43 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: Accidental

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Preliminary Report Only, Which Indicates the Following:

1. Hypertensive cardiovascular disease
a. Cardiomegaly with concentric left ventricular hypertrophy
b. Arteriolonephrosclerosis
c. Evidence of peripheral vascular disease

2. Pulmonary edema

3. Small plastic zip baggie found in stomach

4. No evidence of injury

5. Final report pending toxicology

Had the decedent been receiving treatment for the medical condition that caused the death after admission to your jail's jurisdiction?

Medical Treatment: Unknown

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?: Pre-existing medical condition

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

Means of Death: Other, specify

Considering the final toxicology

Means of Death Other:	report is pending, it is unknown at the time of this report if the deceased person died from natural causes or a potential drug overdose. With the plastic zip baggie being found in the stomach, overdose is possible.

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	406 Hall Street	City:	Hillsboro
County:	Hill	Zip:	76645

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:
Correctional/Rehabilitation Facility

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:	12/9/2025 12:47 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?: 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:

TDCJ Pardon and Parole Warrant - DWI 3rd or More (Parole Violation)

Offense 2:

Offense 3:

Were the Charges:: A probation/parole violation

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?:	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 12-09-2025 at 12:47 am, a Whitney, Texas Police Officer arrived at the Hill County, Texas Jail with a prisoner that the officer arrested as the result of a traffic stop. The prisoner was later identified as Billy Ray Thurman (65 yoa W/M). At the time of his arrest, Thurman possessed a warrant from TDCJ Pardon and Parole for the offense of DWI 3rd or More (felony). The Whitney Police Officer booked Thurman into the Hill County Jail for the warrant Thurman possessed.

After being booked into jail and being screened, Thurman had been changed into an inmate uniform and placed into a holding cell, known as "Holding 1", where he remained alone for his entire duration of this jailing. While conducting routine cell checks, an on-duty Jail Sergeant noticed Thurman appearing to have an unknown medical issue while in the holding cell. The Jail Sergeant made contact with Thurman and began to work to remove him from the holding cell. During this time, Thurman was conscious and able to communicate and move. Thurman was placed into a wheelchair to assist with moving him.

Thurman was then taken to the booking area of the jail where his blood pressure was checked. Thurman was found to have high blood pressure at the time. The Jail Sergeant made contact with the on-call Doctor of the jail's medical provider and was advised to have Thurman evaluated by medical personnel and to be taken to the local hospital. During this time, Thurman began convulsing and was having some type of obvious medical episode. Jail staff worked to attempt to keep Thurman conscious, and, suspecting Thurman may be overdosing on an unknown substance, jail staff administered Narcan to Thurman. EMS personnel were requested to respond to the jail during this time. A Deputy Sergeant responded to the jail as well and assisted. It appeared to the jail staff that the Narcan was not working and Thurman was eventually moved to the floor from the wheelchair, where he began to become non-responsive. Jail staff and the Deputy Sergeant continued lifesaving measures in which chest compressions began. A second dose of Narcan was submitted to Thurman around this time.

EMS personnel arrived a short time later and took over the CPR on Thurman and transported Thurman to the local hospital. Thurman arrived at the local hospital but ultimately passed away as a result of the incident while at the hospital. Thurman's date and time of death were listed by the local Justice of the Peace as 12-09-2025 at 3:43 am. An autopsy in this case was ordered and the death investigation is being conducted by the Texas Rangers.

It should be noted that as of the date and time of this report, a preliminary autopsy report is the only death report available on Mr. Thurman. Toxicology results of the investigation are still pending.

Final autopsy report available.