KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-1043-CJ	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	12/22/2025 5:34 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Hidalgo County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	PO BOX 1228
Agency City:	Edinburg	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78540		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Jose
Director Middle Name:	E		
Director Last Name:	Guerra		
Reporter Name:	Ernesto Villarreal	Reporter Email:	ernesto.villarreal@hidalgoso.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Sylvia

Middle Name:

Last Name: Gabel

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 10/24/1970 Sex: Female

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 55

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 11/29/2025 12:17 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 12/15/2025 8:14 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: Natural

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Complications of Fournier's gangrene, hypertensive heart disease; cirrhosis of the liver

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?:	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?:	Pre-existing medical condition

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:	1102 W. Trenton Road	City:	Edinburg
County:	Hidalgo	Zip:	78539

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

Location Category: Other, specify

Other Location Category:

Hospital

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:

Hospital/Infirmary

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?: 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:

Fugitive Warrant out of State (murder)

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: Violent Crime
Against Persons

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?: Unknown

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 December 15, 2025, the Justice of the Peace pronounced Sylvia Gabel deceased at 8:14 a.m. The cause of death was ruled natural, due to complications of Fournier’s gangrene, hypertensive heart disease, and cirrhosis of the liver.