KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-176-CJ	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	3/7/2025 3:20 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Ector County Sheriff's Ofc.	Agency Address:	2500 S. Highway 385
Agency City:	Odessa	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	79761		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Michael
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Griffis		
Reporter Name:	Randy Dominguez	Reporter Email:	randy.dominguez@ectorcountysheriff.us

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: John

Middle Name: Christopher

Last Name: Digby

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 6/21/1978 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 46

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 2/21/2025 9:00 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 3/1/2025 9:00 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 pending

What was the manner of death? (select only one)

Manner of Death: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Suicide by hanging/strangulation.

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:	2500 S US Hwy 385	City:	Odessa
County:	Ector	Zip:	79768

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:	2/21/2025 9:00 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?:	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:

Parole Violation

Offense 2:

Evading Arrest or Detention with motor vehicle.

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: Other, specify

Type of Offense, Other:

Charge one is a Parole Violation.
Charge two is an Evading in a motor vehicle.

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):	Unknown	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:

John Christopher Digby DOB 06-21-1978, was an inmate in the Ector County Law Enforcement Center. John was arrested on 02-21-25 at 2100hrs. John advised he was detoxing off of Alcohol and Drugs. John did not make any statements of being suicidal during his time with the ECLEC. John was placed in a Rack Down cell at this time. On 02-24-2025 at 0902hrs John is in his cell. While in the cell which has video camera's placed in the ceilings, John is seen sleeping in his bed. John then wakes up and begins to look around in the exterior hallway, which appears he is looking out for a Detention Officers. After a few minutes John is seen getting up and standing on the bed and started to tie his sheet to the top portion of the Rack Down wall. The wall is a mesh wire wall. John is successful in tying his sheet to the mesh wall. Once the sheet is tied to the wall, John begins to wrap the sheet around his neck. After he is able to wrap the sheet around his neck, John steps off his bed and begins to hang. John is hanging from the mesh wall for approx. 20 mins, before a Detention Officer is seen entering the cell and attempts to cut John down. Once John is cut down the Detention Officer and medical staff begin to administer life saving measures such as CPR. Medics are called which they respond and transport John to Medical Center Hospital. John is treated for several days where he finally passes away from the suicide attempt. John passed away on 03-01-2025 at 09:00 PM. Family of John was contacted and made aware of the incident. Next of Kin was notified.