KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-199-CJ	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	3/12/2025 4:45 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	El Paso County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	3850 Justice Road
Agency City:	El Paso	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	79938		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Oscar
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Ugarte		
Reporter Name:	Samuel Magallanes	Reporter Email:	smagallanes@epcounty.com

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Rafael

Middle Name:

Last Name: Reyes

Suffix:

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

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 54

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 3/7/2025 11:15 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 3/9/2025 4:25 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:

Decedent was found hanging from vestibule bars from cell block 540-General poplulation

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?: Other Weapon,
specify:

Other weapon, specify:

Used a bath towel to hang himself from vestibule bars.

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:	601 E. Overland	City:	El Paso
County:	El Paso	Zip:	79901

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 - day room/recreation area

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:	3/7/2025 11:15 PM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location:	Law enforcement facility/booking center

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:

WRT/FTA/Contempt of Court

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: Other, specify

Type of Offense, Other:

Failure to Appear

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:

Decedent had been in custody since March 7, 2025, and was booked for Contempt of Court – no bond issued and (67) Class C arrest warrants which he was credited time served for. Decedent was assigned to 5th floor in Cellblock 540-General Population cellblock

On March 09, 2025, at approximately 1210 hours, Detention Officers were conducting a Physical Check on the floor. At approximately 1215 hours, when Officers arrived at Cellblock 540, they requested assistance when they observed the Decedent was hanging from the vestibule metal bars in Cellblock 40. Detention Officers and medical personnel rendered aid and started Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). At approximately 1218 hours, El Paso Fire Department was notified and Rescue 4 and Ladder 11 responded.

At approximately 1224 hours, El Paso Fire Department Ladder 11 and Rescue 4 Paramedics arrived, and determined the Decedent was deceased and did not transport the Decedent to the hospital. At approximately 1330 hours, Medical Examiner's Office was notified.

At 1551 hours, Medical Examiner Investigator Bessie Christman arrived and pronounced the decedent deceased at 1625 hrs. Autopsy is pending by Medical Examiner.