KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-55-UF	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	1/21/2025 10:31 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Amarillo Police Dept.	Agency Address:	200 SE 3rd Ave
Agency City:	Amarillo	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	79101		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Martin
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Birkenfeld		
Reporter Name:	Cole Thurman	Reporter Email:	cole.thurman@amarillo.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Labaron

Middle Name:

Last Name: Towles

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 5/6/1989 Sex: Male

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 35

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 1/18/2025 1:30 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 1/18/2025 10:03 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 pending

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

Manner of Death: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Penetrating Gunshot Wound of the Head

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?: Handgun

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: Firearm

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	6030 W. IH 40	City:	Amarillo
County:	Potter	Zip:	79106

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

Location Category: Parking lot/garage

What type of custody/facility was the Decedent in at the time of death:

Type of Custody: Pre-Custodial Use of Force

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

Custody of Law Enforcement Personnel during/fleeing arrest

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:

Warrant-Bond Surrender-Evading Arrest/Detention

Offense 2:

Warrant-Bond Surrender-Resisting Arrest

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:

Outstanding County Warrants

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: Yes, mark all that apply

Decedent Display or Use Weapon Details: Discharged firearm

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?:	Yes
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Unknown	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?:	Yes
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:	Yes
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 January 18th, 2025, Amarillo Uniformed Patrol Officers were conducting proactive patrol at the Relax Inn located at 6030 W. IH40. Officers located a vehicle registered to the decedent. The vehicle's registered owner came back to decedent who showed to have several outstanding arrest warrants. Officers were attempting to locate the decedent when they observed him get into the parked SUV in the parking lot of the motel. Officers contacted the decedent who attempted to flee. The decedent was removed from the vehicle and was actively resisting arrest. As officers were attempting to arrest the decedent, he made the statement that he was going to kill himself. The decedent then began to count to three and upon reaching three, officers heard a single, muffled gunshot. The decedent was rolled over and officers observed the decedent armed with a handgun with the decedent's thumb still in the trigger well of the firearm. Officers then noted an apparent gunshot wound to the decedent's head. First aid was administered until EMS arrived. The decedent was transported to the NWTH ER where he later died at 1003AM on January 18th, 2025. An autopsy was performed in Lubbock, TX on January 20th, 2025.