KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-557-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	7/22/2025 10:33 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Fort Worth Police Dept.	Agency Address:	505 W. Felix St.
Agency City:	Fort Worth	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	76115		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Edgardo
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Garcia		
Reporter Name:	Laura Walter	Reporter Email:	laura.walter@fortworthtexas.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Melvin

Middle Name: Franklin

Last Name: Pardue

Suffix: Jr

Date of Birth: 2/26/1948 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 77

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 7/2/2025 4:20 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 7/2/2025 5:13 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 are available

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

Manner of Death: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Gunshot wound of torso

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:	3325 E. Belknap St	City:	Fort Worth
County:	Tarrant	Zip:	76111

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: Scene of incident

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:

Forgery Financial Instrument $2,500<$30K

Offense 2:

Theft of Property >=$2,500<$30K ENH IAT

Offense 3:

Assault Fam/House MEM Impede Breath/Circulat - F3

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; Other, specify; Crime Against Property

Type of Offense, Other:

Financial Crime

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):	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:	Unknown
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 July 2, 2025, bail bondsmen from Bring'em Home 24/7 Bail Bonds contacted the Fort Worth Police Department for assistance taking Melvin Pardue, who had active felony warrants, into custody. Officers driving marked units located Pardue's vehicle and initiated a traffic stop. Pardue turned into a parking lot, but continued to drive forward. The vehicle finally came to a stop in the neighboring lot. Pardue did not exit the vehicle and did not respond to any officer's commands. Officers eventually approached and found Pardue to have a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the torso. Paramedics arrived and Pardue was pronounced deceased at the scene.