KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-619-C	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	8/11/2025 4:10 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.	Agency Address:	4200 Smith School Rd
Agency City:	Austin	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78744		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Director	Director First Name:	David
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Yoskowitz		
Reporter Name:	Michael Durand	Reporter Email:	mike.durand@tpwd.texas.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Christopher

Middle Name: Shawn

Last Name: Sly

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 11/18/1977 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 47

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 8/6/2025 6:59 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 8/6/2025 7:50 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: Natural

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Cardiac Arrest

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:	Iran Pecos River Parks, US-190 E.	City:	Iraan
County:	Pecos	Zip:	79744

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

Location Category: Field/woods/lake/waterway/beach

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

Type of Custody: Police Custody (pre-booking)

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

Custody of Law Enforcement Personnel subsequent to 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?: 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:

HSC 481.116(b) - State Jail Felony

Offense 2:

HSC 481.125(a) - Class C Misdemeanor

Offense 3:

Were the Charges:: Not filed at time of death

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:

Alcohol/Drug Offense and Consensual Investigative Contact

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:

On August 6, 2025, I, Game Warden Jacob Fleshman, was on patrol outside of Iraan, TX at a local park by the Pecos River called Iraan Pecos River Park. At approximately 6:23pm, I made a consensual contact with two individuals, later identified as Vanessa Herrera (10/19/1990) and Christopher Sly (11/18/1977). Upon my initial contact, I could smell the odor of marijuana coming from Sly. I asked Sly about the odor, and Sly said that he and Herrera "…had one joint but already smoked it." I asked Sly if he had any more on him. Sly stated, "nope", he did not. I asked Sly if I could go search his vehicle to see if there was more marijuana, to which Sly replied no, he doesn't consent to a search, and I need to go get a warrant. I explained to Sly that I don't need a warrant because I have probable cause to search due to the odor of marijuana coming from him. I stated that he has been cooperative with me, so I was being polite in asking for his consent. I told Sly I was going to take a quick look around the truck, and as I approached the back end of the truck, I could smell a strong odor of marijuana coming from the truck. Sly began getting defensive saying I was not allowed to look through the vehicle, and that I needed a warrant because he did not consent to a search. I told Sly that I was going to go back to my truck to make a phone call and that I would be right back with them in a minute. Sly asked if he and Herrera were detained at the time and I told him no they were not detained and that they were free to leave if they wanted to, but I was going to make a phone call and would be back.

I got to my patrol truck and called my field training officer (FTO) Stephen Boultinghouse and asked for some advice on how to handle the situation as I am new and just wanted a little guidance. Boultinghouse asked me what I had done so far and if I had obtained their ID's. I replied I had not. Boultinghouse then advised me to call the dispatch and get some other officers out to my location to assist me and to try and ID Sly and Herrera. I called the Fort Stockton PD dispatch, since they are the main dispatch center, and asked for a unit in the area to give me a call. Boultinghouse also called a local DPS Trooper to head to my location. Pecos County Sheriff Deputy Anthony Cook (615) called me and asked for my location. I guided Cook to me, and he arrived

on scene at approximately 6:52pm. I updated Cook on my initial contact with Sly and Herrera. Cook stated Pecos County Sheriff Deputy Kevin Rose (614) was on the way, and when Rose showed up on scene, myself, Cook, and Rose would make our approach on Sly and Herrera. Deputy Rose arrived at 6:59pm. Myself, Cook, and Rose approached Sly and Herrera at the back of Sly's truck. I explained to Sly and Herrera that at this time they were being detained while I conducted my investigation. I explained to Sly again that I could smell the odor of marijuana and was going to look in the truck. I asked Sly if I would find anything in the truck, to which he replied yes that there was some more marijuana. I asked where it was, and Sly told me on the back floorboard on the passenger side of the truck. I went and started searching the vehicle when Cook and Rose had Sly and Herrera move over to Herrera's truck. The deputies patted Sly and Herrera down to see if there were any weapons present. Rose got Sly and Herrera's ID's and ran their information through dispatch.

At approximately 7:01pm, DPS Trooper Oscar Jaloma(4C507) arrived on scene. I pulled a small backpack from the back floorboard that had some marijuana, some THC wax, and other paraphernalia; to include but not limited to, zig-zag papers, a pipe, a grinder, a bag and jar that contained some marijuana buds, lighter, and a stoking tool. I asked Sly if there was any more inside the vehicle. Sly stated that there was more in the center console. I went back to the truck and opened the center console and found several vapes, a bag of marijuana, several pre rolled containers that were empty, grinders, a box with some marijuana in it, and another can with THC wax inside. I put everything on the tailgate of the truck and went back to the front seat to keep looking. As soon as I got back to the center console, I heard a thump. I looked back in the direction of Sly and saw Sly collapsed on the ground and beginning to have what appeared to be a seizure.

At approximately 7:07pm, Trooper Jaloma began to render aid to Sly, putting him into the recovery position (laying on his side with an arm tucked under the head and one leg bent at the knee for stabilization), and one of the Deputies called for EMS. Sly began having trouble breathing, so Cook and Jaloma laid Sly on his back to open his airway and check for a pulse. It was at this time I ran back to my truck and grabbed my medical bag. I pulled the Narcan out of my bag and gave it to Cook. At approximately 7:10pm Cook administered the first dose of Narcan. Cook radioed to dispatch about administering the Narcan and then at approximately 7:12pm Cook administered a second dose of Narcan. While waiting to see if the Narcan had any effect, I pulled my CPR mask out, getting ready to give breaths if needed. At approximately 7:14pm I checked for a pulse and could not feel one. Immediately, deputy Cook began chest compressions. I radioed into dispatch that Cook began chest compressions.

The ambulance arrived on scene at approximately 7:15pm. I ran over to the ambulance and gave a quick brief to EMS and assisted them in getting the medical equipment over to Sly. Cook continued compressions and swapped out with Rose on compressions as the EMS team arrived next to Sly. All officers continued to aid EMS by swapping out on who was doing compressions while EMS did what they needed to do. At approximately 7:21pm EMS attempted to shock Sly with the defibrillator. Officers continued chest compressions. Cook and Rose assisted in getting Sly onto the back board and then loading Sly onto the gurney.
At approximately 7:30pm, I assisted EMS in getting the gurney back to the ambulance and getting Sly inside the back of the ambulance. Trooper Jaloma got into the back of the ambulance to continue compressions while EMS worked to strap Sly into the ambulance for transport. I assisted EMS in putting the automatic chest compression machine onto Sly. The EMS personnel then stated they needed someone to drive the ambulance to the hospital so they could continue to work on Sly.

I volunteered to drive the ambulance and asked all the officers on scene to stay there and keep the scene secured. Deputy Cook stated he would escort me to the hospital. At approximately 7:37pm, I closed all the doors and proceeded to drive the ambulance to the hospital. I arrived at Iraan General Hospital at approximately 7:43pm. The hospital staff received Sly at approximately 7:44pm and Sly was taken to the trauma room where hospital staff began giving aid to Sly. At approximately 7:50pm the pronounced Sly to be deceased.
(End of Report)