KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-737-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	9/17/2025 11:08 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:	Jimmy
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Johnson		
Reporter Name:	Douglas (Brent) Harlan	Reporter Email:	brent.harlan@amarillo.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Austin

Middle Name: Scott

Last Name: Bickham

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 11/30/1992 Sex: Male

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 32

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 9/10/2025 10:39 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 9/13/2025 8:45 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 are available

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

Could not be

Manner of Death: determined

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Unable to determine

Had the decedent been receiving treatment for the medical condition that caused the death after admission to your jail's jurisdiction?

Medical Treatment: Not Applicable

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, who caused the death?

Who caused the death?: Other civilian(s)

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:

Personal

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: Unknown

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	8521 Canyon Drive	City:	Amarillo
County:	Randall	Zip:	79119

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:

Hospital/Infirmary

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: 9/9/2025 11:30 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?: 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:

Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon

Offense 2:

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: Violent Crime Against Persons

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: Displayed other weapon, specify:; Used vehicle as weapon

Specify Weapon Displayed:

Knife

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Attempt to Injure Others?: Yes (select all that apply)

Ways Decedent Attempted To Injure Others:	Attempted to injure civilian(s) or other inmate(s)

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Appear intoxicated (alcohol or drugs):	Yes	Make suicidal statements?:	No
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Yes	Exhibit any medical problems?:	Yes

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:	Yes	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:	Yes, mark which restraint devices were used

Type of restraint

Type of Restraint:	Other device, specify
Other device, specify:	Personal (body weight) of civilians

Summary of Incident

Summary of How the Death Occurred: (max. 30,000 characters)

Summary:

On Wednesday, September 10, 2025, officers were sent to the Tractor Supply located at 8251 Canyon Drive in reference to a passenger that caused a bus to leave the roadway. Dispatch personnel received updates while officers were en route to the location that the suspect attempted to "carjack" a vehicle and was armed with a knife. When officers arrived, citizens had restrained the suspect on the ground in an adjacent parking lot to Tractor Supply. The officers secured the suspect in handcuffs, and a short time later realized the suspect was unresponsive. Fire Department personnel arrived and began life saving measures on the suspect, and he was ultimately transported to a local medical facility for treatment. The suspect died on Saturday, September 14, 2025, at 8:45 am. Investigators learned that the suspect grabbed the steering wheel of the Greyhound bus as it was travelling northbound on Canyon Drive, and there was a struggle between the suspect and the driver of the bus for control. The bus left the highway, travelled down an embankment, crossed the access road, and ultimately came to a stop in the Tractor Supply parking lot. The suspect leapt from the bus through the broken windshield, attempted to get back on the bus, and then attempted to catch a vehicle in the parking lot that apparently witnessed the incident. The suspect fled the area on foot and was captured by passengers and a civilian witness. The investigator spoke with the suspect's family at the hospital, after the suspect's death, and learned there was a history of marijuana use, with other narcotics suspected. There was also a lengthy history of mental health related issues with the suspect according to family. The bus had a total of 28 occupants, including the suspect, at the time of the incident. If not for the death of the suspect, investigators were planning on presenting 27 counts of Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon for this incident.