KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-857-C	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	10/24/2025 7:37 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Tyler Police Dept.	Agency Address:	711 West Ferguson
Agency City:	Tyler	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75702		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Jimmy
Director Middle Name:	E		
Director Last Name:	Toler		
Reporter Name:	Brian Bulman	Reporter Email:	bbulman@tylertexas.com

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name:	Rashah
Middle Name:	Andre
Last Name:	Williams
Suffix:	
Date of Birth:	3/13/1986
Sex:	Male
Race:	Black or African American
Age At Time Of Death:	39

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident:	9/24/2025 9:57 AM

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

Death Date and Time:	10/1/2025 5:45 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:	Pending autopsy results

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Subject suffered a medical emergency and became unresponsive while alone in a cell at the Smith County Jail. This occurred prior to the book-in paperwork being completed. Subject received medical treatment and was admitted into the hospital at UT Health in Tyler. Subject died in the hospital on 10-01-2025. An autopsy was conducted and the results are pending.

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?: 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?: 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?: Could not be determined

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:	206 E. Elm Street	City:	Tyler
County:	Smith	Zip:	75702

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:	Police Custody (pre-booking)

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:
Jail - holding cell

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:	9/24/2025 10:30 AM

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:

Assault Family Violence

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: 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): Unknown

Make suicidal statements?: No

Exhibit any mental health problems?: Yes

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?:	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:	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:	Yes, mark which restraint devices were used

Type of restraint

Type of Restraint:	Handcuffs

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

On September 24, 2025, Tyler Police Officers responded to the residence at 3318 Glendale in reference to an assault in progress. Officers arrived and observed Rashah Williams in a physical altercation with his wife outside the residence. Williams' wife had injuries to her face and reported she had been assaulted by Williams. Officers arrested Rashah Williams for assault causing bodily injury to a family member. Williams was taken into custody and transported to the Smith County Jail without incident.
Upon arrival at the Smith County Jail, Williams became agitated and began pushing against officers attempting to escort Williams inside. Smith County Jail employees assisted by escorting Williams into a padded cell. Williams was screened by medical staff at the jail and detained in a padded side cell at the jail while the arresting Tyler PD officer began preparing Williams' book-in paperwork. Several minutes after being detained alone in the cell, Williams suffered a medical emergency. Smith County Jail staff who had been monitoring Williams entered the cell and began providing medical care. Smith County Jail Medical staff, EMS, and members of the Tyler Fire Department responded and assisted in providing emergency medical care to Williams. Rashah Williams was transported to UT Health Hospital by EMS where Williams was admitted. On October 1, 2025, Rashah Williams died while in the hospital at UT Health in Tyler, Texas. The Texas Rangers were notified and initiated an investigation into the in-custody death of Rashah Williams. The cause and manner of Rashah Williams' death is unknown at this time. An autopsy was performed, and the results are pending.