KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	25-869-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	10/31/2025 3:34 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	El Paso County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	3850 Justice Road
Agency City:	El Paso	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	79938		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Oscar
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Ugarte		
Reporter Name:	Samuel Magallanes	Reporter Email:	smagallanes@epcounty.com

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Jose

Middle Name: Victor

Last Name: Garza

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 2/8/1963 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 62

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 10/22/2025 10:35 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 10/22/2025 11:19 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)

Manner of Death: Accidental

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Hypertensive and Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease
Contributing Conditions Mixed Drug Toxicity (Cocaine, Fentanyl), COVID 19

County of El Paso Office of Medical Examiner Autopsy Report Case 2025-0513

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

Medical Treatment:	Yes

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:	601 E. Overland Ave	City:	El Paso
County:	El Paso	Zip:	79901

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:	County Jail

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:	10/22/2025 2:48 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:

Possession of a Controlled Substance, Penalty Group 1/1-B, under Warrant #JMAG25-11155. No bond was issued pending an SB9 hearing.

Offense 2:

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: Alcohol / drug offense

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?:	Yes
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?:	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:

El Paso County Sheriff's Office Case# 202513963

Date of Incident:
10/22/2025 @ 1035 Hours

Location:
601 E. Overland Ave, El Paso County Texas 79901

Name of Inmate: Garza, Jose Victor 02-08-1963
In Custody for-Poss. CS PG 1/1-B Warrant# JMAG25-11155/ No Bond Issued

Investigator:
Detective Michael A. Saenz #8499
(915) 471-2165

Texas Ranger Cody Carter
915-218-1482
C.Carter@dps.texas.gov

Details:
On October 22, 2025, at approximately 0248 hours, Inmate Garza was booked into the El Paso County Detention Facility on a charge of Possession of a Controlled Substance, Penalty Group 1/1-B, under Warrant #JMAG25-11155. No bond was issued pending an SB9 hearing.

Inmate Garza was assigned to Cell M-03 within the facility. At approximately 1038 hours, Detention Officers entered the cellblock to escort Inmate Garza to court and discovered he was unresponsive and not breathing. A medical emergency was immediately broadcast over the radio, and facility emergency response protocols

were initiated.

El Paso Fire Department personnel were notified, and Rescue Unit 4 responded to the facility. Inmate Garza was transported by Rescue 4 to University Medical Center, located at 4815 Alameda Avenue, El Paso, Texas 79905.

At approximately 1119 hours, physician Dr. Eduardo Mena pronounced Inmate Garza deceased.

The incident was captured on facility security cameras as well as on the body-worn cameras of supervisors present at the scene.

An investigation into the incident is currently ongoing. At this time, no foul play is suspected and Detectives are attempting to locate the next of kin.