KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	26-215-C	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	3/17/2026 1:41 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Irving Police Dept.	Agency Address:	305 N. O'Connor Rd.
Agency City:	Irving	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75061		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Derick
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Miller		
Reporter Name:	Eric Curtis	Reporter Email:	ecurtis@cityofirving.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Homer

Middle Name: Joel

Last Name: Cortez

Suffix: Jr

Date of Birth: 10/23/1977 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 48

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 2/23/2026 7:50 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 2/23/2026 8:40 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: Homicide (includes Justifiable Homicide)

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Blunt force injuries and physical restraint to include prone positioning.

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?: Law enforcement/correctional personnel

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?: 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: Other, specify

Means of Death Other: Arm Bar Takedown

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	1200 block of N. Belt Line Rd.	City:	Irving
County:	Dallas	Zip:	75061

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: Police Custody (pre-booking)

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: 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:

Manufacture/Delivery of a Controlled Substance-Penalty Group 1-over 4 grams, under 200 grams

Offense 2:

Resisting Arrest

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:	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?:	Yes (select all that apply)
Ways Decedent Attempted To	Injured law

Injure Others:	enforcement personnel

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?:	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?:	Yes
Physically attempt/assault officer(s):	Unknown	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; Leg Shackles; Other device, specify
Other device, specify:	Hobble leg restraint

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

On February 23, 2026, at approximately 1950 hours, officers from the Irving Police Department stopped a 2012 silver Chevrolet Malibu 4 Door for failing to use a turn signal when making a right turn and making a wide right turn from Rustic Ln. to N. Belt Line Rd. Officer Elliott #1242 made contact with the driver of the vehicle, later identified as Homer Cortez, and the front seat passenger. Officer Elliott was driving a marked Irving Police Department vehicle and was in an Irving Police Department uniform.

Prior to the traffic stop, Officer Elliott was aware that there was an active narcotic investigation involving Cortez and that a confidential informant provided intel regarding where Cortez hid narcotics in his vehicle. During the traffic stop, Cortez consented to the search of his vehicle and methamphetamine was found.

Thereafter, officers attempted to lawfully arrest Cortez, who resisted and engaged in a physical struggle with officers. Cortez was taken to the ground where it appeared he struck his head on the parking lot pavement. Officer Elliott and his backup officer, Officer Torres #1257, continued to struggle with Cortez, as they attempted to secure him in handcuffs.

Plainclothes officers assisted Officer Elliott and Officer Torres with securing Cortez in handcuffs. After Cortez was handcuffed, officers requested the Irving Fire Department respond to the location to treat Cortez's injuries.

Cortez was transported to Parkland Hospital where he was pronounced deceased. The investigation is on-going.