KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	26-287-CJ	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	4/9/2026 10:31 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Rusk County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	210 Charlevoir
Agency City:	Henderson	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75652		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Johnwayne
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Valdez		
Reporter Name:	Frank Rudisill	Reporter Email:	frudisill@rcsotx.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: MANUEL

Middle Name: REMEAS

Last Name: BENAVIDEZ

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 7/4/1959 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 66

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 2/17/2026 9:50 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 3/19/2026 7:48 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:

Pending autopsy results

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:	210 charlevoix	City:	Henderson
County:	Rusk	Zip:	75652

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 - single 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:	4/9/2026 10:21 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?:	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:

Felony DWI

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:

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?: 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?: No

Physically attempt/assault

Gain possession of officer's

officer(s):	No	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:

Decedent was transferred from a TDCJ medical facility to the Rusk County Jail on 2/17/26. Due to the fact that the decedent had multiple, serious, pre-existing health conditions, the decedent was housed in a medical cell in the Rusk County Jail under the close observation the jail medical staff. Decedent was found unresponsive in the medical cell on March 18, 2026. Rusk County jail staff provided emergency medical care including CPR and the administration of an AED. EMS was summoned and transported the decedent to the local hospital where the decedent was pronounced deceased. (Final autopsy report pending at the time of this submission.)