KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	26-382-PF	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	5/14/2026 8:23 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Angelina County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	2311 E. Lufkin Ave.
Agency City:	Lufkin	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75901		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Thomas
Director Middle Name:	L		
Director Last Name:	Selman		
Reporter Name:	Mark McLin	Reporter Email:	mmclin@angelinacounty.net

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Edward

Middle Name: Doyel

Last Name: Cowart

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 9/25/1973 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 52

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 3/15/2026 3:55 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 5/2/2026 10:52 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:

At this time we have not received the autopsy report.

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?: 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:	17200 St. Lukes Way	City:	The Woodlands
County:	Montgomery	Zip:	77384

What location category best describes where the event causing the death occurred?

Location Category: Other, specify

Other Location Category:

CHI Hospital in The Woodlands, TX.

What type of custody/facility was the Decedent in at the time of death:

Type of Custody: Private Facility

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: 4/29/2026 9:18 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:

Aggravated Assault / Deadly Weapon

Offense 2:

Assault Family Violence

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: 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?:	Unknown
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Unknown	Exhibit any medical problems?:	Unknown

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:

Cowart was an inmate in the Angelina County Jail and was arrested on 3/15/26 for Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon.

At approximately 3am on 4/29, while Cowart was still in the custody of the Angelina County Jail, a jail officer making rounds observed Cowart laying on the floor of his jail cell. A check revealed he was having the effects of some physiological problem. Inmate Cowart was taken to the nurse who examined him, began treatment but called EMS to transport him to the hospital. Upon further examination, hospital concluded Cowart had an active brain bleed and would be sent out of town for treatment. Texas State District Judge Bob Inselmann decided to release Cowart on a PR Bond to allow for freedom of transport and treatment for his condition. Cowart was transferred from Lufkin CHI to CHI in the Woodlands for treatment sometime on the 29th.

On 5/3/26, the Angelina County Jail received a phone call from CHI Woodlands around 3am that Edward D. Cowart passed away at 10:52pm on 5/2/26. At 1:14pm, after Angelina Co SO Dispatch, going through Montgomery County SO Dispatch, the Sheriff was connected to the Medical Examiner’s office in Montgomery County who reported they had picked up the body of Edward Cowart. The Sheriff requested an autopsy over the phone with the technician there and followed up with an email requesting an autopsy to forensics@mctx.org. Texas Ranger was notified at 1:23pm and the Sheriff spoke to Mike Garrett with the Texas Commission on Jail Standards about the death at 1:26pm.