KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	26-729-UF	Version Type:	ORIGINAL VERSION
Report Date:	9/14/2026 3:31 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Smith County Sheriff's Office	Agency Address:	227 N. Spring Ave.
Agency City:	Tyler	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	75702		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Larry
Director Middle Name:	R		
Director Last Name:	Smith		
Reporter Name:	Robert Strickland	Reporter Email:	rstrickland@smith-county.com

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Justin

Middle Name: Nathaniel

Last Name: Farmer

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 6/8/1982 Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 44

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 8/26/2026 1:17 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 8/26/2026 1:17 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:

Gunshot wound to the head.

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

Medical Treatment: Not Applicable

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?: Handgun

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: Firearm

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	328 Duke Place	City:	Tyler
County:	Smith	Zip:	75704

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

Location Category: Residence/Home

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

Type of Custody: Pre-Custodial Use of Force

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

Custody of Law Enforcement Personnel subsequent to 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: Scene of incident

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:

Violation of Emergency Protection Order

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: 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: Yes, mark all that apply

Decedent Display or Use Weapon Details: Displayed firearm without discharge

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?:	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?:	Yes	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:	No

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

On 08-26-26, Smith County Sheriff’s Office Deputies responded to a residence in Smith County regarding a 44-year-old male (suspect) who had entered his wife’s residence in violation of a protection order. Upon arrival, two deputies entered the residence and contacted the suspect, who was hiding in a closet with a handgun. Upon being contacted, the suspect put the handgun to his head and ignored lawful orders from the deputies to drop the handgun. In response to the suspect’s actions, one of the deputies successfully discharged his taser, striking the suspect. Immediately following the taser deployment, the suspect discharged the handgun, striking himself in the head. The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene. No officers or third parties were injured.