KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

PA Number:	PA16229CJ	Report Date:	6/2/2016 4:01 PM
Status:	Submitted		

Agency/Facility Information

Department ID:	433	Department Type:	SHERIFF
Agency Name:	Jim Wells County Sheriff\'s Dept.	Agency Number:	TX1250000
Agency Phone:	3616680341	Agency Address:	P.O. Box 1286
Agency City:	Alice	Agency County:	Jim Wells
Agency State:	TX	Agency Zip:	78333

Director Information

Director Salutation:

Sheriff

Director First Name:

Oscar

Director Middle Name:

Director Last Name:

Lopez

Reporter Name:	Chief Deputy Luis A. Valadez	Reporter Email:	l.valadez@jimwellscounty-tx.gov

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address: 611 E. 3rd St.

City: Alice

County: Jim Wells

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

Custody Type Facility:

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: 5/20/2016 3:12 PM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location: At medical facility

Death Location Elsewhere:

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Willie

Middle Name: Wayne

Last Name: Ferguson

Suffix: Jr.

Date of Birth: 8/1/1961 Sex: Male

Ethnicity: Anglo

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

Death Date and Time: 5/28/2016 4:00 PM

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident:

5/20/2016 3:12 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:

Natural Causes/Illness

Manner of Death Description:

Massive ICH

Death Reason:

Don\'t know

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Massive ICH

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; cause of death was suicide, intoxication or illness/natural causes

Death Causer Other:

If a weapon caused the death, what type of weapon caused the death? (mark all that apply)

Type of Death Weapon:

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?:

Don\'t know

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, what was the means of death?

Means of Death:

Not applicable; cause of death was intoxication or illness/natural causes

General Information

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:

Public Intoxication

Offense 2:

Public Intoxication Warrant

Offense 3:

Failure to Appear Warrant

Were the Charges::

Filed

What were the types of charges or reason for contact?

Type of Offense:

Injuries of Decedent

Injured By: Injured by NA

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Appear intoxicated (alcohol or drugs):	No	Exhibit any mental health problems?:	
Exhibit any medical problems?:			

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Threaten the officer(s) involved:	No	Resist being handcuffed or arrested?:	No
Try to escape/flee from custody:	No	Grab, hit or fight with the officer(s):	No

Other Behavior:

Specify Other Behavior:

Use weapon threaten/assault officer(s):	0

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 Friday, May 20, 2016, at approximately 2:35pm, Willie Wayne Ferguson (DOB 8/01/1961) was arrested by the Orange Grove Police Department. Officer Oscar Delgado arrested the above mentioned subject for Public Intoxication, as well as a warrant for Public Intoxication and Failure to Appear. At 3:20pm, the Jim Wells County screening form for Suicide and Medical/ Mental / Developmental impairment was conducted by Officer Quintanilla and the CCQ was done on Mr. Ferguson at 3:54pm. He was booked in at approximately 4:22pm. Nurse Yvette Loera, was working at the time when Mr. Ferguson was brought in by the Orange Grove Police Department. At the time of his entry, she observed him to be talkative, standing, and argumentative. She also noted that he had a strong odor of alcohol emitting from his person. While speaking

with jail staff, he was responsive to questions. Nurse Loera stated that Mr. Ferguson did not have any documented medical history. On Sunday May 22, 2016 at approximately 9:21am, Officer Anguiano moved Mr. Ferguson from ACell to a separation cell, FA3. On Tuesday, May 24, 2016, Officer Chapa offered Mr. Ferguson recreation and he refused to go. On Wednesday May, 25, 2016, Mr. Ferguson did not eat his breakfast. Nurse Loera and Officer Anguiano responded to the cell (FA3) and checked on Mr. Ferguson. 2 biscuits with butter and jelly, as well as a glass of tea were brought and the separation cell was opened. Mr. Ferguson took the plate and cup and sat down and ate. She noted that Mr. Ferguson ate and was speaking normally. Nurse Loera felt that Mr. Ferguson may have needed additional food, so she went and got him oatmeal. Mr. Ferguson reportedly stated he was full, but after smelling the oatmeal he decided to eat it. Nurse Loera stated that when she responded back with the oatmeal, Mr. Ferguson was urinating standing up normally, and seemed embarrassed. The last time Nurse Loera spoke or saw Mr. Ferguson was sometime after 9:15 Am., on Wednesday, May 25, 2016. On Thursday, May, 26, 2016, Officer Gutierrez conducted the last six security checks on FA3 where Mr. Ferguson was housed. A search of wand for the security checks was done and FA3 was checked at approximately, 2:30pm, 2:59pm, 3:48pm, 4:21pm, 4:56pm and 5:25pm. A search of the log that the Control Officer used showed the last six security checks that Officer Gutierrez conducted started at 2:20pm, 2:45pm, 3:20pm, 3:44pm, 4:19pm, and 4:53pm. According to Officer Gutierrez statement, he had observed Mr. Fergusons in the shower at approximately 4:56pm his last security check. Officer Gutierrez had checked on Mr. Ferguson 35 minutes prior to that check at approximately 4:21pm. At approximately 5:12pm, Officer Gutierrez began to serve food at the Jail. Mr. Ferguson was in separation cell (FA3) and was observed on the ground and had urinated on himself. Officer Gutierrez reportedly observed inmate Ferguson’s eyes squinting and his feet shaking as if he was having a seizure. Officer Gutierrez also noticed a small pool of what seemed to be saliva and blood on the floor next to him. The door was then opened to FA3 and he stated that he noticed small drops of blood in the cell and found Mr. Ferguson to have an open wound on his elbow. At approximately 5:28pm AirMed EMS was notified and arrived at approximately 5:37pm. Correctional Officers assisted EMS in placing Ferguson on the stretcher to be transported to Alice Christus Spohn Hospital. Justice of the Peace Pct. 6, Judge Jose Rodriguez, was notified and authorized a Personal Recognizance bond, which he approved. Mr. Ferguson was taken from his cell FA3, to the ambulance where and given medicine due to a low heart rate. According to EMS, Mr. Ferguson vitals were stable, but was not awake. EMS then left the jail at approximately 5:53pm with Mr. Ferguson and he was transported to Christus Spohn Hospital. On Friday, May 27, 2016, Mr. Ferguson was transported from Christus Spohn Hospital to University Hospital in San Antonio. While en-route he began to code and was transported to South Texas Regional Hospital in Jourdanton TX. Once stabilized he was transported to University Hospital, San Antonio TX, and arrived at approximately 8:00am. On May 28, 2016, at approximately 4:00pm, Mr. Ferguson passed away at University Hospital in San Antonio TX. According to the Medical Examiners officer Mr. Ferguson was not declared brain dead, as his sodium levels were too high for the flow study to be performed. Mr. Ferguson family opted to withdraw care and pronounced dead. At Approximately 4:41pm, the Bexar County Medical Examiners officer was contacted and took custody of Mr. Ferguson. On June 1, 2016, I spoke with Jerry Leyva with the Bexar County Examiners Office who stated that a full examination was conducted on Mr. Ferguson and the results are pending at this time. The Bexar’s County Medical Examiner case number for Mr. Ferguson is 2016-1180.