KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

PA Number:	PA16357C	Report Date:	8/12/2016 2:33 PM
Status:	Submitted		

Agency/Facility Information

Department ID:	350	Department Type:	SHERIFF
Agency Name:	Hardin County Sheriff\'s Dept.	Agency Number:	TX1000000
Agency Phone:	4092465100	Agency Address:	P. O. Box 1990
Agency City:	Kountze	Agency County:	Hardin
Agency State:	TX	Agency Zip:	77625

Director Information

Director Salutation:

Sheriff

Director First Name:

Ed

Director Middle Name:

J.

Director Last Name:

Cain

Reporter Name:	Sgt. Dennis M. Allen	Reporter Email:	dennis.allen@co.hardin.tx.us

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address: 2830 Calder Ave

City: Beaumont

County: Jefferson

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:

Hospital/Infirmary

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:

Entry Date Time N/A: ☑

Where did the death occur?

Death Location: At medical facility

Death Location Elsewhere:

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Jerry

Middle Name: Edward

Last Name: Jeffcoat

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 1/12/1979 Sex: Male

Ethnicity: Anglo

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

Death Date and Time: 8/8/2016 5:40 AM

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident:

8/8/2016 2:55 AM

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:

suspected cardiac Arrest

Death Reason:

Not applicable

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

suspected cardiac arrest

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?:

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:

Warrant - Felony - Possession of C/S / Aff.Surrender

Offense 2:

Ciminal Mischief

Offense 3:

Were the Charges::

Filed

What were the types of charges or reason for contact?

Type of Offense:

Injuries of Decedent

Injured By:	Injured by Self Accident

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

Appear intoxicated (alcohol or drugs):	Yes	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:

Yes

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

~~Case Number 20160001841 {The following is a summary of events of which occurred in Hardin County, Texas as described by Hardin County Deputy Sheriff Deputy Zach Leviner. In this Writing Deputy Leviner was present during the initial date and time in which law enforcement officers first came into contact with Jerry Edward Jeffcoat while at his mother’s home located at 5002 June Drive Votaw, Texas and again later while at the Christus Saint Elizabeth Hospital Emergency Room located Beaumont, TX. Jerry Edward Jeffcoat

was later pronounced deceased while at the Christus Saint Elizabeth Hospital in Beaumont, Texas. (I, Sgt. Dennis M. Allen with the Hardin County Sheriff’s Office did make telephone contact with the Southeast Texas Planning and Zoning Commission which addresses the issues concerning the 911 call system for Hardin County. The Commission advises the address of 5002 June Drive actually comes under the Votaw, Texas postal exchange thus the actual address is being referred to as being in Votaw, Texas.} “On Monday August 8th, 2016 @ approximately 02:10 I, Deputy Zach Leviner #18 with the Hardin County Sheriff’s Office located at 300 W. Monroe St. in Kountze, Hardin County, Texas 77625 along with Deputy Tom Lee #30 was dispatched to 5002 June Dr. in Saratoga, Hardin County, Texas 77585 in reference to a disturbance. Hardin County Dispatch advised that she had received a called from a man who she described as incoherent and saying that someone was trying to kill him. Dispatch advised that she was trying to reconnect with the caller but could not stay connected. I asked Dispatch if they could hear any kind of disturbance in the back ground. Dispatch advised that they could hear another voice and the background and what sounded like dogs in the background. While enroute to the call Dispatch advised that she received another call from a third party female. Dispatch advised that the female stated she received a code word which meant that “Jerry Jeffcoat” was trying to kill his mother. Dispatch advised that someone had taken Jeffcoat from the June Dr. address to his mother’s house on the corner of Post and Stewart. Deputy Lee advised Dispatch to call for an ambulance and have them enroute, due to the remote location of the incident. Precinct #6 Deputy Ross Jordan #156 heard the call over the radio and went enroute to call to assist me and Deputy Lee due to Deputy Jordan having dealt with Jeffcoat in the past and knowing him to be violent. Upon arriving in the area I spotted a group of people standing on the side of the roadway. Deputy Lee exited his patrol vehicle first, which was in front of mine and Deputy Lee was approached by a man later determined to be Jeffcoat’s step-father. The step-father advised Deputy Lee that Jeffcoat had come to his residence and destroyed the inside of the residence. The step-father also advised Deputy Lee that Jeffcoat was schizophrenic and Bi-polar. Deputy Lee asked where Jeffcoat was, and the step-father advised that he was still inside the residence. The step-father then pointed out the residence. The residence was a small wooden structure with a large window on the driveway side, and 3 to 4 small wooden steps leading up to a door on the back side. Deputy Lee asked the step-father is there were any weapons. The step-father advised that there was one gun, but that he had removed it and placed it under the house. Deputy Lee then took the gun and secured it in the back of his patrol vehicle. I had the step-father back away from the residence while Deputy Lee secured the weapon. Soon thereafter, Deputy Jordan arrived on scene. Deputy Jordan, Deputy Lee, and I then approached the residence again to see what could be seen from the exterior. The majority of the residence could be seen from the large window of the driveway side. However, the floor of the residence and a bathroom with a closed door in the rear corner could not be seen. Jeffcoat could not be seen from the window, but it was apparent that the residence was in disarray. Also, a broken refrigerator did appear to be tipped over and blocking the door to the residence from the inside. I asked the step-father if the blocked door was the only door to the residence, to which he replied that it was. This led me to believe that Jeffcoat had not exited the residence. While advising the step-father that Jeffcoat could not be seen yet, he advised that Jeffcoat was heavily intoxicated on narcotics and kept stating that he believed Jeffcoat may have had a heart-attack. Also, while attempting to view the residence from the outside I could hear a commotion coming from the inside which I believed to be near the door. Deputy Lee then asked the step-father and Jeffcoat’s mother Oheta Cherry, who was also on scene, if Jeffcoat was a resident at this residence. Cherry and the step-father replied that Jeffcoat was not a resident. Deputy Lee then asked if Cherry and the step-father were residents. Cherry and the step-father replied that they were indeed residents. Deputy Lee then asked if Cherry and the step-father gave consent to enter the residence. Cherry and the step-father replied that we did have consent to enter the residence. Deputy Lee, Deputy Jordan and I then gathered at the front door and Deputy Lee then began to attempt entry. Deputy Jordan also had another individual, who I only know by the first name of Thomas, with him on a ride-a-long who was observing. The door to the residence was unlocked and Deputy Lee was able to push the door open several inches before confirming that the door was blocked by the refrigerator. Deputy Lee then began to push on the door a small amount at a time in an attempt to clear the refrigerator from the entry way. While attempting to clear the entry way large wooden piece of furniture appeared to also be leaned over against the refrigerator. After making a few more inches headway into the residence, Deputy Lee spotted Jeffcoat, and advised that he was underneath the refrigerator and furniture which was in front of the door. I was able to look through the doorway from behind Deputy Lee and under the refrigerator at which point I observed what I believed to be Jeffcoat’s bare back facing the door. By that point Deputy Jordan was able to fit his way through the doorway and into the residence. Due to the size and violent nature of Jeffcoat, Deputy Jordan then placed handcuffs on Jeffcoat’s wrist in front of his body without using any additional force for everyone’s safety. I was then able to make my way far enough into the door to close it behind myself and fit the rest of the way into the residence. Deputy Jordan and I then immediately removed the refrigerator and furniture from on top of Jeffcoat. At that time I was able to see that Jeffcoat was wearing only a pair of athletic shorts and did not appear to be conscious, but was breathing and moving about. Deputy Jordan and I then cleared the doorway for Deputy Lee to enter. Once the refrigerator and furniture were removed we observed a small black zipper pouch hanging out of Jeffcoat’s shorts pocket. Also observed among the disarray of the residence was a broken medical syringe with no needle on the floor on the residence. Deputy Lee then had to contact Dispatch via cell phone, because his portable radio was not working at that moment. Deputy Lee advised Dispatch to have the ambulance respond all the way to the residence. Deputy Lee advised that Dispatch reported the ambulance to be coming through the Honey Island area at that time. I roughly estimated the Honey Island area to be about 20 miles from the scene of the residence. While waiting on the arrival of the ambulance, Jeffcoat stayed breathing the entire time, and moved on his own free will several times. No force

was used to restrain Jeffcoat. Jeffcoat did have to be blocked from hitting his head on various items as he rolled along the floor, and several items were moved out of the way to prevent Jeffcoat from injuring himself. While waiting on the ambulance, I did have to loosely hold Jeffcoat’s hands up off of the floor while Deputy Jordan double-locked the handcuffs in order to prevent them from tightening on Jeffcoat’s wrists. I also photographed the scene of the inside of the residence and its disarray while waiting on medics to arrive and begin treatment. Jeffcoat remained laying on his side the majority of the time waiting for medics, allowing him to breathe freely. While Jeffcoat was breathing the entire time we awaited the medics’ arrival, Jeffcoat’s breathing became shallower as time went on. At one point I observed a very small amount of clear liquid with a light brown tint on the floor of the residence which appeared to be coming from Jeffcoat’s mouth. Medics with Alpha Rescue EMS then arrived on scene in the ambulance, and entered the residence along with us. The medics then went and back the ambulance into the driveway off the residence and came back with a stretcher and what appeared to be some sort of black body cradling bag with lifting straps on it. The medics advised that they believed the best course of action was to carry Jeffcoat outside of the residence and then place him on the stretcher. The medics advised that they needed help lifting Jeffcoat in order to get him to the stretcher. One medic then removed a large white bedsheet from the bed of the residence to move Jeffcoat. The medic then doubled the bedsheet over and laid it out onto the floor. The same medic then instructed his partner and us three Deputies to assist him in rolling Jeffcoat over onto the sheet. Jeffcoat was then rolled onto the sheet. It then took five or six men to lift the bedsheet with Jeffcoat on it and move it him to the doorway of the residence. Once at the doorway we had to set Jeffcoat down in order to allow Deputy Lee and myself to fit through the doorway and onto the steps to the residence. In the process of trying to move through the doorway, I sustained a small cut the outside of my left forearm from the broken door to the residence. Jeffcoat was then moved from the doorway to the ground outside of the residence beside where the medics had placed the stretcher. Jeffcoat was then lifted onto the stretcher and secured using seat-belt like straps. Once Jeffcoat was placed on the stretcher I began to walk away as the medics began to lift the stretcher. I then heard a noise from behind me that I believed to be someone hollering, and turned around to see the stretcher tilted sideways at an angle toward the ground. I then observed the stretcher fall to the ground with Jeffcoat still on it. The medics then hollered for Jeffcoat to be unstrapped from the stretcher. At this time I did observe a metal grate of some sort on the ground under Jeffcoat’s head, which Jeffcoat appeared to have struck his head on as a result of the fall. I then observed two small lacerations on the left side of Jeffcoat’s forehead. I then walked away to clean the cut on my forearm which I had sustained from the door. I walked back to my patrol vehicle and clean the cut with some hand sanitizer that I had in my vehicle. When I returned to the back side of the residence, Jeffcoat had already been placed back onto the stretcher and secured to the stretcher. I spoke with the step-father who advised that he wish to pursue criminal charges against Jeffcoat for damaging his residence. Deputy Lee and I then decided that Deputy Lee would ride on the ambulance with Jeffcoat and the medics at the medics’ request, and that I would remain on scene to gather information. When I asked the step-father if he would fill out the paperwork I needed for a criminal investigation report, he declined but stated that Cherry would fill out the paperwork. I then followed the step-father back into the residence to speak with Cherry. Cherry advised me that she was a resident of the residence and would fill out the paperwork to pursue criminal charges. I then provided Cherry with a voluntary witness statement and Hardin County Non-consent form. At this time I also photographed the product information stickers on the refrigerator, a small TV and an XBOX video game console which were damaged in the initial disturbance. I then collected the witness statement and non-consent form from Cherry, provided her with my name and Hardin County unit number, and began to leave the residence. On the way out the door to the residence Cherry requested that I take the broken syringe from the residence because I was currently wearing protective gloves. I then gathered all of my items and left the residence. Upon exiting the residence I observed that the ambulance had not yet left the scene. I proceeded to my patrol vehicle, took off my gloves and began placed everything that I had in hand into my patrol vehicle. I then stood by with Deputy Jordan as we awaited the ambulance to leave enroute to St. Elizabeth Hospital in Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas. Sometime thereafter, the ambulance began to pull out of the driveway to the residence with Jeffcoat, Deputy Lee and the two medics onboard. While attempting to exit the driveway to the residence, the medic who was driving the ambulance left the driveway and ran over the main water valve to the residence with the back right tire of the ambulance. I then photographed the water valve and the ambulance before returning to my patrol vehicle. The ambulance then left the scene enroute to the Hospital with me following behind in my patrol vehicle. The ambulance ran the entire duration of the trip using their emergency equipment. Upon arriving at the Hospital, I exited my patrol vehicle and the two medics and Deputy Lee exited the ambulance. The rear loading doors to the ambulance were then opened and I did observe Jeffcoat to still be breathing. While the medics were preparing to remove Jeffcoat from the ambulance and transport him into the Hospital, Deputy Lee brought everyone’s attention to Jeffcoat. I then observed Jeffcoat’s left eye to be opened Jeffcoat’s abdomen was no longer rising and falling as if he were breathing. One of the Alpha medics then jumped into the ambulance and advised that Jeffcoat’s heart rate had flat lined on the monitor. The medic inside the ambulance then began chest compressions and the second medic and I ran to the Hospital doors for help. Several hospital workers then rushed out to the ambulance and continued chest compressions as they assisted the medics in transporting Jeffcoat into the emergency room. Once inside the emergency room, the hospital workers continued to work on Jeffcoat for approximately 30 minutes after arriving into the emergency room. The hospital workers were unable to revive Jeffcoat and a doctor in the room pronounced Jeffcoat deceased at 05:40 a.m. On Monday August 8th, 2016 Deputy Lee and I remained at the Hospital after Jeffcoat’s death to await the arrival of Hardin County Sergeant Investigator Dennis Allen #11. Upon Sergeant Allen’s arrival he viewed and photographed Jeffcoat’s body. Jeffcoat’s body was then bagged and tagged by morgue

workers and Deputy Lee and I brief Sergeant Allen on the nature of the call. During briefly Sergeant Allen he was advised of the broken syringe and black zipper pouch. Sergeant Allen asked if either of these items were collected. Deputy Lee and I then advised Sergeant Allen that the zipper pouch was not collected, and I advised that I believed the syringe would be in my patrol vehicle due to me carrying it out of the residence. I also contacted Sergeant Tony Flower #10, who had returned to the scene to give a death notification, in reference to collecting the black zipper pouch. Sergeant Flower advised that the entire scene had already been cleaned upon his arrival. Sergeant Allen then spoke with the Hospital charge nurse and pronouncing doctor, and then all Deputies left the Hospital. Later while attempting to locate the broken syringe I was unsuccessful in finding it. It is very possible that it was dropped, misplaced or discarded among the commotion of the scene. Due to Jeffcoat’s death, no further criminal investigation will be pursued for the destruction of property at the scene of disturbance call. As of this point in time Hardin County case no. 20160001841 remains open. Caller Statement: SOMEONE'S TRYING TO KILL HIM....CALLER IS INCOHERENT} END OF NARRATIVE FROM DEPUTY ZACHARY J. LEVINER, HARDIN COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE. Monday, August 8, 2016, 0730 hours I, Sgt. Dennis M Allen report that on the above listed date and time this Writer was employed as a Criminal Investigator with the Hardin County Sheriff’s Office in Kountze, Texas. At the present time this Writer was the on call investigator for the Hardin County Sheriff’s Office. On the above listed date and time this Writer responded to and arrived at the Christus Saint Elizabeth Hospital Emergency Room in Beaumont, Texas pursuant to the receiving of the public service call from Deputy Zachary J. Leviner. (Note -Sgt. Allen received telephone call on 08/08/2016, at approximately 0600, went enroute at 0625 hours, and arrived at the hospital emergency room at 0730 hours). 0730 hours, I, Sgt. Dennis M Allen report that on the above listed time upon arriving at the Christus Saint Elizabeth Hospital Emergency Room this Writer made person to person contact with Deputies Leviner and Tom Lee. This Writer was briefed by Leviner and Lee concerning the investigation. This Writer was led to an adjoining holding room near the emergency room by Leviner and Lee where the deceased Victim, Jerry Jeffcoat was being held while awaiting transport to the Jefferson County Morgue in Beaumont, Texas. Upon this Writer entering into the holding room this Writer observed Jeffcoat lying in a supine position with tubing and medical equipment protruding from the left nostril and mouth of the deceased. This Writer observed as what appeared to be dried blood which had ran from the nose area of the deceased onto upper lip, downward along the right cheek onto the stretcher and then downward pooling into the carpet below the stretcher. This Writer later learned from speaking with Physician Sammy Yu of the hospital staff that the blood had apparently bleed from the nostril of the deceased due to the period of time the deceased had been in that position. This Writer photographed the deceased in his position on the stretcher while in the holding room of the hospital. The Jefferson County Morgue transport employees arrived at the hospital picking up the deceased body. (Transport employees are Joe Montalvo and Randall Davis, contract employees with Jefferson County). The deceased body was turned over to the transport personnel for transport. While this Writer was at the St. Elizabeth Hospital Emergency Room this Writer spoke with the staff doctor, Dr. Sammy Yu, as well as the male charge nurse. This Writer was advised the deceased was pronounced by Dr. Yu at 0540 hours on August 8, 2016 with the suspected Manner of death being that of Natural Causes resulting from a suspected cardiac arrest. Jefferson County Justice of Peace Ray Chesson, Pct. #4 had ordered an autopsy to be performed on the decease Jerry Jeffcoat. The autopsy was scheduled for the following day, August 9, 2016 at the Jefferson County Morgue. Tuesday, August 9, 2016, 0930 hours, I, Sgt. Dennis M Allen attended the autopsy of Jerry Jeffcoat that was held on August 9, 2016, at approximately 0930 hours. The autopsy was performed at the Jefferson County Morgue in Beaumont, Texas by the Staff Forensic Pathologist John M. Wayne, M.D. A preliminary oral reporting from Dr. Wayne after the completion of the autopsy indicates it is suspected that the Manner of death is believed to be that of Natural Causes – cardiac arrest. The toxicology has not been received at the time of this writing; therefore the final findings of the autopsy report are not final. While at the Jefferson County Morgue this Writer took several photographs of the deceased during the course of the autopsy. The final report and findings of the autopsy will follow at a later date. In closing the sheriff’s deputies responded to an original call concerning a disturbance “caller reported to dispatch that she had received a call from a man who she described as incoherent and saying that someone was trying to kill him. Dispatch advised that she was trying to reconnect with the caller but could not stay connected. Deputy asked dispatch if she could hear any kind of disturbance in the background. Dispatch advised she could hear another voice in the background and dogs in the background. Additional notes shown on the Dispatch call screen – call taker 42, R Dickens, 08/08/2016, 0220:03, neighbor took him to P. Road – Stewart and Post Rd…..On entering Big Thicket Retreat Church sign on his Mother’s property. – Jerry Jeffcoat. R Dickens – 08/08/2016, 0237:12 E,F,L,R,O, had another call from his aunt saying she got a text from her sister with a code word that means that her son is trying to kill her… received correct address of 23881 Simpson Lane – C McDowell 08/08/2016 0653:31 E.F. L.R.O, 11 adv. he needs Alpha EMS Crew to contact him. Alpha was notified and given pub. service - advised they will contact him.” The deputies arrived on the scene discovering the stepfather of the deceased had moved the mother of the Jerry Jeffcoat, a child, and himself out from the residence and away from the scene for safety reasons. The stepfather had also removed a gun from the house hiding same under the house. Upon arrival at the scene deputies learned the Jeffcoat had made forced entry into the home by busting open the front door while damaging it. Once inside it was learned that after Jeffcoat had busted open the front door and made entry into the house he had damaged the upright refrigerator inside the home. The door to the refrigerator was torn off from the refrigerator as well as the refrigerator was lying on its side from the upright position with it leaning up against a large wooden piece of furniture which was also leaning from its upright position into the refrigerator. The refrigerator and the large piece of furniture were blocking the front door entrance into the house with that being the only door into and

out of the home. Upon discovering the door being blocked the deputies pushed the door open while making entry into the house. Once inside the house they discovered that Jeffcoat was lying under the refrigerator and the large piece of furniture. The refrigerator and furniture were removed from Jeffcoat with Deputy Constable Ross Jordan, (Pct. #6 Hardin County) placing handcuffs on the wrist (handcuffed in front) of Jeffcoat who appeared unconscious at the time but described as breathing and moving about. Deputies described the putting of handcuffs on Jeffcoat was that of a safety precautions due to his large size, as well as his recent violent actions. Deputies were also advised by Jeffcoat’s family that Jeffcoat has been previously diagnosed as suffering from paranoia schizophrenia with him being prescribed medication for it, however he couldn’t afford the medication with him turning to methamphetamine instead. Once the items were removed from Jeffcoat and he was secured with the handcuffs and then the EMS personnel moved into the room for emergency medical care. At the time Jeffcoat was still breathing however unconscious but still moving. Jeffcoat was removed from the house by the on scene EMS while being assisted by sheriff’s deputies, as well as the deputy constable. The manner Jeffcoat was removed from the house was that of being logged rolled onto a large sheet and then carried down the steps. Once outside Jeffcoat was logged rolled onto a back board and placed onto a stretcher and strapped down. After being strapped down onto the stretcher Jeffcoat remained unconscious with some movement and still breathing and then the stretcher turned over onto its side with Jeffcoat still strapped to the stretcher. It was said upon Jeffcoat’s impact with the ground in came in contact with a metal grate that was lying on the ground near the steps. The impact of Jeffcoat’s head with the metal grate caused abrasions to his face area near his left eye. It was described that Jeffcoat was then unstrapped from the stretcher by EMS with Jeffcoat being logged rolled back onto the backboard and then placed back onto the stretcher. Once Jeffcoat had again been re-strapped to the stretcher and lifted by EMS Personnel the injury to Jeffcoat was treated by the EMS Personnel on the scene. EMS placed Jeffcoat in the back of the ambulance with the EMS requesting a deputy to ride in the back of the ambulance with the medic. Deputy Tom Lee rode in the back of the ambulance with an EMS Medic to Christus Saint Elizabeth Hospital in Beaumont, Texas while Deputy Zachary Leviner followed the ambulance to the hospital. During the course of the transport to the hospital the handcuffs remained on Jeffcoat while handcuffed in front. Upon arrival at the entrance into the Christus Saint Elizabeth Hospital Emergency Room Jeffcoat was said to have gone into cardiac arrest at that time with CPR procedures being started by EMS Personnel as emergency hospital personnel were summoned from inside the hospital emergency room. The emergency room staff immediately responded to the ambulance while the emergency procedures continued. Jeffcoat was taken into the emergency room where he was pronounced deceased at 0540 hours on August 8, 2016 by Dr. Sammy Yu of the ER Staff. An autopsy was ordered by Jefferson County Justice of Peace Ray Chesson, Pct. #4. On August 9, 2016 a preliminary oral reporting was received from Dr. John M. Wayne of the Forensic Medical of Texas (Jefferson County Morgue) after the completion of the autopsy on Jeffcoat. It was indicated that at this time it is believed the Manner of death is that of Natural Causes – cardiac arrest. The toxicology has not been received at the time of this writing; therefore the final findings of the autopsy report are not final. The deceased body of Jeffcoat was weighed at the Jefferson County Morgue and reported to be 401 lbs. Dr. Wayne advised in his opinion the injury to the eye area of Jeffcoat concerning the fall was not lethal and did not contribute to the death of Jeffcoat. The preliminary reporting is believed to be the Manner of Death being that of Natural Causes – cardiac arrest – with unknown toxicology at this time. Case remains under investigation – Texas Ranger Danny Young was advised of the incident with him beginning an investigation into the incident. Sgt. Dennis M Allen, Investigator Hardin County Sheriff’s Office, 409-246-5273, dennis.allen@co.hardin.tx.us