

CAUSE NO. 2024-10-18432-CR

STATE OF TEXAS	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
VS	§	299th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
JORDAN CARTER	§	TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

TASK- Prepare for your event using this document. You may choose to be the prosecutor or defense attorney.

TYPE OF CASE- Criminal

CASE SUMMARY- On the evening of August 14th, 2023, 18 year old Jordan Carter was involved in a physical altercation with 19 year old Alex Reynolds outside of the Blue Star Cafe in Austin, Texas. Witnesses report that the two had a history of animosity due to a past disagreement over a personal matter. During the confrontation, Carter allegedly struck Reynolds, who fell, hit his head on the pavement, and later died from the injury.

CHARGE- Criminal Homicide (Texas Penal Code § 19.01)

- Murder (Texas Penal Code § 19.02) Intentional killing of another person.
- Manslaughter (Texas Penal Code § 19.04) :Recklessly causing the death of another person
- Criminally Negligent Homicide (Texas Penal Code § 19.05): Death caused by criminal negligence

DEFENDANT- Jordan Carter

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS-

Arrest: Jordan Carter was arrested on August 15th, 2023, the day after the altercation, following an investigation by the Austin Police Department. Officers detained Carter at his home after reviewing surveillance footage and speaking with witnesses.

Indictment: Jordan Carter's indictment was issued on September 10th, 2023, by a Travis County grand jury. After reviewing the evidence, the grand jury determined there was sufficient cause to formally charge Carter with Criminal Homicide under the Texas Penal Code.

Plea Hearing: Jordan Carter's arraignment took place on September 15th, 2023 in Travis County Court. During the hearing, Carter was formally read the charges against him and entered a plea of not guilty. The judge set the conditions for his bail.

Pre-Trial Motions:

Prosecution

- **Motion to admit surveillance footage- Granted**
 - The judge ruled that the surveillance footage from The Blue Star Cafe was admissible, as it provided relevant evidence of the altercation. However, the defense was allowed to argue

that the video was inconclusive regarding who initiated the fight.

- **Motion to Exclude Prior Conduct of the Victim-Partially Granted**
 - The judge ruled that evidence of unrelated past incidents involving Alex Reynolds was inadmissible. However, any prior violent interactions between Reynolds and Carter that directly contributed to the altercation could be introduced.
- **Motion to Bar the Defense from Arguing Self-Defense- Denied**
 - The judge ruled that there was enough evidence to allow Carter to present a self-defense argument. The jury would ultimately decide whether self-defense applied based on trial testimony and evidence.

Defense

- **Motion to Dismiss the Indictment-Denied**
 - The judge found that the grand jury had sufficient evidence to indict Carter and that the case should proceed to trial.
- **Motion to Suppress Carter's Statements to Police-Partially Granted**
 - The judge ruled that statements Carter made before being read his Miranda rights were inadmissible. However, statements made after he was properly Mirandized were allowed.
- **Motion for Change of Venue-Denied**
 - The judge ruled that despite media coverage, an impartial jury could still be selected through voir dire, so the trial remained in Travis County.

Trial: The trial is set to begin on January 8th, 2024, in the Travis County District Court.

INCLUDED DOCUMENTS

Official Charge (Indictment)

Text message exchange

Statement of Taylor Mitchell

Statement of Sam Lopez

Surveillance Image

911 Call Transcript

Travis County EMS Report

ER Report

Medical Examiner Report

Austin Police Department Incident Report

Direct and Cross Examination of Key Witnesses

CV Dr. Jonathan Hayes, M.D.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
STATE OF TEXAS

v.

JORDAN CARTER, Defendant
CAUSE NO. 2024-10-18432-CR

INDICTMENT

IN THE NAME AND BY AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

The Grand Jury of Travis County, Texas, duly selected, impaneled, sworn, charged, and organized as such at the September Term, 2023, of the **Travis County District Court**, upon their oaths do present that:

JORDAN CARTER, hereinafter referred to as the Defendant, on or about **August 14, 2023**, in the County of Travis and State of Texas, did then and there unlawfully commit the offense of **Criminal Homicide**, in violation of **Texas Penal Code Section 19.01**, by causing the death of **Alex Reynolds** by means of physical force, specifically by striking the victim, causing him to fall and sustain fatal head trauma.

COUNT ONE: MURDER (Texas Penal Code Section 19.02(b))

The Grand Jury alleges that Jordan Carter did then and there intentionally and knowingly cause the death of Alex Reynolds by striking him with his fist, causing Reynolds to fall and sustain fatal injuries, and did so without legal justification or excuse.

COUNT TWO: MANSLAUGHTER (Texas Penal Code Section 19.04)

Alternatively, the Grand Jury alleges that Jordan Carter did then and there recklessly cause the death of Alex Reynolds by striking him, resulting in a fatal impact, with conscious disregard for the risk of death or serious bodily injury.

COUNT THREE: CRIMINALLY NEGLIGENT HOMICIDE (Texas Penal Code Section 19.05)

Alternatively, the Grand Jury alleges that Jordan Carter did then and there caused the death of Alex Reynolds by criminal negligence, in that he failed to perceive a substantial and unjustifiable risk that his actions could result in fatal injury.

Against the peace and dignity of the State.

Signed this **10th day of September, 2023**.

FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY
FILED AND ATTESTED:
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
Travis County, Texas

Text Message Exchange – August 10, 2023

 **Alex Reynolds (10:15 PM):**

"You still running your mouth? You had a lot to say last week, but you weren't so tough in person."

 **Jordan Carter (10:18 PM):**

"I told you, I'm done with this. You keep pushing, and you're gonna regret it."

 **Alex Reynolds (10:22 PM):**

"Regret what? You scared? Lol. We both know how this ends, and it's not with you walking away looking good."

 **Jordan Carter (10:25 PM):**

"I'm not scared of you. You're the one who keeps dragging this out. If you want to talk, we'll talk. If you want something else, say it to my face."

 **Alex Reynolds (10:28 PM):**

"You know where to find me. Blue Star Café. Saturday night. Let's see if you show up."

 **Jordan Carter (10:30 PM):**

"Bet. Don't start crying when things don't go your way."

Text Message Exchange – August 14, 2023 (Day of the Incident)

 **Alex Reynolds (9:47 PM):**

"Still coming? Or backing out?"

 **Jordan Carter (9:50 PM):**

"I don't back out of anything. Be there soon."

 **Alex Reynolds (9:55 PM):**

"Good. Hope you're ready to finish what you started."

 **Jordan Carter (9:58 PM):**

"You talk too much."

 **Alex Reynolds (10:01 PM):**

"We'll see if you're still talking after tonight."

Witness Statement of Taylor Mitchell

Given to Austin PD – August 14, 2023, 11:58 PM

Name: Taylor Mitchell

Date of Birth: May 3, 2005

Address: [Redacted]

Occupation: College Student

Statement Given To: Detective Laura Simmons

Statement:

*"I was with Alex Reynolds tonight at The Blue Star Café. We got there around 10:50 PM, just the two of us. I knew Alex had some beef with Jordan Carter. He had been talking about it for the past few days, saying Jordan had been running his mouth and that he needed to be put in his place. He wasn't exactly looking for a fight, but he wasn't going to back down if one happened.

Yesterday, August 13th, Alex was talking about Jordan at the café too. He told me and a couple of others that Jordan kept dodging him and that he was acting tough in texts but wouldn't do anything face-to-face. He was laughing when he said it, but I could tell he was serious. I remember him saying, 'I'll see if he even shows up on Saturday.'

Tonight, when Jordan walked in, Alex immediately noticed him. He said, 'Guess he showed up after all.' They started arguing outside the café. I stood back because I didn't want to get involved, but it got heated. Jordan told Alex to back off, and Alex said something like, 'Or what?' Then, Jordan shoved him. Alex stumbled but didn't fall. Then Jordan punched him, and that's when Alex hit the pavement. He wasn't moving.

I called his name, but he didn't respond. That's when people started freaking out, and someone called 911. I stayed with Alex until the paramedics came. I swear, it all happened so fast."*

End of Statement

Signed: Taylor Mitchell

Witnessed by: Detective Laura Simmons

Witness Statement of Sam Lopez

Given to Austin PD – August 14, 2023, 11:50 PM

Name: Sam Lopez

Date of Birth: February 17, 2004

Address: [Redacted]

Occupation: Bartender (Part-time)

Statement Given To: Detective Laura Simmons

Statement:

*"I know both Alex Reynolds and Jordan Carter. We all hang around the same spots, and I've seen them talk trash to each other before. It wasn't a secret that they had issues.

The last time I heard Alex talk about Jordan was last night, August 13th, at The Blue Star Café. He was sitting with some people, and I overheard him saying Jordan was dodging him and only acting tough over text. He was laughing, but I could tell he was serious. He said something like, 'He won't do anything in person.' I didn't think much of it at the time.

Tonight, I was at the café when Alex and Jordan started arguing outside. I wasn't right next to them, but I could hear parts of it. Alex was pushing Jordan verbally, saying stuff like, 'Come on, do something.' Jordan looked like he was trying to walk away at first, but then he turned and shoved Alex. Alex stumbled back but didn't go down. Then Jordan punched him once, and Alex hit the pavement hard.

Right after, everyone went quiet for a second, like no one could believe what just happened. Then people started yelling, and someone called 911. I didn't see Alex move after he hit the ground. That's when I realized this was serious."*

End of Statement

Signed: Sam Lopez

Witnessed by: Detective Laura Simmons



Surveillance image August 14th, 2023 at 11:22 PM

911 Call Transcript – August 14, 2023

Time: 11:25 PM

Location: The Blue Star Café, Travis County, TX

Caller: Unidentified bystander (later identified as Lindsey Parker, café waitress)

Operator: 911 Dispatcher

911 OPERATOR: 911, what's your emergency?

CALLER: *There's a guy on the ground outside The Blue Star Café. He's not moving—I think he's hurt bad!*

911 OPERATOR: *Okay, I need you to stay calm. What happened?*

CALLER: *There was a fight! Two guys were arguing, and then one of them—he punched the other, and he fell back and hit his head hard. He's not getting up!*

911 OPERATOR: *Alright, is he breathing? Can you tell if he's conscious?*

CALLER: *(pauses) I— I don't know! Someone's checking him right now. He's not responding when we talk to him!*

911 OPERATOR: *Okay, stay with me. Do you know the victim's name?*

CALLER: *Yeah, um... I think it's Alex. Alex Reynolds. I know he comes in here a lot.*

911 OPERATOR: *And do you know who hit him?*

CALLER: *Yes, it was Jordan Carter. They've had issues before—everyone here knew something was gonna happen eventually!*

911 OPERATOR: *Alright, where is the suspect now?*

CALLER: *He's still here, but he looks freaked out. People are yelling at him. Some guy is holding him back from leaving.*

911 OPERATOR: *Okay, officers and paramedics are on the way. I need you to stay at a safe distance. Is anyone performing CPR?*

CALLER: *No, I don't think so. Someone just said there's blood near his head—I don't know what to do!*

911 OPERATOR: *Alright, help is coming. Stay on the line with me. Can you describe Alex's condition?*

CALLER: *He's still not moving. His breathing looks slow. Someone's trying to keep his head still.*

911 OPERATOR: *Good, tell them not to move him too much. Just keep him stable until paramedics arrive. Do you see any weapons?*

CALLER: *No, it was just a fight. Just fists. But it was bad.*

911 OPERATOR: *Okay, officers should be arriving any second. Stay where you are and let them take over.*

CALLER: *I see them pulling up now!*

911 OPERATOR: *Alright, let them handle it. You did great. Thank you for calling.*

Call Ended – 11:27 PM



Travis County EMS – Paramedic Incident Report

Incident Number: #TC-23-0814-1125

Date: August 14, 2023

Time of Dispatch: 11:25 PM

Time of Arrival: 11:29 PM

Location: The Blue Star Café, Travis County, TX

Responding Unit: EMS Unit 34

Paramedics on Scene:

- Lead EMT: Ryan Calloway
 - EMT Assistant: Jessica Morales
-

Patient Information

Name: Alex Reynolds

Age: 19

Sex: Male

Conscious Upon Arrival? No

Breathing Upon Arrival? Yes, but shallow

Pulse Upon Arrival? Weak and irregular

Observations on Scene

- Patient found lying supine on pavement outside café entrance.
 - Head trauma observed: Significant swelling and bleeding from occipital region (back of head).
 - No immediate response to verbal or physical stimuli.
 - Witnesses reported single punch leading to fall, resulting in head impact on pavement.
 - Bystander had attempted to stabilize patient's head but no CPR was initiated.
 - Patient displayed labored breathing, SpO2 at 86% upon arrival.
 - Pulse weak, BP 88/54 mmHg, pupils sluggish to react.
-

Emergency Treatment Administered

- ✓ **Cervical Collar Applied:** To stabilize potential spinal injury
- ✓ **Oxygen Administered:** 15 LPM via non-rebreather mask
- ✓ **IV Line Started:** 0.9% Normal Saline for fluid resuscitation

- ✓ **Neurological Exam Conducted:** GCS (Glasgow Coma Scale) score of 7 (**Severe Head Injury**)
 - ✓ **Bleeding Controlled:** Direct pressure applied, secured with trauma dressing
 - ✓ **Patient Intubated for Airway Support:** Due to deteriorating respiratory effort
-

Transport Details

- **Transported to:** Travis County General Hospital – Trauma Unit
 - **Transport Time:** 11:40 PM
 - **Condition Upon Departure:** Critical but stable after intubation
 - **Estimated ETA:** 11:52 PM
-

Paramedic Notes & Recommendations

- Patient suffered severe head trauma with likely traumatic brain injury (TBI).
 - Emergency neurosurgical consult recommended upon arrival at hospital.
 - Possible concussion, skull fracture, or intracranial hemorrhage suspected.
 - Law enforcement briefed on patient's condition for investigative purposes.
-

Report Filed By: *Ryan Calloway, EMT-P*

Date: August 15, 2023

Time: 12:15 AM

Travis County General Hospital – Emergency Physician’s Report

Patient Name: Alex Reynolds

Date of Birth: March 22, 2004

Age: 19

Date of Admission: August 14, 2023

Time of Arrival: 11:52 PM

Transported By: Travis County EMS Unit 34

Attending Physician: Dr. Emily Carter, M.D.

Trauma Room: ER-3

Initial Assessment Upon Arrival

Condition: Critical, unresponsive, intubated

Vital Signs:

- **Blood Pressure:** 80/50 mmHg
- **Heart Rate:** 44 bpm (bradycardic)
- **Respiratory Rate:** Assisted via endotracheal tube
- **SpO2:** 89% on ventilator support
- **Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) Score:** 5 (Severe Brain Injury)

Physical Examination:

- **Head Trauma:** Large hematoma at occipital region, active scalp bleeding, suspected basilar skull fracture
 - **Pupillary Response:** Left pupil fixed and dilated, right sluggish
 - **Neurological Signs:** No purposeful movement, decerebrate posturing
 - **Signs of Increased Intracranial Pressure (ICP):** Hypertension with bradycardia, abnormal breathing pattern
-

Emergency Treatment Administered

- ✓ **Continued Mechanical Ventilation:** Adjusted settings to maintain oxygenation
- ✓ **Intravenous Mannitol Administered:** To reduce intracranial pressure
- ✓ **CT Scan Ordered:** Confirmed **severe traumatic brain injury (TBI), skull fracture, and subdural hematoma with midline shift**
- ✓ **Neurosurgery Consulted:** Urgent decompressive craniectomy recommended

✓ **Rapid Sequence Intubation Reinforced:** To ensure airway stability

Deterioration & Code Blue

At **12:48 AM**, the patient experienced **sudden cardiac arrest** due to suspected brain herniation and increasing intracranial pressure.

- **Cardiac rhythm deteriorated to asystole.**
- **Immediate CPR initiated.**
- **Epinephrine administered IV x3 doses.**
- **Advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) protocol followed.**

Despite all resuscitation efforts, no return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC) was achieved.

Time of Death

 **Official Time of Death:** 1:07 AM, August 15, 2023

Cause of Death:

 *Blunt force trauma to the head leading to severe traumatic brain injury, intracranial hemorrhage, and brain herniation.*

Post-Mortem Considerations

- **Medical Examiner Notified:** Yes
 - **Law Enforcement Notified:** Yes
 - **Family Notified:** Contact made with next of kin at 1:25 AM
 - **Body Released to:** Travis County Medical Examiner's Office for autopsy
-

Attending Physician: *Dr. Emily Matthews, M.D.*

Date: August 15, 2023

Time: 1:15 AM

Travis County Medical Examiner's Office

Official Autopsy Report

Case Number: TC-23-0815-017

Name of Deceased: Alex Reynolds

Date of Birth: March 22, 2004

Age: 19

Date of Death: August 15, 2023

Time of Death: 1:07 AM

Place of Death: Travis County General Hospital, Trauma Unit

Autopsy Performed By: Dr. Jonathan Hayes, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner

Date of Autopsy: August 15, 2023

External Examination

Body Condition: Well-developed, well-nourished male, 5'10", 165 lbs. No tattoos or significant scars.

Clothing: Patient arrived unclothed; personal effects were removed at the hospital.

Postmortem Changes: Rigor mortis beginning to set in, lividity present on posterior surface. No decomposition observed.

Notable External Injuries:

- **Head Trauma:** Large contusion and hematoma to the occipital scalp, approximately 7 cm in diameter.
 - **Facial Injuries:** Minor abrasions to left cheek and chin, likely from fall impact.
 - **Other Injuries:** No defensive wounds, no additional significant injuries observed.
-

Internal Examination

Head, Brain, and Skull:

- **Skull Fracture:** Linear fracture at occipital bone extending to the base of the skull.
- **Brain Examination:**
 - Massive cerebral edema (swelling of the brain).
 - Acute **subdural hematoma** (bleeding between the brain and skull) with a **midline shift of 6 mm**, indicating increased intracranial pressure.
 - **Brain Herniation Present** – fatal compression of the brainstem.

Neck and Spine:

- No evidence of cervical spine fracture or trauma.

Cardiovascular System:

- Heart size normal (320g), no abnormalities detected.
- Coronary arteries clear, no signs of preexisting cardiac conditions.

Respiratory System:

- Lungs showed mild pulmonary edema, likely secondary to prolonged medical intervention.
- No evidence of aspiration or inhalation injury.

Abdominal Organs:

- All major organs appeared unremarkable. No internal bleeding or trauma detected outside of the cranial region.
-

Toxicology Report

Samples Collected: Blood, urine, and gastric contents.

- **Ethanol:** Negative (0.00%)
 - **Illicit Drugs:** Negative for cocaine, amphetamines, opioids, and marijuana.
 - **Prescription Medications:** Negative for sedatives or narcotics.
-

Cause of Death:

Blunt force trauma to the head resulting in skull fracture, subdural hematoma, and fatal brain herniation.

Manner of Death:

Homicide – due to an assault leading to fatal head trauma.

Final Remarks:

- The injuries sustained by the deceased are consistent with witness accounts of a single punch

followed by an impact with a hard surface.

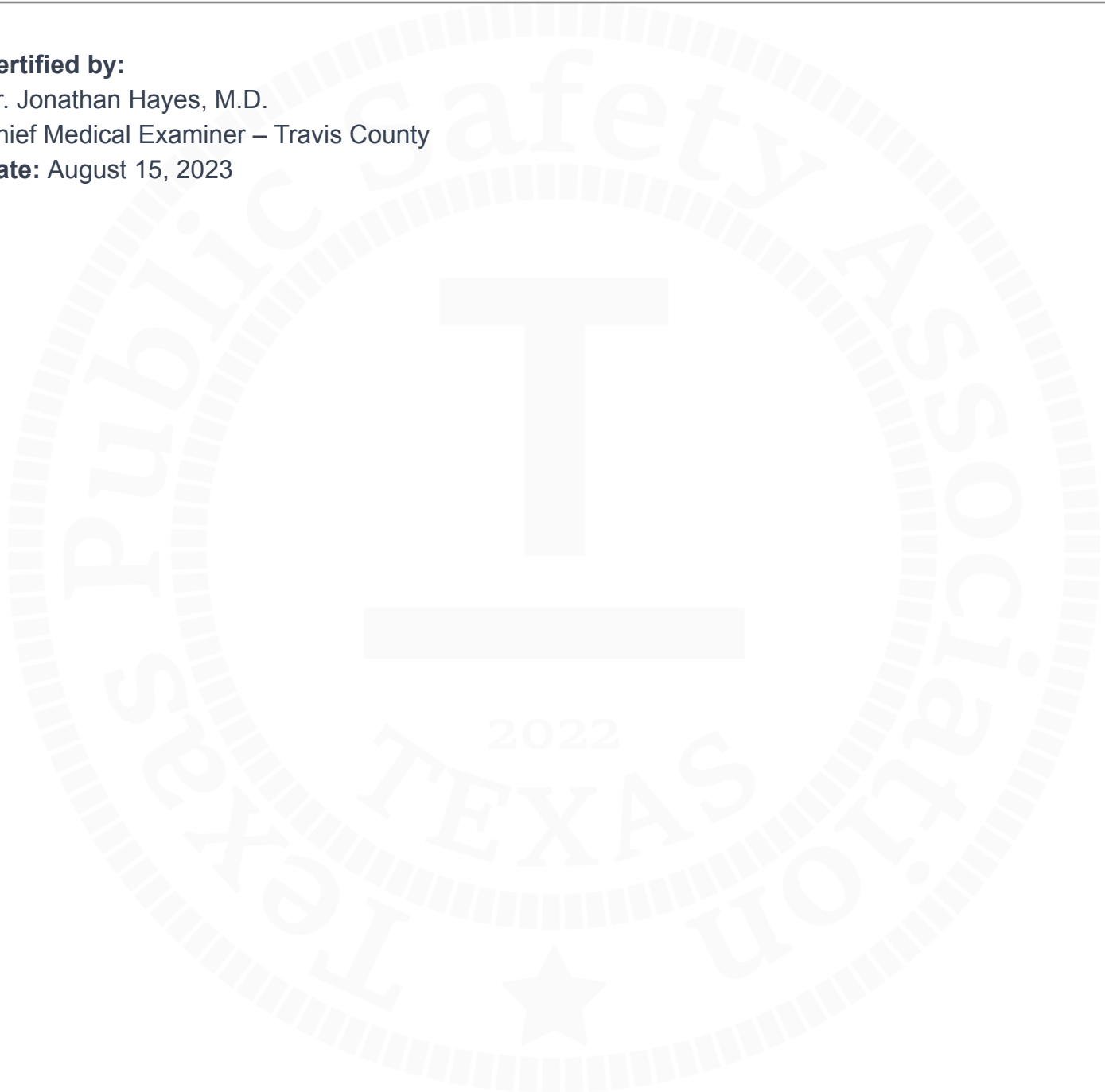
- The force of impact caused a catastrophic brain injury that was **non-survivable despite medical intervention**.
- No evidence suggests defensive wounds or additional injuries beyond the head trauma.

Certified by:

Dr. Jonathan Hayes, M.D.

Chief Medical Examiner – Travis County

Date: August 15, 2023



Austin Police Department – Official Incident Report

Case Number: TC-23-0815-045

Report Type: Homicide Investigation – Suspect Detainment

Date: August 15, 2023

Time of Report: 1:30 AM

Reporting Officer: Detective Marcus Holloway, Badge #5721

Location of Incident: 214 Westbrook Ave, Austin, TX

Suspect: Jordan Carter (DOB: November 12, 2003)

Victim: Alex Reynolds (Deceased)

Incident Summary:

At 1:07 AM on August 15, 2023, Alex Reynolds was pronounced deceased at Travis County General Hospital due to injuries sustained in an altercation outside *The Blue Star Café* earlier that evening. Based on witness statements, surveillance footage, and emergency personnel reports, Jordan Carter was identified as the individual responsible for striking Reynolds, causing him to fall and suffer fatal head trauma.

Upon confirmation of Reynolds' death, officers were dispatched to 214 Westbrook Ave, Carter's last known residence, to detain him for questioning regarding the incident.

Suspect Detainment Details:

Time of Arrival: 1:22 AM

Officers on Scene:

- Marcus Holloway (Lead Investigator)
- Officer Rachel Dawson (#6843)
- Officer Kevin Ramirez (#7310)

Observations Upon Arrival:

- The residence was a single-story home with front porch lights on.
- Carter's vehicle (Black Honda Civic) was parked in the driveway.
- Officers knocked on the front door while positioning themselves tactically.
- The door was answered by Carter's mother, Linda Carter, who appeared visibly distressed.

Interaction with Jordan Carter:

- Carter emerged from a back bedroom after his mother called for him.
- He appeared disheveled, with red eyes and an anxious demeanor.
- Carter initially asked, "Is Alex okay?" before officers informed him that Reynolds had succumbed to his injuries.

- Upon hearing the news, Carter became visibly shaken, placing his hands on his head and saying, "Oh my God... I didn't mean for this to happen."
 - Officers informed Carter that he was being detained for questioning regarding the death of Alex Reynolds.
 - Carter was placed in handcuffs without incident and escorted to the patrol vehicle.
 - His mother repeatedly asked if her son was being arrested, to which officers explained that Carter was being detained, not yet under formal arrest, pending further investigation.
-

Transport to Police Headquarters:

- Time of Departure: 1:35 AM
- Time of Arrival at APD HQ: 1:52 AM
- Suspect's Condition: No physical resistance, visibly distressed, breathing heavily
- Carter remained silent for most of the ride, aside from repeating "I didn't mean to" several times under his breath.

Upon arrival, Carter was booked for questioning in Interview Room #3. He was read his Miranda rights at 1:55 AM and agreed to speak with detectives without an attorney present at that time.

Evidence Collected:

- Surveillance Footage: *The Blue Star Café security camera captured Carter striking Reynolds at 11:22 PM.*
 - Witness Statements: Multiple individuals, including café patrons and employees, confirmed the altercation and Carter's actions.
 - 911 Call Logs: Emergency call placed at 11:25 PM reporting Reynolds unconscious.
 - Medical Examiner Report: Blunt force trauma-induced fatal brain injury confirmed as cause of death.
-

Pending Actions:

- ☒ Formal Arrest Decision Pending Following Interrogation
 - ☒ Additional Witness Statements to be Collected
 - ☒ Forensic Analysis of Surveillance Footage for Court Evidence
-

Officer's Signature:

Marcus Holloway

Badge #5721, Austin PD

Date: August 15, 2023 Time: 2:10 AM

Direct Examination of Taylor Mitchell

Prosecutor:

Q: Good morning, Ms. Mitchell. Can you please state your name and address for the record?

A: Good morning. My name is Taylor Mitchell, and my address is [Redacted].

Q: How long have you known Alex Reynolds?

A: I have known Alex for a few years. We go to the same college and hang out sometimes.

Q: Can you describe the events leading up to the incident on August 14, 2023?

A: Alex and I were at The Blue Star Café. He had been talking about his issues with Jordan Carter for a few days. He was serious about confronting Jordan and putting him in his place.

Q: What happened when Jordan arrived at the café?

A: When Jordan walked in, Alex immediately noticed him. They started arguing outside the café. Jordan told Alex to back off, and Alex said something like, "Or what?" Then Jordan shoved Alex, who stumbled but didn't fall. Jordan then punched Alex, and Alex hit the pavement hard.

Q: What did you do after the incident?

A: I called Alex's name, but he didn't respond. I stayed with him until the paramedics arrived.

Cross-Examination of Taylor Mitchell

Attorney for the Defense:

Q: Ms. Mitchell, you mentioned that Alex was serious about confronting Jordan. Can you provide any specific examples of how Alex had been provoking Jordan leading up to the incident?

A: Alex had been talking about Jordan, saying he was running his mouth and needed to be put in his place. He was serious about it.

Q: Did Alex have a history of aggressive behavior?

A: Yes, Alex had a history of confrontational behavior. He was known to be aggressive when he felt someone was challenging him.

Q: You mentioned that Jordan shoved Alex first. Can you describe what led to Jordan shoving Alex?

A: Alex was pushing Jordan verbally, saying things like, "Come on, do something." Jordan tried to walk away, but then he turned and shoved Alex.

Q: Did you see Jordan call 911 after the incident?

A: No, I didn't see him call 911, but I know he stayed at the scene and cooperated with the police.

Direct Examination of Sam Lopez

Prosecutor:

Q: Good morning, Mr. Lopez. Can you please state your name and address for the record?

A: Good morning. My name is Sam Lopez, and my address is [Redacted].

Q: How long have you known Alex Reynolds and Jordan Carter?

A: I've known both of them for a few years. We all hang around the same spots.

Q: Can you describe the events leading up to the incident on August 14, 2023?

A: Alex had been talking about Jordan, saying he was dodging him and only acting tough over text. He was serious about confronting Jordan.

Q: What happened when Jordan and Alex started arguing outside the café?

A: Alex was pushing Jordan verbally, saying things like, "Come on, do something." Jordan looked like he was trying to walk away at first, but then he turned and shoved Alex. Alex stumbled back but didn't fall. Jordan then punched Alex, and Alex hit the pavement hard.

Q: What did you do after the incident?

A: I didn't see Alex move after he hit the ground. People started yelling, and someone called 911.

Cross-Examination of Sam Lopez

Attorney for the Defense:

Q: Mr. Lopez, you mentioned that Alex was pushing Jordan verbally. Can you describe how Jordan responded to Alex's provocations?

A: Jordan initially tried to walk away, but then he turned and shoved Alex.

Q: Did Jordan have a history of violent behavior?

A: No, Jordan has never been known to be violent. He's usually calm and composed.

Q: Did you see Jordan call 911 after the incident?

A: No, I didn't see him call 911, but I know he stayed at the scene and cooperated with the police.

Direct Examination of Detective Marcus Holloway

Prosecutor:

Q: Good morning, Detective Holloway. Can you please state your name and your role in this investigation?

A: Good morning. My name is Detective Marcus Holloway, and I was the lead investigator in the case involving the incident at The Blue Star Café on August 14, 2023.

Q: Can you describe the events that led to your involvement in the case?

A: I was called to the scene at The Blue Star Café after receiving a 911 call reporting a physical altercation. Upon arrival, I found Alex Reynolds unconscious and in need of medical attention. Jordan Carter was present and cooperated with the investigation.

Q: What did Jordan Carter tell you about the incident?

A: Jordan stated that Alex Reynolds had been provoking him for weeks and that the confrontation at the café was a continuation of that harassment. Jordan said that Alex lunged at him and pushed him, and he struck Alex in self-defense to prevent further aggression.

Q: Did you collect any physical evidence from the scene?

A: Yes, we collected surveillance footage from the café, which showed the confrontation between

Jordan and Alex. We also collected statements from witnesses, including Taylor Mitchell and Sam Lopez, who were present at the scene.

Q: Can you describe the condition of Alex Reynolds when you arrived at the scene?

A: Alex Reynolds was unconscious and had visible injuries. He was immediately transported to Travis County General Hospital – Trauma Unit.

Q: What was your assessment of Jordan Carter's cooperation with the investigation?

A: Jordan Carter was fully cooperative. He provided a detailed account of the events and stayed at the scene until the police arrived.

Cross-Examination of Detective Marcus Holloway

Attorney for the Defense:

Q: Detective Holloway, can you confirm that Jordan Carter called 911 immediately after the incident?

A: According to the 911 call log, the call was made by an unidentified bystander, later identified as Lindsey Parker, a café waitress. The caller reported the incident and said that Jordan Carter was still at the scene.

Q: Can you describe the behavior of Alex Reynolds based on the statements of witnesses and the surveillance footage?

A: Based on the statements and the footage, Alex Reynolds was visibly agitated and confrontational. He was the one who initiated the physical confrontation by lunging at Jordan and pushing him.

Q: Did Jordan Carter have any prior history of violent behavior?

A: No, Jordan Carter had no prior history of violent behavior. He was known to be a calm and composed individual.

Q: Can you explain the timeline of the events leading to Alex Reynolds' death?

A: After the incident, Alex was transported to the hospital, where he was intubated and placed in a critical condition. He experienced sudden cardiac arrest due to brain herniation and increasing intracranial pressure. He was pronounced dead at 1:07 AM on August 15, 2023.

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Jonathan Hayes, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner
Travis County Medical Examiner's Office
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (512) 555-1234
Email: jonathan.hayes@traviscountytexas.gov

Professional Summary

Dr. Jonathan Hayes, M.D., is a highly respected and experienced forensic pathologist and the current Chief Medical Examiner for Travis County, Texas. With over 20 years of experience in forensic pathology, Dr. Hayes has conducted thousands of autopsies and provided expert testimony in numerous high-profile cases. He is known for his meticulous approach to forensic investigations and his commitment to advancing the field through research, education, and professional service.

Education

- Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)
 - University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, TX
 - Graduated: 1998
- Bachelor of Science in Biology
 - University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
 - Graduated: 1994

Certifications and Licenses

- American Board of Pathology (ABP)
 - Certified in Anatomic Pathology (1999)
 - Certified in Clinical Pathology (2000)
 - Certified in Forensic Pathology (2003)
- Texas Medical License
 - Active and in good standing

Professional Organizations

- American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS)
 - Member since 2000
 - Board Member (2015-2018)
 - Chair, Forensic Pathology Section (2017-2019)
- National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME)
 - Member since 2001

- Board Member (2012-2015)
- President (2014-2015)
- Texas Society of Pathologists (TSP)
 - Member since 2000
 - Vice President (2016-2018)
 - President (2018-2020)
- College of American Pathologists (CAP)
 - Member since 1999

Professional Training and Continuing Education

- Forensic Pathology Fellowship
 - Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, New York City, NY
 - 2001-2003
- Anatomic and Clinical Pathology Residency
 - University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX
 - 1998-2001
- Advanced Forensic Pathology Training
 - National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Training Program
 - 2005, 2010, 2015
- Continuing Medical Education (CME)
 - Annual participation in CME programs through the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and the National Association of Medical Examiners

Current Employment

- Chief Medical Examiner
 - Travis County Medical Examiner's Office, Austin, TX
 - 2010 - Present
 - Responsibilities:
 - Oversee all forensic investigations and autopsies conducted by the office.
 - Provide expert testimony in criminal and civil cases.
 - Collaborate with law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders in the forensic community.
 - Conduct and publish research in forensic pathology.
 - Train and mentor forensic pathologists and medical examiners.

Past Employment

- Deputy Chief Medical Examiner
 - Harris County Medical Examiner's Office, Houston, TX
 - 2005 - 2010
 - Responsibilities:
 - Supervise and conduct forensic investigations and autopsies.

- Provide expert testimony in criminal and civil cases.
- Manage a team of forensic pathologists and support staff.
- Develop and implement quality assurance programs.
- Forensic Pathologist
 - Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office, Dallas, TX
 - 2003 - 2005
 - Responsibilities:
 - Conduct forensic investigations and autopsies.
 - Provide expert testimony in criminal and civil cases.
 - Collaborate with law enforcement and other agencies.

Publications

1. Hayes, J., & Smith, R. (2015). "The Role of Forensic Pathology in Investigating Sudden Unexplained Deaths." *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 60(2), 345-352.
2. Hayes, J., & Johnson, M. (2012). "Forensic Pathology and the Identification of Blunt Force Trauma." *Forensic Science International*, 220(1-3), 123-129.
3. Hayes, J., & Brown, L. (2008). "Challenges in the Investigation of Heat-Related Deaths." *American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology*, 29(3), 187-192.

Presentations and Lectures

- "Advances in Forensic Pathology: A Case Study Approach"
 - Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, San Francisco, CA (2019)
- "The Forensic Pathologist's Role in Investigating Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)"
 - National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA (2017)
- "Forensic Pathology and the Legal System: Bridging the Gap"
 - Texas Society of Pathologists Annual Meeting, Austin, TX (2016)
- "Forensic Pathology in the 21st Century: New Technologies and Techniques"
 - University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, TX (2014)
- "The Role of Forensic Pathology in Public Health"
 - College of American Pathologists Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (2012)

Awards and Honors

- Outstanding Contribution to Forensic Science Award
 - American Academy of Forensic Sciences (2018)
- Distinguished Service Award
 - National Association of Medical Examiners (2014)
- Excellence in Forensic Pathology Award
 - Texas Society of Pathologists (2010)