FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:                      September 5, 2007

Inmate Pronounced Deceased At Travis County Jail

On September 4, 2007, at 10:25 am, an inmate was found unresponsive, by Corrections Officers, in his cell at the Travis County Jail. They called a medical emergency and started CPR while Austin/Travis County EMS responded to the scene. Despite the efforts of all involved the inmate was pronounced deceased at 10:48 am.

The inmate, who was identified as

Kenneth Archie Stewart, Date of Birth 3-15-1950,
of Austin, was arrested by the Austin Police Department on September 3, 2007 for Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Possession of Marijuana (less than 2 oz’s) and a City Ordinance Violation.

The Travis County Medical Examiner’s Office conducted a preliminary examination. There was no signs foul play on the body. They are awaiting toxicology results before releasing their final report but they did say that the manner of death was natural causes due to multiple medical issues.

It is routine for several investigations to occur at the same time when there is an “in custody” death. The Sheriff’s Office Internal Affairs Unit as well as the Major Crime Unit will conduct separate investigations into the death. At the same time the Travis County Medical Examiner’s Office will conduct their own examination to determine the cause and manner of death.

Note: This is the fourth in-custody death in the Travis County Jail in 2007.

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