

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
TEXAS RANGERS**

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LEAD INVESTIGATOR: DANNY BRILEY SUPERVISOR: JASON BOBO TITLE: CUSTODIAL DEATH, HOOD COUNTY, RUBY MCPETERS, 06-24-2018 TYPE: CRIMINAL SERVICE: DISTRICT: SUBTYPE: OTHER - CUSTODIAL DEATH CATEGORY: SPECIAL APPROVAL: PROGRAM: CRIMES AGAINST PERSON CASE#:	INVEST#: 2018I-TRB-50026329 OPENED: 06/29/2018 FILE STATUS: CLOSED DIVISION: TEXAS RANGERS REGION: B AREA: SPURS URN: CMIV50026329 REVIEW DATE: LEGACY REF: SUBPROGRAM: FELONY		

INVESTIGATION SYNOPSIS

On 06-24-2018, Ruby McPeters, died while in the custody of the Hood County Sheriff's Office. On behalf of the Texas Rangers, I agreed to investigate what happened and determine whether a crime had been committed related to McPeters death.

SUPPLEMENTAL SYNOPSES

S1 06/29/2018 Report Writer: Danny Briley

07/09/2018 Approved by: ALAN DAVIDSON

This report was initiated to obtain a file number related to the death of Ruby McPeters, a Hood County inmate.

S2 07/24/2018 Report Writer: Danny Briley

07/26/2018 Approved by: ALAN DAVIDSON

This report documents initial facts and documents provided by Hood County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) Investigator TD Elam.

S3 08/02/2018 Report Writer: Danny Briley

08/20/2018 Approved by: ALAN DAVIDSON

HCSO Corrections Officer Shelby Magana reported HCSO Officials neglected Ruby McPeters while she was incarcerated.

S4 08/15/2018 Report Writer: Danny Briley

08/21/2018 Approved by: ALAN DAVIDSON

Tasha Splawn shared a jail cell with Ruby McPeters. Splawn's interview was documented as evidence in this report.

S5 08/15/2018 Report Writer: Danny Briley

08/21/2018 Approved by: ALAN DAVIDSON

This report documents HCSO Corrections Officer (CO) Shelby Magana's statement about Ruby McPeters' death.

S6 08/16/2018 Report Writer: Danny Briley

08/27/2018 Approved by: ALAN DAVIDSON

This report documents HCSO Nurse/Paramedic Georgetta Hudson's statement about what happened to Ruby McPeters.

S7 01/11/2019 Report Writer: Danny Briley

01/22/2019 Approved by: Jason Bobo

This report documents HCSO Transport Officer Clara Hawari's statement about Ruby McPeters' death.

S8 02/07/2019 Report Writer: Danny Briley

02/07/2019 Approved by: Jason Bobo

The autopsy report showed the cause of McPeters' death was an infection/sepsis.

S9 02/07/2019 Report Writer: Danny Briley

02/07/2019 Approved by: Jason Bobo

This report documents HCSO Investigator Toby Fries' statement, crime scene photographs, surveillance video of McPeters at the jail, and medical records received from the Lake Granbury Medical Center.

S10 02/07/2019 Report Writer: Danny Briley

02/07/2019 Approved by: Jason Bobo

Sergio Martinez-Corona, an inmate and trustee at the Hood County Jail, provided two letters about the death of Ruby McPeters. Martinez claimed to be an eyewitness to the conditions of the jail and delayed response of officials to take McPeters to the hospital.

S11 02/26/2019 Report Writer: Danny Briley

03/05/2019 Approved by: Jason Bobo

This report identifies and documents Doctor Donald Howser's statement about Ruby McPeters' death. Doctor Howser revealed a very rare infection of clostridium sordelli caused McPeters' death. According to Doctor Howser, this type of infection has a 100% mortality rate.

S12 02/26/2019 Report Writer: Danny Briley

03/05/2019 Approved by: Jason Bobo

This report documents an interview with Autumn McPeters about her sister's death. Autumn believed inmates, including her sister, had not received proper care at the Hood County Jail.

S13 04/24/2020 Report Writer: Danny Briley

04/30/2020 Approved by: Jason Bobo

This case file remains open and a review by the Hood County District Attorney's Office is pending.

S14 11/06/2020 Report Writer: Danny Briley

11/10/2020 Approved by: Jason Bobo

This report was written to update the status of the investigation.

S15 06/23/2021 Report Writer: Danny Briley

06/24/2021 Approved by: Jason Bobo

A telephone interview with Doctor Susan Roe is pending.

S16 06/30/2021 Report Writer: Danny Briley

07/08/2021 Approved by: Jason Bobo

A complete investigation revealed Ruby McPeters' death was the result of an extremely rare bacteria, *Clostridium Sordelli*, which currently has a 100% mortality rate and is irreversible at this time in the medical field. Facts reveal there is no person criminally responsible for McPeters' death.

SUPPLEMENTAL DETAILS

- S1** 1.1 This report was created to obtain a case file number regarding the Custodial Death of Ruby Elizabeth McPeters, W/F, DOB: [REDACTED], of Granbury. McPeters was an inmate in the custody of the Hood County Sheriff's Office and had recently given birth to a child before dying from unknown complications. This case file number will track investigative details related to McPeters' death.
- S2** 2.1 On 06-24-2018, Hood County Sheriff Roger Deeds telephoned me for assistance with a Custodial Death investigation involving an inmate, Ruby McPeters. Sheriff Deeds stated McPeters had a C-section approximately ten days prior, and later reported abdominal pain and high blood pressure. The symptoms led to McPeters being hospitalized, and she later died because of an infection, possibly sepsis.
- 2.2 On 06-25-2018, Hood County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) Investigator TD Elam provided the following documents:
- A. Preliminary Autopsy Results from Tarrant County Deputy Medical Examiner Susan J. Roe. Findings were pending.
 - B. A two page document highlighting communications had with McPeters. The author of the documents was not provided. A review of this document is pending.
 - C. Nine HCSO Detention Operations Command Documents (Copies). These documents contain narrative summaries about McPeters and had evidently been typed by HCSO Correctional Officers. All of the documents were dated 06-24-2018, except one document was dated 06-20-2018. A review of the documents is pending. (Also provided original documents).
 - D. Three Record of Safety and Security Inspection Documents dated 06-24-2018 (Cell 1, Cell B70& Hospital). These documents showed "time checks," "Correctional Officer's Name," and "Comments." A review of the documents is pending.
 - E. Approximately twenty-one Hood County Jail Inmate Request for Services Document Copies. These documents contained specific requests made by McPeters to HCSO staff. These documents were not legible because the quality of the print was not sufficient.

- F. Lake Granbury Medical Record (Copies) dated 06-14-2018. A review of the documents is pending.
- G. HCSO Inmate Booking Information dated 05-25-2018. A review of the documents was performed. Documents showed McPeters was eight months pregnant with admitted complications of dizziness at booking. McPeters claimed her blood pressure was elevated due to pregnancy and believed she had PTSD. McPeters was arrested after appearing in District Court at a CPS hearing, because she held an outstanding Motion to Revoke Warrant for POCS<1 gram, warrant #CR14080.
- H. Hood County Jail Documentation Record (Copy). A review of this document, dated 05-31-2018, showed McPeters requested to schedule a C-section in Dallas.
- I. Prisoner Medical Clearance Report dated 06-24-2018 (Copy). A narrative was provided on the document by HCSO Nurse Georgetta Hudson. The document contained a narrative of McPeters' symptoms prior to her death - abdominal pain, 101.5 temperature, and blood pressure 80/52 and 110 pulse. McPeters was pale upon standing, hit head on floor, appeared nauseated.
- J. Other Court and Criminal History Documents (Copies) related to McPeters.

S3

- 3.1 On 06-25-2018, 9:41 PM, I received information from a Texas Ranger Dwayne Williams (ret) (tel 940-577-4889), that HCSO Corrections Officer (CO) Shelby Magana, W/F, DOB: [REDACTED], wanted to remain anonymous and speak to me (Texas Ranger Danny Briley) about the death of Ruby McPeters.
- 3.2 On 06-25-2018, 9:53 PM, I telephoned CO Shelby Magana at 254-317-3301 and she provided the following information:
 - A. CO's neglected McPeters and her death should not have happened.
 - B. McPeters asked for help and to be taken to the hospital and she was refused.
 - C. McPeters was not treated fairly.
 - D. McPeters tried to get help for herself and no one would listen to her.

3.3 On 06-25-2018, I telephoned CO Magana and scheduled an interview for 07-05-2018 in Granbury.

S4

4.1 On 06-29-2018, 11:33 AM, I interviewed HCSO inmate Tasha Splawn, W/F, [REDACTED], at HCSO. The interview was digitally recorded as evidence. Refer to digital evidence for details. Splawn stated the following:

- A. McPeters was given Ibuprofen but it was the wrong dosage.
- B. On 06-24-2018, 5:00 AM, Splawn called for help, trying to get guards to help McPeters. Splawn felt if she or the medical staff would have responded sooner, McPeters would have lived. Splawn claimed McPeters was not given her medication for three days and Splawn had to help McPeters out of bed those days.
- C. Splawn alleged guards were told to neglect McPeters because she was a troublemaker.
- D. Splawn explained McPeters' uterus had already ruptured before her incarceration and her impending C-section would be a high risk situation. McPeters gave birth on Tuesday, (06-12-2018) and was returned back to jail on Thursday, (06-14-2018) against the doctor's wishes. Splawn felt HCSO was not adequately staffed and had trouble keeping someone at the hospital to watch McPeters.
- E. The doctor at the hospital made HCSO promise they would give McPeters her pain medication upon her release from the hospital. When McPeters returned to jail, the nurse failed to give McPeters her pain medication.
- F. Splawn alleged a doctor released McPeters back to HCSO because of someone's demands. Splawn believed someone at HCSO wanted McPeters back in jail because HCSO lacked manpower to maintain security/supervision at the hospital.
- G. Splawn helped McPeters out of bed for three days after she returned to HCSO where McPeters was denied her medication. HCSO Nurse Rachael Miller claimed HCSO Nurse Georgetta Hudson gave McPeters the wrong dosage medication "600mg." Nurse Miller took the medication away from McPeters.
- H. The day after McPeters came back from the hospital (06-15-2018), she made a complaint to Texas Jail Standards on that date. Splawn was not aware if anyone did anything about it.

- I. McPeters started getting a little better after three days, but was still suffering with a headache all week. McPeters stated it burned when she would urinate and believed she had an infection. McPeters also developed a spot on her incision that was "rock hard."
- J. On 06-23-2018, HCSO Nurse Hudson pushed on McPeters' stomach and told her there was nothing wrong with the spot; that it was just scar tissue. HCSO CO Jones agreed. McPeters could not sleep "Saturday night" (06-23-2018). Splawn heard McPeters tell HCSO CO Kilgore that McPeters felt like she had the flu.
- K. On 06-24-2018, 5:00 AM, Splawn felt of McPeters and believed she had a fever. Splawn called for a guard, explaining something was wrong with McPeters. The guard (CO Kilgore) said, "I cannot do anything. There is no nurse here and she will have to wait."
- L. On 06-24-2018, 6:30 AM, McPeters woke Splawn up and said, "There is something wrong with me. I just fell off the toilet and hit my head." Splawn called for guards and they responded, removing McPeters from the jail cell and placing her into another room. Splawn heard McPeters was kept in another room until noon, but was not sure if this information was true or not.
- M. Splawn recommended I speak to HCSO Transport Officer Clara Hawari. Officer Hawari claimed HCSO killed McPeters.
- N. Contact information for Splawn when not incarcerated (Mary Blatten 214-422-1654, Tony Wagner 682-205-9391, Alexander Sides 972-786-5801).

S5

- 5.1 On 07-05-2018, 6:23 PM, I interviewed CO Shelby Magana at my office in Granbury. The interview was digitally recorded as evidence. Refer to digital evidence for details. CO Magana stated the following:
 - A. Ruby McPeters was treated unfairly at the Hood County Jail. Requests to see the doctor were denied by HCSO medical staff at the jail. Treatment McPeters received from HCSO medical staff was consistent CO Magana's other observations of other inmates, unfair/neglectful.
 - B. CO Magana claimed she personally remembered HCSO medical staff denied McPeters medical treatment approximately five to ten times. CO Magana offered up examples were: (1) McPeters was denied to see her doctor for a C-section, and (2) discuss her contractions with a doctor. Medical staff told McPeters she would just have to "deal with it."

- C. HCSO knew McPeters was a high risk patient to be carrying a baby and have a C-section. She ultimately gave birth to a boy at the local hospital. CO Magana sat with McPeters at the hospital about two days after the baby was born (date of C-section 6-12-2018). CO Magana's shift at the hospital was 2:00 PM-6:00 PM.
- D. CO Magana neither heard nor observed anything concerning about McPeters while at the hospital, except from a CPS worker who claimed McPeters may experience depression. CO Magana was aware another HCSO employee heard McPeters' blood pressure kept dropping on the day she gave birth.
- E. HCSO Lt. Rogers told HCSO CO (FNU) Dallas to write a report saying it was the hospital's fault Ruby McPeters passed away. This information was allegedly told to HCSO Transport Officer Clara Hawari who told CO Magana.
- F. CO Magana complained and submitted a report to her supervisor and HCSO was supposed to provide this report to me (Texas Rangers). CO Magana believed Texas Rangers never received the report because her supervisor intentionally failed to file the report with his bosses. CO Magana's supervisor did not file the report so he and CO Magana would not be questioned by Texas Rangers. The supervisor allegedly told CO Magana, "I saved our asses" from getting into trouble with the Texas Rangers.
- G. The report, if properly filed, would have exposed how badly HCSO medical staff treated McPeters. Note: CO Magana kept a copy of the report and actually located the original copy from her supervisor - provided on this date).
- H. McPeters told Texas Jail Standards she was not getting medical attention she needed from HCSO medical staff. Lt. Rogers and CO Magana heard McPeters make this complaint.
- I. CO Magana complained HCSO Captain Ann Brown or Lt. Rogers called the hospital after McPeters had her baby, and caused hospital doctors to early-release McPeters back to jail. CO Magana believed hospital staff/doctors were pressured to release McPeters early but did not know why. CO Magana was not a witness to this incident, but was told this information by Officer Hawari.
- J. CO Magana believed HCSO (FNU) CO Jones was not nice to McPeters, but never refused McPeters any medical treatment.
- K. HCSO CO (FNU) Lozano never refused McPeters any medical treatment.

- L. HCSO CO Rebecca Anderson never refused McPeters any medical treatment.
- M. HCSO (FNU) CO Smith never refused McPeters any medical treatment. CO Smith helped McPeters with breastfeeding while at the hospital.
- N. HCSO (FNU) CO Kilgore never refused McPeters any medical treatment.
- O. HCSO Lieutenant Proctor never refused McPeters any medical treatment.
- P. CO Magana claimed medical treatment was refused by ranking officers, and HCSO Nurse Rachael Miller. CO Magana explained when Nurse Miller did not want to do anything, she would not do her job. CO Magana witnessed Nurse Miller disregard McPeters' medical request five to six times.
- Q. There were two HCSO nurses, "Rachael Miller and Georgetta Hudson," and they worked 7A-7P. CO Magana had not worked on the same shift with HCSO Nurse Hudson.
- R. There were times McPeters was in great pain and required assistance to walk around and Nurse Miller thought McPeters was just faking it. Nurse Miller would not give McPeters Ibuprofen. CO Magana stated on 06-16-2018, the HCSO video camera would show McPeters struggling to walk (referencing her complaint report which was not forwarded to Texas Rangers).
- S. McPeters "seemed fine" between 06-20-2018 and 06-21-2018 (CO Magana's shift) and even played basketball. McPeters claimed she may have busted "a stitch" while playing basketball.
- T. Between 06-22-2018 and 06-24-2018, CO Magana was in Galveston with her best friend, CO Rebecca Anderson. McPeters passed away on 06-24-2018.
- U. CO Anderson never observed or witnessed same/similar alleged mistreatment of McPeters.
- V. CO Magana and Anderson discussed everything with each other. When told there was information CO Anderson had been "with an inmate" at the jail, CO Magana stated she heard rumors about herself and CO Anderson.

Note: CO Magana's credibility to tell the truth became highly questionable when asked

about CO Anderson having a sexual relationship with a Hood County inmate. CO Magana stated CO Anderson was not dating any Hood County inmates right now because it puts "her Army" on the line.

- W. CO Magana re-directed the subject of CO Anderson to be about her ex-fiancé, who alleges CO Anderson was cheating with a Walmart employee.
 - X. CO Magana reluctantly admitted CO Anderson had a relationship with a Hood County inmate, never specifying whether the relationship was sexual. CO Magana acknowledged she was uncomfortable talking about CO Anderson's business.
 - Y. CO Magana stated she was fearful of being in trouble during the interview, and did not specify exactly what she feared getting into trouble about.
- 5.2 The digital recorder stopped because of a low battery at 1 hour and 14 minutes. The interview continued until 8:50 PM. I explained female CO's having sex with male inmates was a big problem in the context of whether female CO's/HCSO employees provided proper care to McPeters who had ultimately died.
- 5.3 When CO Magana was asked (off tape) if CO Anderson had sex at the Hood County jail with an inmate, CO Magana shook her head up and down (answering yes).

CO Magana asked if she could speak to me some other time, because she wanted to speak with her mother about CO Anderson. CO Magana made an agreement to answer my future telephone call and discuss CO Anderson further on the next date. On 07-06-2018, CO Magana answered my telephone call and declined to discuss anything further about CO Anderson.

S6

- 6.1 On 08-02-2018, 9:53 AM, I interviewed HCSO Paramedic Georgetta Hudson, W/F, DOB: [REDACTED]. The interview was digitally recorded as evidence. Refer to digital evidence for details. Hudson stated the following:
- A. Hudson retired as a paramedic for Hood County EMS after 25 years. On 10-21-2017, Hudson hired on with HCSO as a paramedic. Hudson provides medicine in the mornings and afternoons to inmates. Hudson only administers medicine approved and prescribed by Doctor Paul Bishop, Acton Medical Clinic.
 - B. Doctor Bishop determines what medicine can be given, how much and how often.
 - C. Between 03-07-2018 and 03-26-2018, Ruby McPeters was a Hood County inmate in good health. McPeters was approximately six to seven months pregnant and reported having contractions and constipation. Pre-natal vitamins and stool softener medication

was prescribed for McPeters.

- D. On 05-25-2018, McPeters was a Hood County inmate, approximately eight months pregnant and complained of back pain.
- E. On 05-31-2018, McPeters reported slight contractions.
- F. On 06-12-2018, McPeters had a C-Section. The doctor for this procedure was Doctor Steven Morse, Lakeside Granbury Physician (Gynecologist).
- G. On 06-14-2018, Hudson returned to work and learned Doctor Morse prescribed Norco for McPeters. Norco is a pain reliever. Hudson telephoned Doctor Bishop on 06-14-2018 for his approval to give McPeters the Norco medication. Doctor Bishop did not approve Norco, but did approve Tylenol 225mg X 2 for McPeters as needed. Hudson observed McPeters was "fine" but "sore."
- H. On 06-19-2018, Hudson saw Doctor Morse, at which time he learned Norco could not be dispensed at HCSO. Therefore, Doctor Morse prescribed McPeters Tylenol 500mg X 2/day in lieu of Norco for pain relief. Hudson observed McPeters was doing well on this date.
- I. On 06-23-2018, McPeters asked Hudson to feel/touch McPeters' abdomen. Hudson felt a quarter-inch spot on her left side at the incision. The spot felt hard to the touch, not warm to the touch. McPeters had no fever and her vital signs were good. Hudson observed McPeters was very happy on this date.
- J. On 06-24-2018, at approximately 6:50 AM, McPeters was "wheeled" to a holding cell where Hudson recorded vital signs - 101.5, kept face down, received Tylenol; McPeters believed she had a urinary tract infection. HCSO Lt. Lozano believed McPeters may have the flu.
- K. Hudson got CO Jones (unknown first name) to "wheel" McPeters into a bathroom. McPeters stated she felt like she was going to pass out. When McPeters stood up, her skin was white. Hudson observed an abrasion to McPeters' head which apparently occurred before Hudson met with McPeters.
- L. McPeters began vomiting a clear liquid and then some yellow bile, leaned her head against Hudson and suddenly started snoring. At this time, Hudson immediately told the Captain to send McPeters to the hospital now.

- M. CO Jones loaded McPeters up into a squad car and she was transported directly to a hospital.
- N. On 06-24-2018 at approximately 6:00 PM, Hudson received a telephone call McPeters had passed away.
- O. Hudson stated McPeters had apparently "passed out" during CO Jones' shift.
- P. On 06-27-2018, Investigator Toby Fries told Hudson about a conversation with the Medical Examiner. According to Investigator Fries, the Medical Examiner stated some of McPeters' placenta was left inside her stomach when the C-section was performed.
- Q. On 06-28-2018, Doctor Bishop inquired whether Hudson heard what happened to McPeters. Hudson told Doctor Bishop about Investigator Fries' conversation with the Medical Examiner. Doctor Bishop believed the placenta left inside McPeters would be a rapidly fatal situation.
- R. Hudson stated McPeters' death had nothing to do with the knot found at the incision area. Hudson believed sepsis was the reason McPeters died. Hudson firmly believed McPeters should not have died.

S7

7.1 On 08-06-2018, 10:42 AM, I telephoned HCSO Transport Officer Clara Hawari, W/F, DOB: [REDACTED], (tel: 817-565-8858) about Ruby McPeters' death. The interview was digitally recorded as evidence over the telephone (S7, P1). Refer to digital evidence for details. Hawari stated the following:

- A. Hawari was not sure why McPeters died because Hawari was not at the hospital. Hawari, however, claimed "things" were not right "in the facility," referring to the HCSO Jail.
- B. Hawari claimed she was present when McPeters saw her OB/GYN doctor, and Hawari accompanied McPeters during the doctor visit. The doctor told McPeters she must have the baby that day or the next to avoid the risk of death. There was a risk McPeters or her baby would die.
- C. Hawari claimed HCSO nurses said, "No, McPeters would have the baby when she is told to have the baby." Hawari seemed to allege HCSO nurses had the authority to decide when McPeters could have the baby. Hawari further alleged HCSO nurses were not "real nurses." Hawari believed one nurse was an "EMT," and the other nurse was a "paramedic."

- D. Hawari was with McPeters at the hospital on the day she had her baby. Hawari believed the delivery of the baby went good. Both the baby and mother (McPeters) were doing well after the delivery, although McPeters complained of some stomach pain and a headache.
- E. Hawari stated a couple of days after the baby was born, one of the guards at the hospital threatened to walk out and leave McPeters unattended. Therefore, an HCSO supervisor requested Hawari relieve the guard, which she agreed to do.
- F. Hawari stated the guard she relieved was upset about HCSO being shorthanded and claimed HCSO supervisors "lied to her," by saying McPeters would only be in the hospital for two hours. The non-disclosed guard learned McPeters would remain in the hospital one more day.
- G. Hawari claimed the issue at the time was Doctor Bishop wanted to keep McPeters at the hospital another day to make sure she received proper medications and was taken care of.
- H. As Hawari began her shift at the hospital with McPeters, a telephone call from HCSO Captain Brown occurred. Captain Brown told Hawari not to worry because she (Captain Brown) had talked to Doctor Bishop and McPeters would be released on this date back to HCSO (not stay overnight).
- I. Allegedly, Captain Brown also said, "We can't be sitting up there all day."
- J. Hawari learned Doctor Bishop was in Israel and not even in the United States when Captain Brown caused McPeters' dismissal from hospital care.
- K. According to Hawari, Captain Brown apparently got in touch with the OB/GYN doctor's wife, who was also a doctor, and talked her into releasing McPeters back to HCSO. Hawari claimed McPeters actual doctor (Doctor Bishop) did not support McPeters going back to the jail.
- L. Hawari claimed McPeters' nurse believed the dismissal was bizarre. Hawari asked someone how it was possible McPeters would be released back to jail and was informed the "on call doctor" approved of the release.
- M. Hawari claimed HCSO had an inadequate number of personnel to handle sitting with McPeters at the hospital. For this reason, doctors were persuaded by Captain Brown to release McPeters back to jail where she would receive poor care. Hawari strongly

believed Captain Brown manipulated the system and "killed" McPeters.

- N. After McPeters died, Hawari had a conversation with a guard identified as "Dallas" about why she was at work so early one morning. "Dallas" allegedly responded she was writing reports to cover "HCSO's ass." When asked about the details, "Dallas" allegedly said she was writing about her belief the doctor gave McPeters too much morphine and killed her. "Dallas" also alleged she was documenting her knowledge of McPeters playing basketball at HCSO.
- O. Hawari believed if all the facts were put together, everything might make sense, but she wasn't sure why McPeters died. Hawari knew McPeters often asked to go to the hospital and HCSO denied most requests. Hawari wanted to know why HCSO staff denied McPeters' requests.
- P. According to Hawari, she was told (source: HCSO Lt. Rogers) the people to blame for McPeters' death was the hospital, because HCSO did everything by the book.
- Q. When asked who Hawari believed was at fault for McPeters' death, she believed it was both the hospital and HCSO's fault. It was the hospital's fault for not standing their ground and maintaining good care over McPeters, and HCSO's fault for neglecting McPeters of proper care when she asked for it.
- R. Hawari contended HCSO was neglectful by putting McPeters into a holding cell where she couldn't walk or complain about anything. Hawari found fault in the supervisors and the jailers working the hall.
- S. Captain Brown told Hawari, the reason McPeters died was due to sepsis from the C-section. HCSO Nurse Georgetta Hudson stated the cause of death was due to a rare disease, *Clostridium Sordellii*. Because of McPeters' death, the "CDC" was allegedly contacted, but the disease was said to be "non-transferrable."
- T. Hawari accused both HCSO nurses of giving someone else's medication to McPeters. When asked how Hawari knew this information, Hawari stated Nurse Hudson told Hawari.
- U. Doctor Bishop is the jail doctor who determines what drugs are permissible for each patient.

S8

- 8.1 On 08-28-2018, 1:33 PM, I received a Tarrant County Medical Examiner Autopsy Report from Lieutenant Johnny Rose. The report showed Doctor Susan Roe, on 06-24-2018, conducted an autopsy of Ruby McPeters (S8, P1). For details, refer to the autopsy report.

The report showed the following information:

- A. Autopsy Findings: (1) acute endometritis, marked with tissue destruction (2) pulmonary congestion and edema (3) post caesarean section (4) resuscitative efforts.
- B. Laboratory Studies: (1) growth of clostridium species
- C. Cause of death: Postpartum Clostridium Sordellii Endometritis and Sepsis
- D. Manner of death: Natural

S9

9.1 On 08-29-2018, 12:00 PM, I interviewed HCSO Investigator Toby Fries in the HCSO parking lot about what happened to McPeters. Investigator Fries provided the following information:

- A. McPeters had an enlarged uterus and it should not have been "this big." During autopsy, the uterus was cut in half. Investigator Fries observed a lot of "red stuff inside." When inquiring why so much "red stuff" was inside, a doctor stated it was "not cleaned out and blood clot not cleaned out." Investigator Fries indicated the delivery doctor did not clean out the placenta when McPeters gave birth.
- B. During autopsy, Investigator Fries was told the death of McPeters was preventable. Investigator Fries was told McPeters developed sepsis because she was not "cleaned out" during her delivery.

9.2 On 08-29-2018, 12:00 PM, Investigator Fries provided a DVD containing a video of "I-tank Hood County Jail" for the date of 06-24-2018, 5:00 AM - 9:00 AM (S9, P1). Refer to the DVD for details. The video showed the following:

- A. At 5:04 AM, the cell door was opened and a jailer was delivering breakfast. McPeters (bottom bunk) can be seen walking up to the open door where the jailer was standing. McPeters took two food trays from the jailer, providing one to her cell mate, Tasha Splawn (bottom bunk). The cell door was shut.
- B. McPeters was observed walking with a distinct limp. At 5:05 AM, Splawn was holding the back of her hand against McPeters' forehead as if checking for a fever. At 5:06 AM, McPeters got back into her bunk.

- C. At 5:19 AM, the cell door was opened and a jailer provided a trash bag to Splawn. The door was shut at 5:20 AM. At 5:25 AM, a jailer can be observed at the cell door (presumably logging activity).
 - D. At 6:43 AM, McPeters can be seen getting up and walking (slumped over) to the cell bathroom.
 - E. At 6:46 AM, Splawn can be seen getting up and walking to the bathroom to check on McPeters.
 - F. At 6:47 AM, Splawn was observed making a request for help.
 - G. At 6:48 AM, a female jailer entered the cell and walked to the bathroom.
 - H. At 6:49 AM, a male jailer was observed entering the cell and walked to the bathroom.
 - I. At 6:50 AM, McPeters was removed from the I-tank in a wheelchair. McPeters was not observed again in this cell. (It is presumed McPeters was transferred to another cell at this time)
- 9.3 On 08-29-2018, 12:00 PM, Investigator Fries provided a medical records subpoena for the Hood County Grand Jury (S9, P2). A review of the records (Doctor Steven Morse) is ongoing. The records only account for the timeframe between 06-11-2018 and 06-19-2018. Refer to Grand Jury Medical Records for details.
- 9.4 08-30-2018, Investigator Toby Fries provided crime scene photographs (dated 06-24-2018) of McPeters at the hospital and at the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office (06-25-2018). The photographs were provided on a DVD as evidence (S9, P3). For details, refer to crime scene photographs.

S10

10.1 On 09-27-2018, 9:29 AM, I was provided a letter written by Sergio Martinez-Corona, H/M, DOB: [REDACTED], a Hood County inmate (S9, P4). Based on a search of SSN#, it does not appear the inmate has a valid SSN. For details, refer to Sergio Martinez's letter. The letter alleges the following:

- A. Martinez was an "eyewitness" to the slow response of HCSO employees and commanding officers on the day of McPeters' death.

- B. Martinez can testify to what happened, who was present, and the time frame it took for McPeters to be taken to the hospital where she died.
- C. Martinez alleged Sheriff Deeds gave a false statement to the Granbury Press when he stated McPeters was "rushed to the hospital immediately."
- D. Martinez can testify to the lack of training and experience of most officers at HCSO jail.
- E. Martinez can testify to numerous civil rights violations.

10.2 On 09-27-2018, 10:06 AM, I was provided a second letter written by Sergio Martinez-Corona (S9, P5). For details, refer to Sergio Martinez's letter. The letter alleges the following:

- A. In addition to statements made in the first letter, Martinez alleged the health and safety conditions of the jail were very poor on the male and female sides.
- B. Martinez believed McPeters became ill and received an infection because of the conditions at the jail.
- C. Martinez stated he could describe the slow and false response from officers.
- D. Martinez alleged he could hear, during the night, a woman calling, asking for aid.
- E. Martinez stated he was a trustee in the hallway when a nurse checked in for her shift. Martinez was in charge of cleaning hallways, cells and bathrooms at the time between 7:00 AM and 3:00 PM.
- F. Martinez wrote the following about McPeters: "the young mother was placed in cell B-70 from 7:00 AM to a little past 7:40 AM when they wheelchair her out to the hospital."
- G. Martinez claimed he was present at the time McPeters was placed in Cell B-70 until the time she was taken to the hospital. Martinez stated it took officials 40 minutes to decide to rush McPeters to the hospital. Martinez also claimed even more time was spent waiting for the nurse to show up for her shift to call the doctor and get approval to take McPeters to the hospital.

S11

11.1 On 02-12-2019, 1:30 PM, I conducted an interview with Doctor Don Howser, W/M, DOB: [REDACTED], at the Lakeside Physicians Family, Obstetrics and Gynecology in Stephenville. The interview with Doctor Howser about Ruby McPeters' death was digitally recorded as evidence (S11, P1). Refer to the digital interview for details. Doctor Howser's statement follows:

- A. The pre-natal care and alleged "high risk pregnancy" situation involving Ruby McPeters had nothing to do with what ultimately led to her death.
- B. The first time Doctor Howser encountered McPeters was the day she died in the emergency room. On arrival, McPeters was already into "septic shock" with a high blood pressure, hypertension, high heart rate ranging from 150 to 40 beats per minute. For Doctor Howser, there was not a moment where McPeters "shock" was controlled for even a second; it was a rapid declining situation.
- C. Doctor Howser explained anytime someone young dies, it is a particularly emotional situation. Physicians often get stuck on things that may or may not have mattered, but ultimately McPeters died from sepsis, clostridium sordelli, which is rare and has a 100% mortality rate.
- D. According to Doctor Howser, this particular infection colonizes in the gastro-intestinal tract and because of that, can travel into the vagina. Doctor Howser further explained it is not uncommon for a woman to have post-partum endometritis, especially after a C-section. This ascending infection that goes from the vagina and into the uterus is serious infection but is generally controlled with antibiotics in the healthy population - sometimes, not always requiring ICU support.
- E. Doctor Howser had never seen a case of clostridium sordelli before and believed he would never see one again. Doctor Howser commented he was able to understand why McPeters' health rapidly declined in the emergency room after speaking to the pathologist about the cause of death - clostridium sordelli.
- F. Doctor Howser originally questioned when McPeters became sick, and when she began experiencing the sickness. Doctor Howser said, "It was obvious to me she had been sick for a while." In the emergency room, McPeters told Doctor Howser repeatedly, "I told them I was sick for two days and now I am going to die!"
- G. Observing McPeters' heart rate and pulse at the emergency room swing back and forth, Doctor Howser was not sure if McPeters might be correct about predicting her own death. Doctor Howser knew something "horrible and crazy" was occurring within McPeters. At the time, it was unknown clostridium sordelli was the reason McPeters

was in "big trouble."

- H. It was frustrating to hear McPeters was found unconscious on the ground and then made to walk to a car in order to get to the emergency room. After the passage of time and learning about the rare, 100% fatality rate associated with clostridium sordelli, Doctor Howser recognized the "reality is, it did not matter what anyone did." No one could have saved McPeters' life.
- I. Doctor Howser conducted research and found no survivors among those infected with clostridium sordelli. Even if McPeters had been brought into the emergency room two days earlier, Doctor Howser said, "The odds were not in her favor."
- J. Found in the research were a few children who caught clostridium sordelli for different reasons, obviously not through an immune compromised pregnancy, and they survived. No survivors were found in post-partum infection clostridium sordelli scenarios.
- K. McPeters' infection was incredibly rare and had a horrible outcome. Doctor Howser listed the following as definitive facts about McPeters: Post-partum endometritis, an isolate in her blood, clostridium sordelli and literature that says "rare and deadly."
- L. McPeters received the correct antibiotics at the emergency room and received them immediately upon entering the emergency room; however, no antibiotics would have reversed the situation even if McPeters was brought into the hospital the day before.
- M. Doctor Howser believed McPeters' statements at the ER when she claimed she had been sick, trying to get jail staff to take her to the doctor for days. Doctor Howser believed McPeters because she was on her death bed when making these statements and even inmates don't lie when they are dying.
- N. Doctor Howser rendered his opinion the sheriff's office made poor decisions concerning the care for McPeters, and suggested if the sheriff's office was blaming doctors for McPeters' death, they (sheriff's office) should be thankful doctors obtained the clostridium sordelli culture. This finding essentially saved the sheriff's office if this matter were litigated in court.
- O. Doctor Howser recommended reading the NHIC reports associated with clostridium sordelli.
- P. When told an investigator who attended McPeters' autopsy claimed her placenta was not "cleaned out," Doctor Howser explained pieces of the placenta left behind after a C-section would have no bearing on anything. Doctor Howser spoke about this being a

common occurrence.

- Q. It is unknown who can have or would have *Clostridium sordelli* in the vagina. It is unlikely McPeters' lifestyle would have anything to do with this particular gastrointestinal flora being in her vagina. The very unfortunate circumstance was this particular flora colonized into McPeters' vagina.
- R. As a result of McPeters' death, Doctor Howser now "preps vaginas" in all C-sections, thereby avoiding other flora (fatal flora like *Clostridium sordelli*) from entering/colonizing in the vagina. This is an easy procedure and according to Doctor Howser, is not routine in his profession.
- S. Doctor Morse did the pre-natal care and delivery for McPeters. Doctor Howser observed nothing unusual about the care she received from Doctor Morse.

S12

12.1 On 02-12-2019, 3:55 PM, I met with Autumn McPeters, W/F, DOB: [REDACTED], at my office in Granbury. Autumn was a biological sister to Ruby McPeters with a vested interest in the outcome of this criminal investigation. The conversation was digitally recorded as evidence (S12, P1). Refer to digital evidence for details.

12.2 I explained the autopsy report and Doctor Howser's explanation about Ruby McPeters' death. Autumn McPeters was complimentary of Doctor Howser and appeared to understand and trust all doctors' positions on the matter.

12.3 Autumn McPeters believed the sheriff's office may not have treated Ruby McPeters and/or other inmates with proper care and attention.

Note: Assurance was given a professional investigation was underway.

S13

13.1 This case file remains active. There are no new updates to provide at this time.

S14

14.1 On 11-06-2020, I met with DA Ryan Sinclair at my office in Granbury and provided him this case report for review (Supplements 1-12). Details of the entire investigation were discussed and whether any of the facts support a crime and if so, who can be charged, indicted and/or held responsible in the matter.

14.2 A follow up interview with Medical Examiner Doctor Susan Roe is pending.

S15 15.1 On 06-23-2021, I requested an interview with Tarrant County Medical Examiner Doctor Susan Roe to discuss this case. The meeting with Doctor Roe is pending.

S16 16.1 On 06-25-2021, I interviewed Tarrant County Medical Examiner Susan Roe about Ruby McPeters' death. Doctor Roe reviewed her autopsy report, and other notes prior to the interview. Doctor Roe concluded the following:

A. McPeters' infection was an irreversible condition based on literature and Doctor Howser's conclusion.

B. If not for the culture taken by Doctor Howser, the reason for McPeters' death might not have been determined.

C. Doctor Roe was not aware of the care given to McPeters while she was in custody, but stated she would defer to what Doctor Howser found, which is the disease/infection has a 100% mortality rate.

16.2 On 06-28-2021, I discussed the entire investigation again with DA Ryan Sinclair. Based upon the facts, there is no person criminally responsible for McPeters' death and therefore, no person to seek a grand jury indictment.

16.3 The scope of this investigation revealed various officials believed other officials may/may not be responsible for McPeters' death, but scientific methods employed by Doctor Howser ultimately showed her death was irreversible with a 100% mortality rate. I researched literature on this topic, Clostridium Sordelli, and found it is an uncommon fatal toxic shock syndrome with death within two to six days. Commercially, there is no available antitoxin for C. Sordelli.

16.4 File closed.

INVESTIGATION REQUESTED BY

Hood Co. Sheriff's Office
Granbury, Texas
76048

VICTIMS

S1 McPeters, Ruby Elizabeth - White/Female - [REDACTED]
Hair: Brown Eyes: Brown Weight: 180 Height: 5' 06"

SSN: [REDACTED] DL#: [REDACTED] lbs
[REDACTED] DL State: TX

WITNESSES

S3 Magana, Shelby Le Ann - White/Female - [REDACTED]
Cell: (254) 317-
3301

S4 Splawn, Tasha Michelle - White/Female - [REDACTED]

S5 Magana, Shelby Le Ann - White/Female - [REDACTED]

S6 Georgetta HUDSON - White/Female - [REDACTED]
Cell: (817) 894-
1072

S7 Hawari, Clara - White/Female - [REDACTED]

S10 Martinez-Corona, Sergio - Hispanic/Male - [REDACTED]

S11 HOWSER, Donald Marvin MD OBGYN - White/Male - [REDACTED]

S12 McPeters, Autumn - White/Female - [REDACTED]

INVOLVED LOCATIONS

S1 Hood County Sheriff's Office
400 Deputy Larry Miller Dr.
Granbury, TX 76048
Jail / Prison
Incident Location : McPeters, Ruby Elizabeth

OFFENSES

S1 QUESTIONABLE DEATH N/A N/A N/A
Hood County, TX, US
06/24/2018 (Sunday)
Victim: McPeters, Ruby

CHARGES

PERSONNEL**S1 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"**

Texas Dept of Public Safety
(254) 965-5928

S2 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

Texas Dept of Public Safety
(254) 965-5928

Investigator TD Elam, Criminal Investigations Division
HCSO

S3 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

Texas Dept of Public Safety
(254) 965-5928

S4 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

Texas Dept of Public Safety
(254) 965-5928

S5 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

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(254) 965-5928

S6 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

Texas Dept of Public Safety
(254) 965-5928

S7 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

Texas Dept of Public Safety
(254) 965-5928

S8 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

Texas Dept of Public Safety
(254) 965-5928

Doctor Susan Roe,
Tarrant County Medical Examiner

Lieutenant Johnny Rose, Criminal Investigations Division
HCSO

S9 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

Texas Dept of Public Safety
(254) 965-5928

S10 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

Texas Dept of Public Safety
(254) 965-5928

S11 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

Texas Dept of Public Safety
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S12 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

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S13 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

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S14 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

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S15 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

Texas Dept of Public Safety
(254) 965-5928

S16 Danny Briley, Texas Rangers "B"

Texas Dept of Public Safety
(254) 965-5928

EVIDENCE

S2.P1 Evidence: Written document (other)

Seizure Type: Consent

Seizure Date: 07/24/2018

Description: HCSO Documents - Booking, Medical, Correction
Reports, Autopsy & Court Reports

Seized From: HCSO

Address: , TX

By: Danny Briley

Disposition:

Status:	Requested/Authorized By:	Date/Time:
No Final Disposition Required		06/30/2021 1417

S4.P1 Evidence: Audio and/or Video recording (other)

Seizure Date: 06/29/2018

Description: Digital Interview of Tasha Splawn
Address: , TX
By: Danny Briley

Disposition:

Status:	Requested/Authorized By:	Date/Time:
No Final Disposition Required		06/30/2021 1417

S5.P1 Evidence: Audio and/or Video recording (other)
Seizure Date: 07/05/2018
Description: Digital Interview of Shelby Magana
Address: , TX
By: Danny Briley

Disposition:

Status:	Requested/Authorized By:	Date/Time:
No Final Disposition Required		06/30/2021 1417

S6.P1 Evidence: Audio and/or Video recording (other)
Seizure Date: 08/02/2018
Description: Digital Interview of Georgetta Hudson
Address: , TX
By: Danny Briley

Disposition:

Status:	Requested/Authorized By:	Date/Time:
No Final Disposition Required		06/30/2021 1417

S7.P1 Evidence: Audio and/or Video recording (other)
Seizure Date: 08/06/2018
Description: Digital Interview of Clara Hawari
Address: , TX
By: Danny Briley

Disposition:

Status:	Requested/Authorized By:	Date/Time:
No Final Disposition Required		06/30/2021 1417

S8.P1 Evidence: Witness Statement (written)
Seizure Date: 08/28/2018

Description: Tarrant County Medical Examiner Report
Address: , TX
By: Danny Briley

Disposition:

Status:	Requested/Authorized By:	Date/Time:
No Final Disposition Required		06/30/2021 1417

S9.P1 Evidence: Audio and/or Video recording (other)
Seizure Date: 08/29/2018
Description: DVD Video of McPeters and cell mate at HCSO Jail
Address: , TX
By: Danny Briley

Disposition:

Status:	Requested/Authorized By:	Date/Time:
No Final Disposition Required		06/30/2021 1417

S9.P2 Evidence: Written document (other)
Seizure Date: 08/29/2018
Description: Grand Jury Medical Records
Address: , TX
By: Danny Briley

Disposition:

Status:	Requested/Authorized By:	Date/Time:
No Final Disposition Required		06/30/2021 1417

S9.P3 Evidence: Photograph
Seizure Date: 06/24/2018
Description: Crime Scene Photographs (Hospital and Autopsy)
Address: , TX
By: Danny Briley

Disposition:

Status:	Requested/Authorized By:	Date/Time:
No Final Disposition Required		06/30/2021 1417

S11.P1 Evidence: Witness Statement Audio and/or Video recording
(statement)

Seizure Date: 02/12/2019

Description: Digital Interview of Doctor Donald Howser

Address: , TX

By: Danny Briley

Disposition:

Status:	Requested/Authorized By:	Date/Time:
No Final Disposition Required		06/30/2021 1417

S12.P1 Evidence: Witness Statement Audio and/or Video recording
(statement)

Seizure Date: 02/12/2019

Description: Digital Interview of Autumn McPeters

Address: , TX

By: Danny Briley

Disposition:

Status:	Requested/Authorized By:	Date/Time:
No Final Disposition Required		06/30/2021 1417

ATTACHMENT NAME(S)

END OF REPORT