

## **CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE**

### **TITLE 1. CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE**

#### **CHAPTER 49. INQUESTS UPON DEAD BODIES**

##### **Art. 49.18. DEATH IN CUSTODY.**

(a) If a person confined in a penal institution dies, the sheriff or other person in charge of the penal institution shall as soon as practicable inform the justice of the peace of the precinct where the penal institution is located of the death.

(b) If a person dies while in the custody of a peace officer or as a result of a peace officer's use of force or if a person incarcerated in a jail, correctional facility, or state juvenile facility dies, the director of the law enforcement agency of which the officer is a member or of the facility in which the person was incarcerated shall investigate the death and file a written report of the cause of death with the attorney general no later than the 30th day after the date on which the person in custody or the incarcerated person died. The director shall make a good faith effort to obtain all facts relevant to the death and include those facts in the report. The attorney general shall make the report, with the exception of any portion of the report that the attorney general determines is privileged, available to any interested person.

##### **Art. 49.25. MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

Sec. 1. OFFICE AUTHORIZED. Subject to the provisions of this article, the commissioners court of any county having a population of more than two million shall establish and maintain the office of medical examiner, and the commissioners court of any county may establish and provide for the maintenance of the office of medical examiner. Population shall be according to the last preceding federal census.