



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
Detainee Death Report: PHAN, Tien Xuan

General Demographic/Background Information

- **Date of Birth:** July 16, 1970
- **Date of Death:** July 19, 2025
- **Age:** 55
- **Gender:** Male
- **Country of Citizenship:** Vietnam

Immigration History

On August 27, 1990, the former Immigration and Naturalization Service admitted Mr. PHAN into the United States (U.S.) at San Francisco, California.

On December 14, 1999, Mr. PHAN's status was adjusted to a Lawful Permanent Resident.

On December 31, 2011, Mr. PHAN departed the United States at the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFWIA) in Grapevine, Texas.

On March 5, 2012, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) arrested Mr. PHAN at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport as he attempted to enter the United States as a returning lawful permanent resident, and served him with a Notice to Appear, Form I-862, pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act, due to a controlled substance conviction on June 23, 2006.

On March 6, 2012, USCBP transferred Mr. PHAN to ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) Dallas custody pending removal proceedings.

On April 2, 2012, an immigration judge in Dallas, Texas, ordered Mr. PHAN removed to Vietnam with no alternate removal country.

On July 2, 2012, ERO Dallas released Mr. PHAN on an Order of Supervision (OSUP), and scheduled him to report on August 14, 2012, to ERO San Antonio with evidence supporting his attempt to obtain a travel document to Vietnam.

On August 4, 2012, Mr. PHAN reported to ERO San Antonio without a travel document to Vietnam, nor evidence that he tried to obtain one as specified in the conditions of his OSUP. ERO San Antonio scheduled Mr. PHAN to report back on August 13, 2013, and continue attempts to obtain a travel document. ERO San Antonio re-scheduled Mr. PHAN several times to report as specified from 2013 to 2025, while he continued to reside in a non-detained setting.

On June 2, 2025, ERO San Antonio revoked Mr. PHAN's OSUP and detained him at Karnes County Immigration Processing Center (KCIPC) in Karnes City, Texas.



Criminal History

On June 23, 2006, the State of Alabama, 23rd Judicial Circuit Court in Madison County, in Huntsville, Alabama, convicted Mr. PHAN of possession of a controlled substance and sentenced him to 20 years confinement with a suspended sentence and 5 years of probation.

Synopsis of Events

On June 2, 2025, a licensed practical nurse (LPN) conducted Mr. PHAN's medical intake, noting a history of diabetes, possible hypertension, kidney stone removal (2012), and reportedly a prescription for an unknown diabetes medication. Mr. PHAN denied taking insulin or hypertension medication. Vital signs were normal, except for elevated blood pressure and high blood glucose. The LPN referred him to a provider and ordered twice-daily blood pressure checks.

On June 3, 2025, a physician assessed Mr. PHAN, documenting a normal physical exam, mental health screening, diabetic foot exam, and vital signs, except for elevated blood pressure. The physician noted poor diabetes and hypertension control, ordered a chest x-ray, an electrocardiogram (both normal), a diabetic diet, baseline lab work, twice-daily blood glucose checks, medications for diabetes and hypertension, and continued twice-daily blood pressure checks.

On June 4, 2025, Mr. PHAN received all his medication to keep in his possession for self-administration.

On June 11, 2025, an advanced practice provider (APP) evaluated Mr. PHAN during chronic care follow-up, reviewed lab results, and explained his elevated lipids, cholesterol, and Hgb A1C. Due to uncontrolled diabetes, high glucose levels, and kidney damage indicators in his urine, the APP recommended insulin, but Mr. PHAN refused daily injections. The APP encouraged Mr. PHAN's insulin use based on his high cardiovascular risk from hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and uncontrolled diabetes. The APP prescribed a cholesterol lowering medication to be administered via self-administration, ordered follow-up labs, and advised him to return if he reconsidered receiving insulin as recommended.

- **On the same date**, an LPN recorded Mr. PHAN's elevated blood glucose reading and received a physician's verbal order to administer a one-time dose of regular insulin and add glyburide, once daily, to his medications.

On June 20, 2025, an APP evaluated Mr. PHAN for a follow-up and noted his blood pressure was normal, but his blood glucose levels were elevated, and he continued to refuse insulin. The APP also noted Mr. PHAN did not take his morning medications correctly and ordered them to be administered under watch/take supervision via the pill line.

On July 18, 2025, at 5:25 a.m., a registered nurse (RN) responded to a medical emergency call in Mr. PHAN's cell, and found he had vomited, was unresponsive, and exhibiting seizure activity. Mr. PHAN was transferred to the medical clinic while he continued to vomit intermittently.

- **At 5:28 a.m.**, a physician ordered Mr. PHAN to be transferred to the emergency room by emergency medical services (EMS) for evaluation and treatment. The RN documented an



elevated heart rate, blood pressure, and blood glucose reading, and low oxygen saturation. The RN administered oxygen and positioned him on his right side until EMS arrived.

- **At 5:42 a.m.**, EMS personnel arrived at KCIPC and transported Mr. PHAN to Otto Kaiser Memorial Hospital (OKMH), in Kenedy, Texas, at 5:51 a.m.
- **At 10:01 a.m.**, OKMH medical staff reported Mr. PHAN was in critical condition, intubated and on a ventilator, had suffered a severe brain bleed, and would be airlifted to Methodist Hospital Northeast (MHN), in Live Oak, Texas.

On July 19, 2025, at approximately 12:00 p.m., MHN medical staff informed ERO San Antonio that Mr. PHAN's next of kin were at the hospital, and they requested withdrawal of all lifesaving measures/treatment and the implementation of hospice protocols.

- **At approximately 12:21 p.m.**, MHN medical staff informed ERO San Antonio that Mr. PHAN's family signed a do-not-resuscitate order.
- **At approximately 5:31 p.m.**, MHN medical staff withdrew life-preserving measures and pronounced Mr. PHAN deceased at 5:48 p.m.