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U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection  
(/)

# CBP Statement regarding the death of a U.S. Citizen

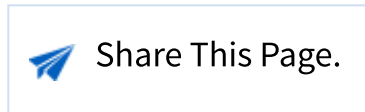
**Release Date:** February 5, 2020

**DEL RIO, Texas – U.S. Border Patrol** (<https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders>) agents assigned to the Brackettville Station arrested United States citizen James Paul Markowitz, 32, at 3:30 p.m., Feb. 4, after he was identified as a suspect in an alien smuggling case. During processing at the Brackettville Station Markowitz began exhibiting signs of distress and was administered first aid by EMT certified Border Patrol agents, and transferred by ambulance to a local hospital. He was pronounced deceased by medical personnel at 9:37 p.m.

*U.S. Customs and Border Protection is the unified border agency within the Department of Homeland Security charged with the management, control and protection of our nation's borders at and between official ports of entry. CBP is charged with securing the borders of the United States while enforcing hundreds of laws and facilitating lawful trade and travel.*

**Last modified:** February 5, 2020

**Tags:** U.S. Border Patrol



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U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection  
(/)

# Statement on Death in Custody

**Release Date:** February 5, 2020

U.S. Border Patrol agents assigned to the Brackettville Station arrested a 32-year-old male United States citizen Tuesday at 3:30 p.m., CST, after he was identified as a suspect in an alien smuggling incident. At around 6 p.m., during processing at the Brackettville Station, the man began exhibiting signs of distress and EMT-certified agents immediately administered first aid and then contacted Emergency Medical Services as his health deteriorated. At around 6:40 p.m., EMS arrived and transported the subject by ambulance to a local hospital. He was pronounced deceased by medical personnel at 9:37 p.m.

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