Harris County Medical Examiner Report

The following information was received from the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences on March 23, 2026.

CANDID ID: TX_25_5077

Case Number: ML25-4654

Decedent Name: Jerid Michael Stefka

Date of Birth: 12/3/2025

Date of Death: 12/4/2025

Age: 1 day

Gender: Male

Cause of Death: Hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy due to prolonged vaginal breech delivery and combined effects of methamphetamine and fentanyl toxicity

Manner of Death: Accident

Synopsis: Hospital death of a WM neonate delivered at 37 weeks and 1/7 days vaginally in an ambulance and pronounced deceased ~17.5 hours after delivery. Decedent's mother tested positive for GBS, fentanyl, and amphetamines. CPS notified by hospital due to maternal drug use.