

Ex-San Antonio officer indicted for firing at juveniles

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A former San Antonio police officer has been indicted for firing at fleeing juvenile suspected of trying to open car doors, officials said Friday.

A Bexar County grand jury indicted Oscar Cruz Jr. on Wednesday on a count of deadly conduct with a firearm, the district attorney's office said in a statement. The third-degree felony is punishable by two to 10 years in

prison and a fine of up to \$10,000.

Cruz had been suspended indefinitely after the March 2020 incident. In response to a call of juveniles pulling on vehicle door handles, Cruz tried to detain a suspect who

eluded capture.

Cruz chased the youth on foot when another juvenile threw a rock that hit him in the face. Cruz fired two shots at the fleeing youths, missing them.

Cruz, 27, was arrested Thursday and released on a \$5,000 bond. Jail records list no attorney for the former officer, and no published telephone number for Cruz could be found.

Texas Briefly

Police find 2 adults, 2 children dead in North Texas home

GRANBURY (AP) — Police making a welfare check in a small North Texas town found the bodies of two adults and two children in their house, officials said Friday.

In a statement, Granbury police said officers made the welfare check Thursday afternoon. All four people were fatally shot and po-

lice suspect they died in a murder-suicide. Police identified them as Marcus Buchanan, 36; Rita Buchanan, 34; and two girls, ages 13 and 3 months.

Investigators haven't said how the four were related or who they suspect caused the deaths, but they said there was no evidence that anyone else was involved.

Granbury is a city of about 11,000 residents about 35 miles southwest of Fort Worth.

SPELCE FROM PG. 1A

spots around the world to tell these leaders that we've got a new administration in Washington."

Spelce spoke of his time during the trip where he visited Vietnam and India as a member of the press corp.

During Spelce's career, he covered presidents from Harry Truman to George W. Bush. His book highlights his experiences with LBJ and other moments from his career in journalism. Spelce worked a 60-year career in various fields, including radio, television, journalism, marketing, advertising, public relations, broadcast program syndication, public speaking and consulting. He served as Senior Advisor to U.S. Sen. John McCain during his 2008 presidential campaign. Additionally, Spelce served as a communications consultant to Texas Gov. Ann Richards

and New York Gov. Mario Cuomo.

During Wednesday's event, Spelce discussed his final time seeing LBJ before his death on Jan. 22, 1973.

"Last time I had spoke to him, at the LBJ Library, it was open and he wanted to have a symposium that was a part of the library's functions and we had a civil rights symposium and it had every major civil rights leader in the country," Spelce said. "It was a very tense time — very tense. Emotions were raw."

"So [LBJ] went out and at the end of the symposium, he was chatting with the crowd when a young man stood up and yelled at him and started walking toward the podium ... So, the young man spoke and said something, it was accusatory. It wasn't a 'hey, you're a great guy.' It was a speech he had written and LBJ stood there and listened. He took a nitro-

glycerin pill and put it under his tongue because he was having heart palpitations at that time ... I don't remember [LBJ's] words exactly: 'If we have the courage, if we have the strength, if we have the will and we work together and we try to conquer diversity ... We shall overcome.' He died the next month."

In closing his discussion, Spelce said the LBJ Museum is a "wonderful tribute" to the former president.

"He was a good man who believed fervently in his core values and what he felt was important," Spelce said. "And, he persevered through so much and some of it had to be part of his upbringing here in the heart of Texas."

"Be sure and continue the good work because LBJ is going to be recognized more and more as the years go by," Spelce added. "He was a very, very consequential

president ... His impact on this country is more recently being recognized after we get past the immediacy of his presidency and you look back at what happened and how it happened and what was going on at the time and he just moved right through all of that."

Following Spelce's lecture, LBJ Museum Board of Directors President Wayne Kraemer thanked him for speaking during Wednesday's event.

"Thank you for this conversation and this wonderful insight," Kraemer said. "You can read all the books, you can see all the documentaries but to hear these stories from somebody who experienced them ... thank you very much."

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COVID-19 FROM PG. 3A

ed fatalities since the pandemic's onset.

The local health department has received 355,945 negative tests and there have been 48,445 tests administered in the county. The positivity rate for Friday's report was approximately 9.31%

As the pandemic continues, the local health department stresses the importance of taking precautions to limit the spread, including frequent hand washing, social distancing and wearing a mask indoors around large groups of people. The local health department now accepts at-home COVID-19 test results to be uploaded online at <https://arcg.is/1G4P1r>. The county said all information remains confidential and no identifying information is collected. Additionally, at-home test results reported won't be included in the official case count but will provide "a better understanding of community spread," the county added.

San Marcos has 461 active cases — 42 fewer than recorded Wednesday — and there have been 16,684 total cases as of Friday.

Kyle has recorded 17,240 total cases, including 850 active cases. Buda has tallied 10,166 total cases and currently has 462 active cases. Wimberly has counted 2,908 total cases, including 85 active cases. Dripping Springs has amassed 2,421 total cases and has 250 active cases. Austin, within Hays County, has had 1,477 total cases and has 87 active cases. Driftwood has recorded 754 total cases with 34 cases considered active. Niederwald has had 244 total cases including 13 active cases. Maxwell has had 220 total cases. Mountain City has amassed 133 total cases and has seven ac-

tive cases. Uhland has had 125 total cases with seven considered active. Manchaca has recorded 96 total cases and 14 active cases. Woodcreek has recorded 18 total cases with one currently active case

Bear Creek has amassed nine total cases with one active case. Hays has reported four total cases. Creedmoor has recorded one total case.

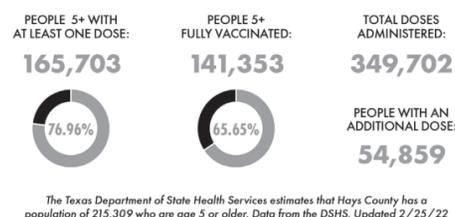
The 20-29-age-range has recorded the most COVID-19 cases with 12,651 total cases tallied as of Friday. There are currently 378 active cases among 20-29 year olds in Hays County.

According to the local health department, 8,579 county residents who've contracted COVID-19 have been between 10-19 years old, including 381 cases considered active; 8,547 county residents diagnosed with the disease are between 30-39 years old with 315 with active cases; 7,281 people fall in the 40-49-year-old age range with 315 cases considered active; 4,861 are between 50-59 years old, including 230 active cases; 5,066 are 9 years old or younger with 409 cases considered active; and 3,218 county residents diagnosed with the coronavirus are 60-69 years old and 141 are considered active cases.

The local health department has tallied 1,571 Hays County residents who are 70-79 years old and have contracted COVID-19, including 72 active cases; and 726 cases among residents who are 80 and older with 31 cases currently active.

There have been 28,214 total coronavirus cases among females and 24,286 among males in Hays County. There are currently 1,256 active cases among females in the county and 1,016 ac-

HAYS COUNTY VACCINATION NUMBERS



The Texas Department of State Health Services estimates that Hays County has a population of 215,309 who are age 5 or older. Data from the DSHS. Updated 2/25/22

Daily Record infographic by Colton Ashabranmer

tive cases among males.

The county's ethnic breakdown stated 47% of county residents diagnosed with the coronavirus are Hispanic, while 38% of county residents diagnosed with the disease are non-Hispanic and 15% don't have a specified ethnicity.

By race, 67.5% of county residents who've had COVID-19 are white, 20.5% are unknown or not specified, 6.5% are listed as other, 3.6% are Black, 1.5% are Asian and 0.3% are American Indian.

The Texas Department of State Health Services reported an additional 4,693 lab-confirmed cases Friday. There have now been 5,426,396 Texans diagnosed with COVID-19 and 83,271 fatalities as of Friday. There are currently 4,211 Texans hospitalized by the coronavirus, according to the DSHS. The statewide positivity rate as of Friday is 6.89%.

At Texas State University there have been 4313 coronavirus cases recorded since Aug. 1, 2021 — 3,609 among students and 704 among faculty and staff — at the time of publication. There are currently 114 active cases, according to the university's dashboard.

VACCINE AVAILABILITY

In Hays County, "no appointment needed" vaccine clinics are avail-

able. Vaccines usually offered Monday-Friday at Christus Trinity Clinic (formerly Live Oak), 401 Broadway won't be available until further notice, according to the Hays County Local Health Department. A walk-in Pfizer vaccine clinic takes place at Communicare in Kyle at 2810 Dacy Lane every Monday-Friday between 8-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.

COVID-19 vaccines are widely available in San Marcos at multiple CVS pharmacies, multiple Walgreens pharmacies, both H-E-B pharmacies, B&J Pharmacy, San Marcos Family Medicine and Sam's Club Pharmacy. Visit <https://www.vaccines.gov> to see other locations across the county. Check with each location to see if an appointment is required or if walk-in is accepted.

According to the DSHS, 141,353 county residents are considered fully vaccinated — 65.65% of 215,309 eligible residents who are 5 years or older as of Friday. The DSHS stated that 165,703 Hays County residents have received at least one COVID-19 vaccination dose — 76.96% of eligible residents. Additionally, the DSHS stated that 54,859 Hays County citizens have received an additional vaccine dose as of Friday.

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Aquifer & Spring Flow conditions		
Area Index	Daily Readings	10-day Average
Bexar	662.6 msl	664.1 msl
Uvalde	860 msl	860.1 msl
Comal Springs	281 cfs	292 cfs
San Marcos Springs	174 cfs	179 cfs

Readings from February 26
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