



# SHREVEPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

1234 TEXAS AVENUE • SHREVEPORT, LA • 71101 • 318-673-7300

CHIEF WAYNE E. SMITH

SHREVEPORTPDPIO@SHREVEPORTLA.GOV

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

4/22/25

## Preliminary Investigation of In-Custody Death

On April 21, 2025, at approximately 3:20 p.m., Shreveport Police officers responded to a suspected theft complaint from Lowe's, located at 7301 Youree Drive. Upon arrival, officers made contact with the white male suspect, identified as Thomas Cockman. As officers approached him, Cockman fled on foot but was quickly apprehended.

Following his arrest, Cockman complained of difficulty breathing. The Shreveport Fire Department was immediately called to the scene. He was transported to a local hospital as a precautionary measure based on their assessment.

Cockman was cited for one count of theft and one count of resisting an officer. He was released to the custody of the hospital, where he was expected to recover.

Tragically, Cockman passed away this morning. The cause of death remains undetermined at this time. In accordance with protocol and to ensure transparency, this case has been turned over to the Louisiana State Police for an independent investigation.

The Shreveport Police Department is committed to full cooperation with the investigation and remains dedicated to upholding accountability and public trust.