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AUTOPSY PROTOCOL

Orleans Parish Coroner's Office

NO. KAT-I-0013-05

DEMORT NO: 05-00052

Name: UNKNOWN (later identified as LAWRENCE, Willie, 47 B/M)

Age:

Color: Black

Sex: Male

Date & Time of Death:

Not stated

Date & Time of Autopsy:

9/14/04 at 1105 hours

DIAGNOSES

1. One (1) intra-oral gunshot wound with cranio-facial injury (2 fragments of lead and copper jacket recovered)
2. Identifying tattoos present
3. Advanced decomposition with maggot infestation

Classification of Death: _____

**NEW ORLEANS
FORENSIC CENTER**

FRANK MINYARD, M.D.
Coroner

True Copy

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Exploration of the wound track reveals extensive facial bony fractures above the level of the hard palate with fractures radiating into the right anterior and middle cranial fossa.

Inspection of the brain reveals decomposition to have reduced it to a porridge-like consistency and, after removal of the contents within the cranial vault, the brain is approximately 200 grams.

Inspection of the decomposed brain reveals two small fragments of lead and a copper jacket, all of which are recovered, placed in an evidence envelope and sealed with evidence tape.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body and head are opened in the usual autopsy fashion.

Body Cavities: Upon opening the thoracic cavities, the lungs appear markedly atelectatic and the pleural spaces are dry and devoid of adhesions. Upon opening the pericardial sac, it is found to be devoid of fluid and no adhesions are present. Upon opening the abdominal cavity, all abdominal organs appear present in their normal anatomic locations and the abdominal cavity is dry.

ORGAN DESCRIPTIONS

HEART: The heart is approximately 150 grams. Its external surface is dull. Transverse and longitudinal dissection of the coronary artery system reveals a normal distribution with no evidence of coronary atherosclerosis. On opening the heart the myocardium is softened in consistency secondary to postmortem decomposition and the valve surfaces are dull and opaque. All chambers appear to be of normal configuration.

LUNGS: The right lung is approximately 130 grams and the left lung is 120 grams. Their pleural surfaces are dull and subpleural anthracotic pigment deposits are visible. Longitudinal dissection of through the tracheobronchial tree reveals sloughing darkened bronchial mucosa. The pulmonary artery system is without unusual features. Cut section through each specimen reveals gray-black atelectatic parenchyma that is devoid of areas of pulmonary nodularity.

KIDNEYS: The right kidney is 80 grams and the left kidney is 90 grams. Their capsules are stripped with ease bilaterally revealing smooth and glistening underlying cortical surfaces. On cut section, both cortex and medullary areas are of normal thickness and configuration. Their

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parenchyma are markedly softened in consistency. The pelvis and ureters show no evidence of dilatation or other abnormality.

LIVER: The liver is approximately 760 grams. Its anterior margin is sharp and its capsule dull. The parenchyma is a markedly softened, uniform, homogeneous rusty brown with classic "Swiss cheese" type changes secondary to postmortem decomposition. The gallbladder is present and devoid of bile.

SPLEEN: The spleen is approximately 50 grams. Its capsule is gray-white and dull. On cut section the parenchyma is a markedly softened, slightly runny, dark maroon with no distinction between red and white pulp.

GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM: The esophagus is empty and shows a normal-appearing mucosal surface and wall thickness with extensive mucosal sloughing. Examination of the stomach reveals it to be devoid of partially digested food stuffs and there are wide areas of mucosal sloughing as well as marbling and thinning of the gastric walls. Examination of the small and large intestine are without unusual features except for a scant amount of postmortem gaseous dilatation secondary to decomposition and their serosal surfaces are dull and discolored a light green secondary to postmortem decomposition. The appendix is present.

PANCREAS: The pancreas lies in its normal retroperitoneal location and, on cut section, shows a markedly softened yellowish-white parenchyma.

ADRENALS: Each adrenal is approximately 3.5 grams. They show normal external surfaces however, cut surfaces reveal extensive autolytic change.

GENITOURINARY: The bladder is devoid of urine. The bladder wall appears normal. The prostate is uniform and markedly softened to palpation.

HEAD AND BRAIN: See "Evidence of Injury".

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM: The skeletal system is grossly intact except for disarticulation of the mandible and the bony injury to the cranio-facial region secondary to an intra-oral gunshot wound. The muscles are slightly discolored and softened in consistency secondary to postmortem decomposition.

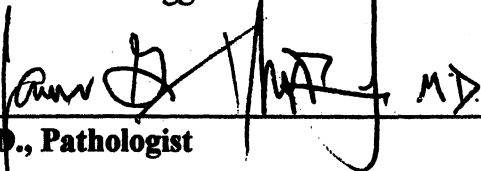
SPECIMENS FOR TOXICOLOGIC EVALUATION: Representative sections of each organ preserved in 10% buffered formalin solution are retained.

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PROVISIONAL ANATOMICAL DIAGNOSES:

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James G. Traylor, Jr., M.D., Pathologist

Date Signed: 11/13/2005

10/11/05 cg