

**COPY**



**OFFICE OF THE  
JACKSON COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER**

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Deputy Medical Examiner  
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Deputy Medical Examiner

**REPORT OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER**

Name.....Jovan Henry Allen Belcher

Number.....12-02088

Age, Race, Sex.....25 Years Black Male


Procedure..... External Examination

Date and Time.....12/02/2012

=====  
Cause of Death:                      Contact self inflicted gunshot wound to head  
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Manner:                                  Suicide  
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Examination performed by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
B. Robert Pietak, M.D.  
Deputy Medical Examiner

12/13/12  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date signed

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## PERSONS PRESENT AT EXAMINATION

Investigators Alex Verdoorn and Michael Henderson.

## PATHOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS

- I. **Gunshot wound to head, perforating:**
  - A. Entrance: Right temple. The wound is surrounded by soot deposition which continues into the subcutaneous tissue.
  - B. Wound path: Right to left, upward, and slightly backward.
  - C. Exit: Left lateral head.

## CAUSE OF DEATH

Contact self inflicted gunshot wound to head.

## MANNER OF DEATH

Suicide.

## CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH

The subject is a 25-year-old male who, according to Officer Harris, KCPD officers were dispatched at 0802 hours on 12/1/2012 to the parking lot of the Kansas City Chiefs practice field on a suspicious party that was armed. Officer Harris stated that when he arrived on the scene at 0809 hours, the suspicious party was sitting inside his vehicle and was identified as the subject Jovan Belcher. According to Officer Harris, the subject exited his vehicle with a gun in his right hand pressed against his right temple. The subject then went and spoke with general manager Scott Pioli and head football coach Romeo Crennel, and according to Officer Harris, thanked them for the opportunity to play for the Chiefs. He then walked behind a minivan that was parked in the parking lot, kneeled down to the ground, and pulled the trigger at 0811 hours on 12/1/2012. Officers responded immediately and EMS transported the subject to Research Medical Center where he arrived at 0842 hours on 12/1/2012. He was intubated on the way to the hospital and was rushed to the emergency room at Research. He was pronounced shortly after arrival at 0852 hours by Dr. Terry Lienhop.

## CLOTHING

The body is received clad accompanied by: *See Property Inventory List.*

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## **EXTERNAL EXAMINATION**

The body is that of a well-developed, well-nourished adult male appearing consistent with the stated age of 25 years. The body measures 75 inches in height and weighs 250 pounds.

The unembalmed body is cool to touch. Rigor mortis is present. Livor mortis cannot be ascertained. The scalp hair is black. The irides are brown. The corneas are translucent. The sclerae and conjunctivae are unremarkable. The nose and ears are not unusual. The teeth are natural. There are no masses discernable in the neck and the larynx is in the midline. The thorax is symmetrical and unremarkable. The abdomen is flat. The external genitalia are those of a normal adult male. The upper and lower extremities and back show no significant deformities or other abnormalities. Identifying marks and scars include multiple scars on the left anterior lower leg ranging in size from ½ to 3 ½ inches in maximum dimension. Multiple scars are also present on the right lower leg extending from the knee downward ranging in size from ½ to 1 inch in maximum dimension. There is a 3 inch scar on the inner aspect of the right forearm. Multiple scars are present on the back of the right hand ranging in size from ¼ to 3/8 inch in maximum dimension. Multiple scars are also present on the back of the left hand ranging in size from ½ to 1 ½ inches in greatest dimension. There is a 2 inch scar present on the left buttock. A 1 inch scar is present on the left upper back. A ½ inch scar is on the medial aspect of the left upper back. Both ears are pierced and the left eyebrow also has a piercing. Multiple tattoos are present on the upper extremities, as well as the right lateral torso and left lateral torso. There is also a continuous tattoo extending from the right upper arm, across the upper chest, below the neck, and around the upper back. There is also a tattoo on the left upper chest.

## **MEDICAL INTERVENTION**

Evidence of medical intervention includes a cervical collar, an endotracheal tube inserted through the oral cavity, ECG pads present bilaterally on the upper extremities, upper chest, bilateral lower torso, and bilateral lower extremities.

## **EVIDENCE OF INJURY**

### **HEAD AND NECK**

Gunshot wound to head, perforating:

Entrance: Right temple, measuring 1 x ¾ inch with a ¼ inch laceration extending inferiorly. It is located 4 inches from the top of the head. The wound is surrounded by soot deposition which continues into the subcutaneous tissue.

Wound path: Right to left, upward, and slightly backward.

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Exit: Left lateral head, measuring  $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch and located  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches from the top of the head. Radiological evidence shows multiple calvarial fractures with no evidence of a metallic projectile.

**THORAX AND ABDOMEN**

None.

**UPPER EXTREMITIES**

There is a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch laceration on the back of the right hand medial aspect above the right index finger. There is also a  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch laceration on the back of the right hand on the lateral aspect above the 4<sup>th</sup> finger, additionally there is a  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch laceration on the lateral aspect of the right 5<sup>th</sup> finger.

**LOWER EXTREMITIES**

None.

**EVIDENCE**

The following items are collected and preserved: Fingerprints and a blood spot card for DNA.

**OPINION**

In my opinion, Jovan Henry Allen Belcher died as a result of a contact self inflicted gunshot wound to head.

The manner of death is suicide.

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**TOXICOLOGY REPORT:**

**Children's Mercy Hospital:**

**Autopsy Drug Panel-Femoral Blood:**  
Negative.

**Volatile Panel-Vitreous:**

Methanol - < 5 mg/dL  
Acetone - < 5 mg/dL  
Ethanol - 179 mg/dL  
Isopropanol - < 5 mg/dL

**Volatile Panel-Blood:**

Methanol - < 5 mg/dL  
Acetone - < 5 mg/dL  
Ethanol - 170 mg/dL  
Isopropanol - < 5 mg/dL

BRP:acs