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KRISTY MCCRACKEN

491917

APPENDIX INVESTIGATOR

DATE

REVIEWED BY

12/1/2013

JOSEPH BALE

12/2/2013

TIME

14/33

FORM #3 NARRATIVE TO FOLLOW? 🗸



County of Los Angeles, Department of Coroner Investigator's Narrative



Case Number: 2013-08210 Decedent: DOE #239, JOHN

Information Sources:

(1) Los Angeles Sheriff's Department-Santa Clarita
Deputy Kelly #404532 Report #013-16236-0645-470

(661)255-1121

Investigation:

On Saturday 11/30/2013 at 1801 hours, Officer Castillo from the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department-Homicide called the Los Angeles County Medical Examiner Coroner's Office to report an accidental death of 2 males, unknown age and race, that were involved in a traffic collision. I assigned this case # to the driver, and the coroner's case # for the other decedent, the passenger, is 2013-08211. On Saturday 11/30/2013 at 1840 hours, I assigned both cases to me. I arrived on-scene at 1950 hours and I cleared the scene at 2145 hours. There are no charges pending and there are no signs of foul play.

Location:

The traffic collision occurred and the decedent died on Hercules Street, West of Constitution, Santa Clarita CA, 91355.

Informant/Witness Statements:

The following information is preliminary pending further investigation by the handling law enforcement agency.

I spoke with Deputy Kelly at the scene, and he told me the following:

On Saturday 11/30/2013 at approximately 1525 hours, the driver was driving a red Porsche Carrera GT with California license plate #7CCY590 at an unsafe speed, approximately 100+ mph, in the #1 eastbound lane on Hercules Street approaching Constitution. For unknown reasons, the driver lost control of his vehicle, and the vehicle partially spun around, and began traveling in a southeast direction. The vehicle then struck a curb, and the driver's side of the vehicle struck a tree and then a light post. The force of those collisions caused the vehicle to spin 180 degrees and continue in an easterly direction. The passenger side of the vehicle then struck another tree and burst into flames. 911 was called at 1531 hours and Firefighters from the Los Angeles County Fire Department arrived on-scene. On Saturday 11/30/2013 at 1538 hours, Captain Hitchcock from ENG156 determined death for both the driver and the front passenger. There are no charges pending.

Scene Description:

The traffic collision occurred on Hercules Street, west of Constitution in Santa Clarita. Hercules Street is a major thoroughfare that runs east and west through an industrial area. There are 2 lanes of travel in each direction, and a center lane separating the eastbound lanes from the westbound lanes. The north side was bordered by a bicycle lane, then a sidewalk, and then a brush and tree covered embankment leading up to a parking lot for businesses. The south side was bordered by a bicycle lane, then a brush and tree covered embankment leading down to a parking lot for businesses. Hercules Street had a slight curve west of where the traffic collision occurred with a slight incline. It was dry and well lit with natural sun light at the time of the traffic collision. There were curved skid marks leading from the #1 eastbound lane into the #2 eastbound lane onto the south side embankment. There were multiple miscellaneous pieces of vehicle debris across all 4 lanes and into the parking lot on the south side of Hercules Street.

Located on the top of the south side embankment was sheared off cement light pole. Located south of the central portion of the downed light pole was a broken tree. Located a few feet east of the end of the sheared light pole was the red Porsche Carrera GT with California license plate #7CCY590. The vehicle was located on all 4 of its wheels with the front of the vehicle facing

AHM



County of Los Angeles, Department of Coroner Investigator's Narrative



Case Number: 2013-08210 Decedent: DOE #239, JOHN

east and the rear of the vehicle facing south. Part of the passenger side was resting against another broken tree. The vehicle was totaled with major traffic collision damage all around, and it appeared that the vehicle was almost split in half. The majority of the vehicle was also charred. The decedent was located lying supine in the driver's seat.

Evidence:

I did not collect any evidence regarding this case. The red Porsche Carrera GT with California license plate #7CCY590 was towed by Wolf's Towing located at 26855 Ruether Avenue, Santa Clarita CA, 91351 with a phone # of (661)259-7676.

Body Examination:

The decedent is a Hispanic male, approximately 38 years old with an unknown hair color and length, unknown eye color, and it is unknown if he had any facial hair. He has all of his upper and lower natural teeth. No scars or tattoos were noted. The decedent was wearing remnants of a black T-shirt, a pair of blue jeans with a black belt, a pair of black underwear, a pair of black socks, and a pair of black and turquoise sneakers. The decedent was located lying supine in the driver's seat. The top of his head was facing west. His right arm was bent at the elbow with his right hand in the air above his right armpit. His left arm was bent at the elbow with his left hand in the air, parallel with the upper left side of his torso. Both of his legs were bent at the knees with his right foot on one of the pedals and his left foot was on the driver's floorboard. I was unable to see which direction they were pointing. The decedent was charred and in a pugilistic stance. The decedent sustained major head trauma with the top portion of his skull fractured and his brain exposed. The decedent's jaw was also fractured and one of his front teeth was missing. Rigor mortis and lividity were not observed.

Identification:

The decedent cannot be positively identified visually. The decedent is probably Roger Rodas with a DOB of 10/31/1975. Please see case notes for further information.

Next of Kin Notification:

On Saturday 11/30/2013 at an unknown time, the decedent's wife was tentatively notified of her husband's death. When I spoke with so, the decedent's father-in-law, over the phone, he confirmed this information. I have not spoken with at the time of completion of this report.

Tissue Donation:

Due to the extent of the injuries, the decedent is not viable candidate for tissue donation.

Exam Notification:

There are no exam notifications regarding this case.

KRIŞTY MCCRACKEN #491917

SUPERVISOR

Date of Report

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT - FIELD

DEPARTMENT OF CORONER

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AUTOPSY REPORT

ADULT FORM PROTOCOL

I performed an autopsy on the body of



2013-	-0821()
DOE,	JOHN	239

No.

the DEPARTMENT OF CORONER

Los Angeles, California	on	December 3	3, 2013 @	0830 Hours

From the anatomic findings and pertinent history I ascribe the death to:

(A) MULTIPLE TRAUMATIC INJURIES

DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

(C)

DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

(11)

OTHER CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING BUT NOT RELATED TO THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH

Anatomic Summary:

As listed below

This is a 38 years old male who was discovered lying supine position in the driver's seat after loss of control of the vehicle, struck sidewalk, tree, light post, and burst into flames.

- I. Evidence of multiple blunt traumatic injuries.
 - A. Blunt force head and neck traumatic injuries.
 - 1. Calvarium fractures, open and comminuted.
 - 2. Type I hinge fracture of base of skull.
 - 3. Atlanto-occipital dislocation fracture.
 - 4. Brain laceration, right, severe with outside exposure through skull fracture.
 - 5. Brain stem lacerations, severe.
 - 6. Traumatic brain swelling and hernia.
 - 7. Subarachnoid hemorrhage.
 - 8. Mandible fracture.
 - B. Flail chest due to blunt force trauma.
 - 1. Fractures of left first to sixth ribs in multiple locations.
 - 2. Ninth rib fracture, posterior, right.
 - 3. Lung lacerations and contusions.
 - 4. Hemothorax and mediastinal shift from left to right.

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AUTOPSY REPORT

No.

2013-08210 DOE, JOHN 239

- C. Pelvis fractures, multiple.
- II. Evidence of thermal burns.
 - A. Total body surface area burns 100%. 4th degree.
 - B. Carbon Monoxide less than 10% saturation in the heart blood.
 - C. Charring of entire body with full thickness skin burns deep into muscle soft tissue, and bones.
 - D. Fire associated contractures of extremities with bone and joint fractures.
 - E. Skin splitting.
 - F. Complete absent of scalp and hair due to fire.
 - G. Completely charred skin loss of chest and neck.
 - H. Livor mortis was present in the posterior.
 - I. There is no artifactual epidural hemorrhage.
- III. Internal examination.
 - A. 310 grams heart and intact aorta.
 - B. Airway is patent without laryngeal edema.
 - C. No soot in airway.
 - D. Laceration and contusion of lungs by multiple rib fractures.
 - E. 320 ml of tan food and fragments of meat in the stomach lumen.
- IV. See separate toxicology report.

DESCRIPTION OF THERMAL BURNS and TRAUMA:

Fourth degree burn is involving entire body. Skin loss is present on head, neck, chest and upper extremities leading to soft tissue, muscle and bone exposure due to fire. Extremities show fire associated contractures and joint fractures. Soot is absent in the airway and the decedent rapidly died of severe blunt head, neck and chest trauma.

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No.

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Page 3

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

The body is that of a well developed and nourished male who appears the stated age of 38 years. The charred body weighs 164 pounds and measures 63 inches in length. The body is identified by toe tags. Tattoos are not present. Skin is charred and lost by fire on most parts.

The head is opened widely due to fractures. The scalp completely burnt by fire. Exposure of brain and dura mater is noted. The color of the eye could not be identified due to the degree of burn. The sclera and conjunctivae show no petechial hemorrhages. The oral and nasal passages are unobstructed. Soot is not present. The decedent's dentition is his own and one of the upper central incisor tooth is missing. Examination of the buccal mucosa exhibits no contusions or lacerations. No fluid emanates from either external autitory meatus. The neck exhibits muscle and soft tissue exposure by burns and is abnormally hypermobile. The head and neck show severe blunt force trauma and fourth degree thermal burns. There is flail chest by rib fractures. The abdomen is unremarkable. There are fourth degree thermal burns in extremities, leading to flexion contractures. The external genitalia are those of an adult male and it shows thermal burns. Examination of the back and buttocks reveals no external signs of trauma except thermal burns and charring. The back exhibits fixed dependent lividity. Examination of the anus reveals no laceration, abrasion or eversion of the pectinate line. Rigor mortis is present.

INITIAL INCISION:

The chest and abdominal walls show evidence of recent blunt force injury and thermal burns. The right and left pleural cavities contain 100 ml each of blood due to rib fractures. There is left to right mediastinal shift due to left chest wall blunt injury and multiple rib fractures. The pulmonary arterial trunk exhibits no saddle emboli. The organs of the abdominal cavity have a normal arrangement. There is no evidence of peritonitis, or neoplasm involving the abdominal cavity, contents or peritoneal linings.

AUTOPSY REPORT

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CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:

The heart weighs 310 grams. The thoracic and abdominal aorta show mild atherosclerotic involvement and no lacerations. The pericardial sac contains small amount of serous fluid. There is no epicarditis. The endocardium is smooth and glistening, and the valves are thin and delicate. There is no vegetation on valves. The circumferences of the cardiac valves are as follows: Tricuspid valve 12.0 cm, pulmonic valve 7 cm, mitral valve 11 cm, and aortic valve 7 cm. The chordae tendineae are thin. The mitral papillary muscles are well-developed. No cardiovascular congenital anomalies are noted at autopsy. The right ventricular wall measures 0.3 cm in thickness; the left ventricular wall measures 1.4 cm in thickness; and the interventricular septum measures 1.3 cm in thickness. The myocardium is red-brown without fibrosis in the gross. The left and right coronary arteries are patent without thrombosis. The coronary artery ostia emanate from their normal anatomic positions on the aorta.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

The right lung weighs 490 grams, and the left lung weighs 425 grams. The pleural surfaces are pale pink-tan and glistening. On cut section, the alveolar architecture is intact except rib fracture associated laceration hemorrhage. There consolidation. No granulomatous or neoplastic processes noted in the gross. The pulmonary arterial system is dissected, and no thromboemboli are noted. The soft tissue of the neck reveals no hemorrhage in the subcutaneous tissue or the strap muscles of the neck. The hyoid, thyroid and cricoid cartilages are intact without fractures. All cornua are intact without fractures. The larynx, trachea and bronchi are widely patent obstruction. Opening of the trachea, bronchi terminal airways show no soot. It is photographed by supervising technician Anthony Sanchez. There is no mucous plug.

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No.

2013-08210 DOE, JOHN 239

GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM:

The tongue is sectioned, and laceration or contusion is not seen. Tip of the tongue is charred by fire. The esophagus has an intact gray-white mucosa without varices. The stomach contains 320 ml of tan food with meat fragments in its lumen. The stomach mucosa exhibits no ulcerations, mass lesion, laceration or polyps. The small intestine is unremarkable. The large intestine exhibits no ulcerations, mass lesions, lacerations or polyps. Normal stool color is noted in colon. The appendix is present. No capsular material or medication is identified. The pancreas is without fat necrosis, fibrosis, neoplasm or hemorrhage.

HEPATOBILIARY SYSTEM:

The liver weighs 1525 grams. It is brown. The smooth glistening capsule is intact. The parenchyma is soft and shows no scarring or nodularity in the gross. Fatty metamorphosis is not conspicuous in the gross. The gallbladder is present and contains 5 ml of clear yellow bile. The extrahepatic ducts appear unremarkable. There is no portal lymphadenopathy.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:

The right and left kidneys weigh 130 and 140 grams. The capsules strip with ease revealing a pale light brown cortical surface beneath. The renal cortices are 0.6 cm in thickness. The corticomedullary junctions are well-defined. The renal papillae are intact. The calyces, pelves and ureters are unremarkable. The renal arteries are patent. The urinary bladder has a gray-white intact mucosa and contains no urine. The prostate is of normal size. The testes are examined, and the seminiferous tubules string out readily bilaterally. Soft tissue hemorrhages are noted around the testes.

HEMOLYMPHATIC SYSTEM:

The spleen weighs 90 grams. It is purple and firm. The capsule is intact. The Malpighian corpuscles are small. Lymph nodes

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throughout the body are unremarkable. The bone marrow is red and moist.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM:

The thyroid and adrenal glands are normal in size, shape, color and consistency. Hemorrhagic involvement is not observed. The pituitary is symmetrical and not enlarged. It exhibits no hemorrhagic, cystic or neoplastic lesions in the gross.

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM:

The muscular development is compatible with the age, sex and weight of this decedent. Bony fractures are present in head, chest and pelvis.

HEAD AND CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM:

There is evidence of severe blunt open head injury and thermal burns. Calvarium is fractured into multiple separate pieces by blunt trauma and fragments of lacerated brain are present outside. Some of the skull bone fragments are noted in the brain. The dura is charred by fire. The superior sagittal sius is patent. The brain weighs 1330 grams. The leptomeninges are thin and transparent. There is no evidence of meningitis. There severe traumatic edema, swelling and herniation of cerebrum. Gyri are completely flat. Gross examination of the brain reveals subarachnoid hemorrhage due to blunt head trauma. Large brain laceration is seen involving right fronto-parietotemporo-occipital lobes due to comminuted skull fractures. Brain stem is lacerated. Tumor metastases to the brain, abscesses, and mass lesions are not present at autopsy. The cerebral arteries show no arteriosclerosis, aneurysms or thrombosis. The dura is extensively stripped, and type I hinge fracture is present in the base of skull. Examination of the cervical vertebrae reveals fracture dislocation of the atlanto-occipital joint.

AUTOPSY REPORT

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PHOTOGRAPHY: The decedent is photographed before and during autopsy.

X-RAYS: 16 X-rays are examined and they show multiple fractures.

TOXICOLOGY: Heart blood, femoral blood, bile, liver, stomach contents and vitreous humor are submitted for toxicological examination. Alcohol, phencyclidine, heroin, morphine, codeine, cocaine, marijuana, and methamphetamine analyses are requested. Additional purple top tube of heart blood and tracheal air are submitted for carbon monoxide testing.

SEROLOGY:

Blood is submitted for typing or DNA analysis if requested.

HISTOLOGY:

No microscopic sections are cut at autopsy. Representative sections of tissue are submitted in formalin for storage in two jars.

EVIDENCE COLLECTED AT AUTOPSY: None.

OBSERVERS: None.

DESCRIPTION OF CLOTHING:

There is no clothing.

DIAGRAMS USED:

Diagram form 16, 20, 22, 24, 27, 28 and 29 are submitted with the case.

AUTOPSY REPORT

No.

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Page_8

OPINION:

The decedent died of multiple traumatic injuries. The manner of death is accident.

Cho duon

CHO LWIN, M.D.

DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINER

12-03-2013

DATE

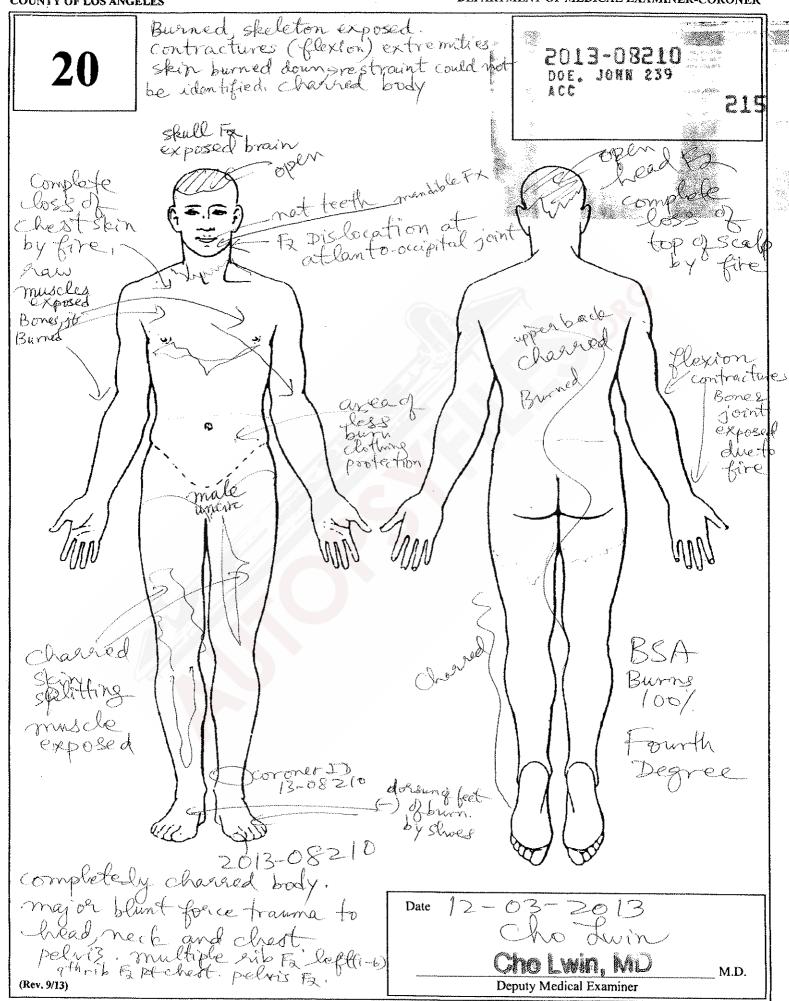
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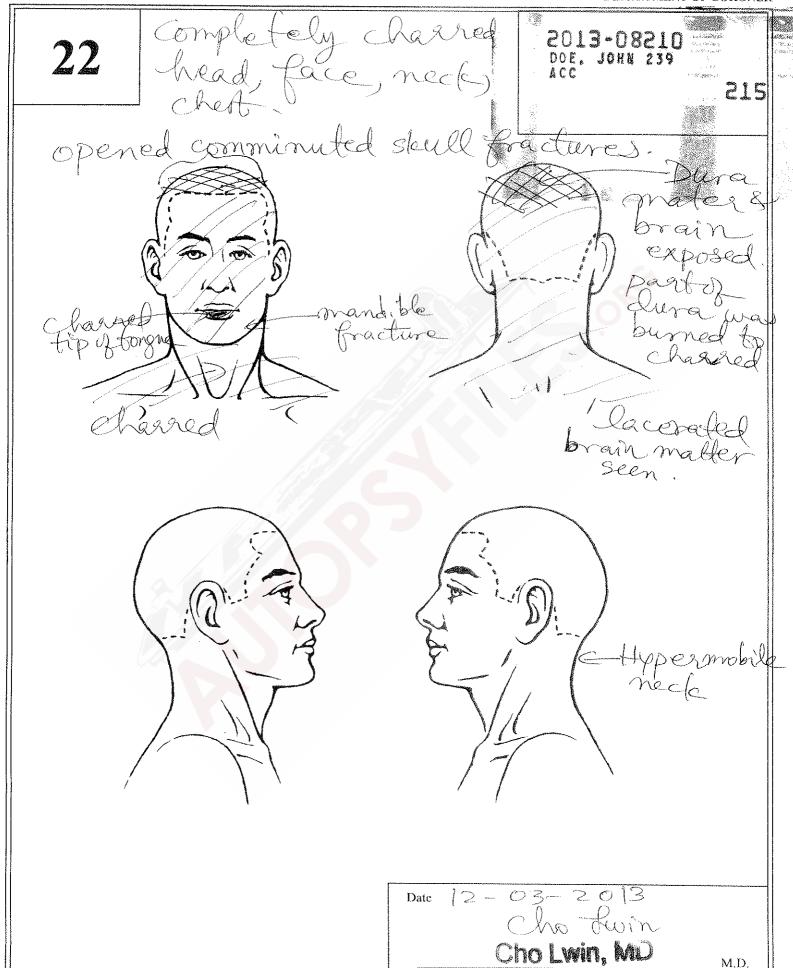
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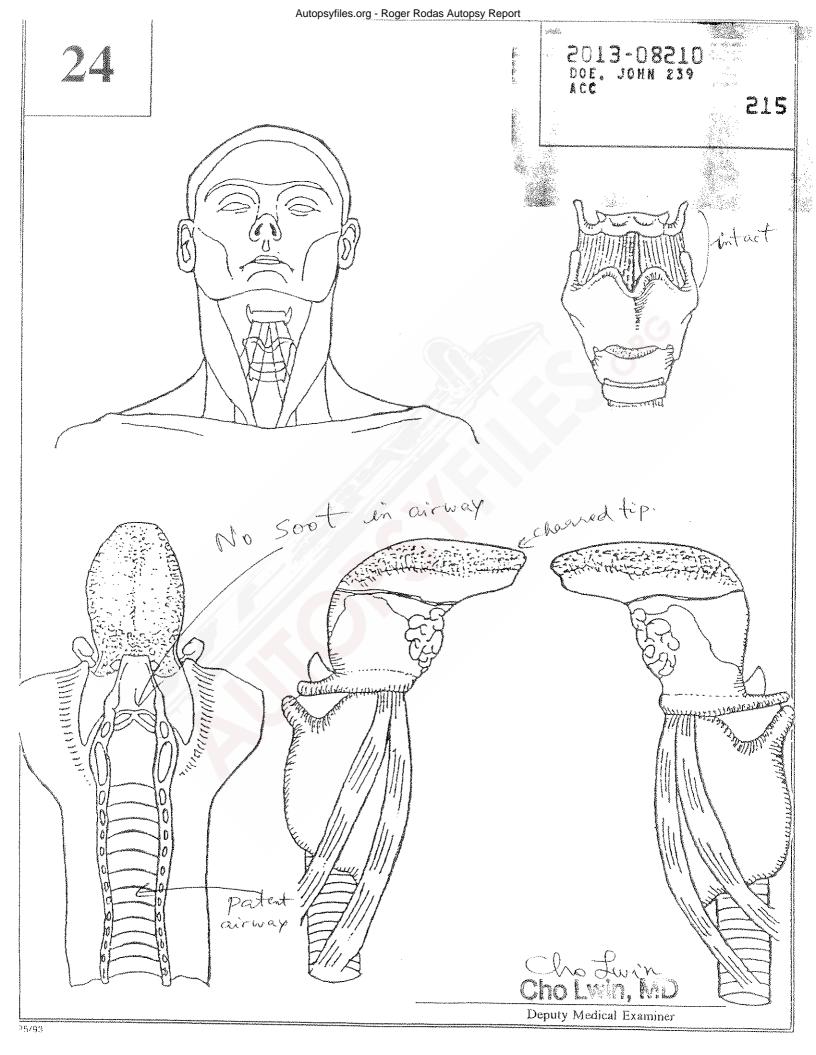
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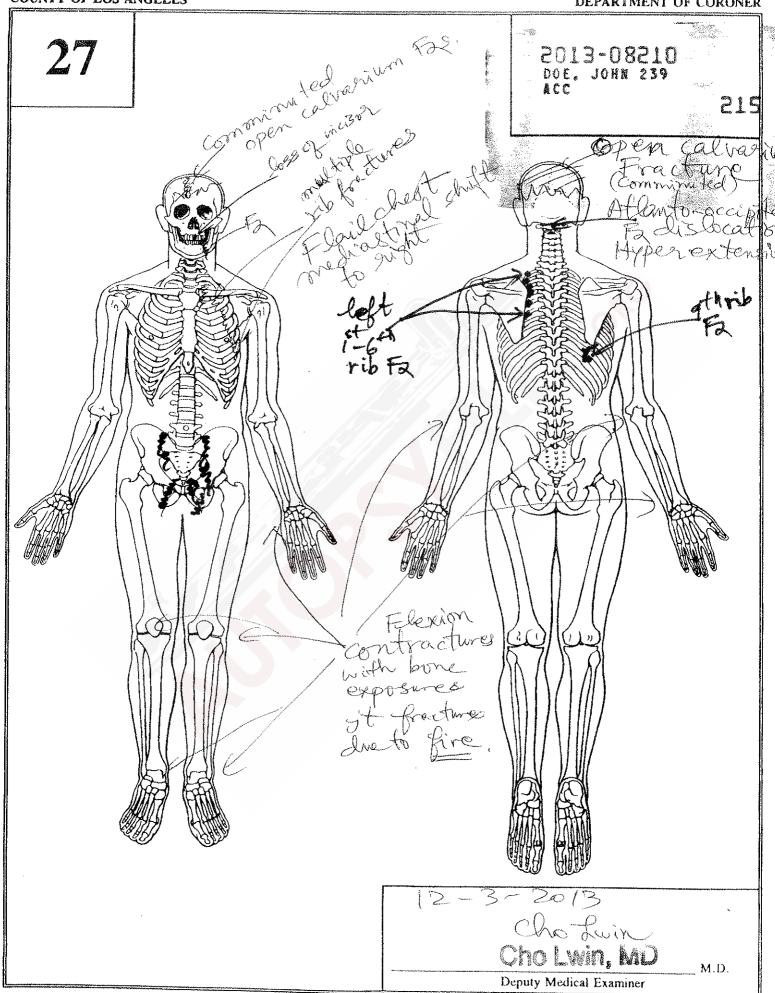
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Chest chared	Caps	Purpos	SPINAL CORD Examined.
Breasts #	Malpig/		c, lac.
Abdomen chared	PANCREAS	$\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$	
Scar —	ADRENALS	24	
Genital male	KIDNEYS W		TOXICOLOGY SPECIMENS
Edema - 0 10 h	R (3)		Blood (heart, formoral,
Skin charred splitting	L 140		typings co ) liver stomals
Decub	Tip Caps		typing co ) liver stomath
HEART Wt. 3 ( O Pericard in tad RV O	Cortex		SECTIONS FOR ~~
		150	HISTOPATHOLOGY
Hypert — LV ( Dilat — Septum	Ha Pelvis	* /	Stotage (2)
		a Ata	
Muscle &	BLADDER		THOROUGH COV
Valves & Coronar patent mild	GENITALIA DE CALLO		MICROBIOLOGY
Corollar part carry.	Prost-		
AORTA infact avafa.	Uterus	- Contu	
VESSELS mild aftero.	Tubes		DIAGRAMS TO TO THE
LUNGS Wt	9var-		DIAGRAMS 20,22,24,27,28
		susintact er	X-RAYS (6) For small, ribs pelvis 29
L 425 > Conty los Adhes 50	C by STOMACH	ma coso &	
Adhes	ribs Content	32 onl ton food	meat frequence
Fluid Blood loval earl	DUOB & SN		OTHER PROCEDURES
Adhe's Fluid Blood 10 ml each Atelectasis - 10 for Codema	APPENDIX		0
Oedema - Oedema	LARGE INT		
Congest - Mediality	brad _ ABDOM NO		
Consol — Shari	to the SKELETON		GROSS, IMPRESSIONS
Bronchipatent. No Sout	Flail Spine A	tlato occipial B.Dislec.	multiple traumatic
Nodes ©	Marrow	Red prost	injuries.
PHARYNX #	Rib Cag		open skull Fa
TRACHEANO SOOT	Long bo	nes contractions.	
THYROIDØ	Pelvis 🛭	2	The Tracture
THYMUS— LARYNX No edema	- D6	lus B	of based skull
HYOID infact		andible 2	· Necla to Atlanto-acción
ABDOMINAL WALL FAT	ENE	elvis Fo andible Fo Burns: 4th Degre	· BPT. Chest . H.
TOO WINDE HALL IN 12		Cony	multiple Lib Es
Date	Time Q 20		outy Medical Evaminer
12-03-2013	IIMe 8-30		puty Medical Examiner
· · · · · ·		Park I	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

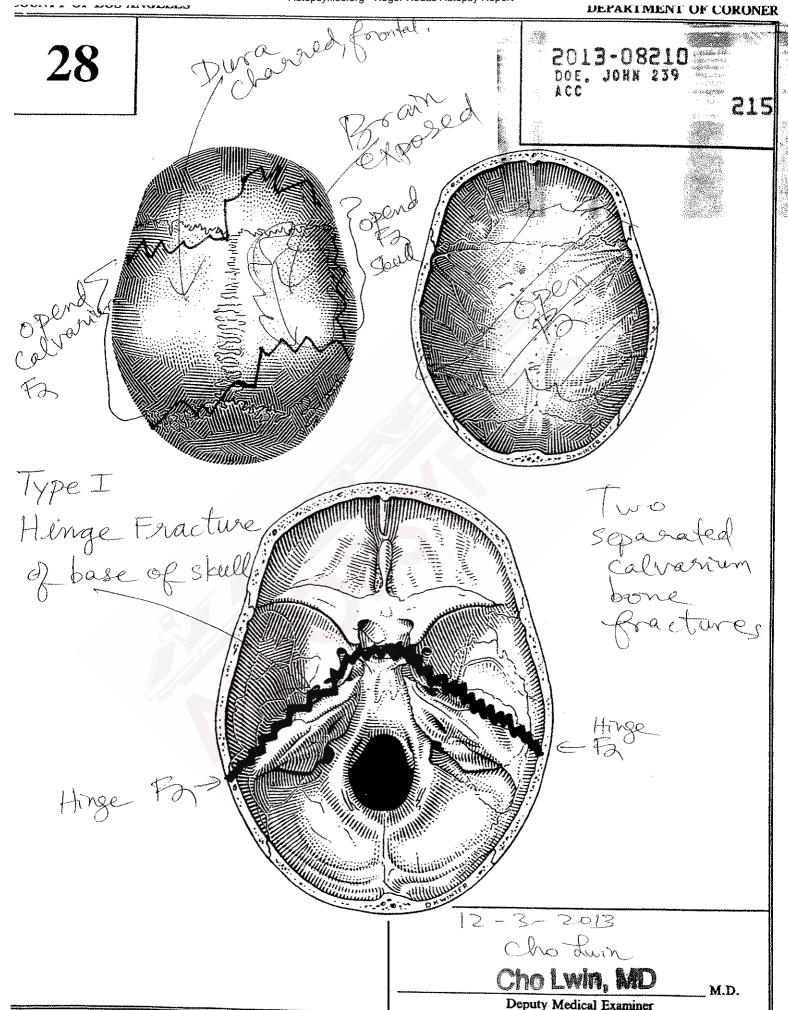




Deputy Medical Examiner





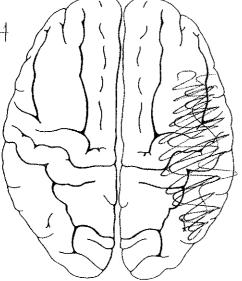


Severe traumatic brain swelling flat gyri

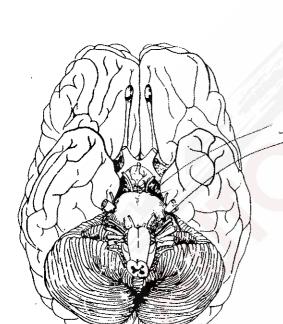
5013-08510

212

S1914



No artifactual EDH



laceration of brain PHF-P-T-0 lacerations Stem St.

intact spinal cord except lac at c, due to atlanto-

occipital fracture dish- 12-3-2013 cho Lun

Cho Lwin, MD

Deputy Medical Examiner



### Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner, County of Los Angeles

### FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORIES

1104 North Mission Road Los Angeles, CA 90033





Deputy Medical Examiner 1104 North Mission Road Los Angeles, CA 90033 **PendingTox** 

The following results have been technically and administratively reviewed and are the opinions and conclusions of the Analyst:

Coroner Case Number: 2013-08210 Decedent: RODAS, ROGER

SPEC.	IMEN SERVIC	<u>E</u>	DRUG		RES	<u>ULT</u>	ANALYST
Blood	, Heart						
	Alcohol-GC/I	FID-HS	Ethanol		N	Negative	M. Schuchardt
	ELISA-Immu	noassay	Benzodiazepines	N	ND	T. Montero	
	ELISA-Immu	noassay	Cocaine and Metabolites	N	ND	T. Montero	
	ELISA-Immu	noassay	Marijuana: 11-nor-Delta-9-Ca	arboxy-THC	N	ND	T. Montero
	ELISA-lmmu	noassay	Methamphetamine & MDM	4	N	√D	T. Montero
	ELISA-lmmu	noassay	Opiates: Codeine & Morphi	ND		T. Montero T. Montero	
	ELISA-Immunoassay		Opiates: Hydrocodone & Hy	N	ND		
EDTA	. Blood						
	Carbon Mone	xide-CO-Ox	Carboxyhemoglobin		< 10 %	6 Saturation	O. Pleitez
NOTE	; The source of the	EDTA Blo	ood is from the Heart.				
1.egen	ı <b>d:</b>	mg/dL	Milligram per Deciliter	QNS	Quantity Not	Sufficient	
g	Grams	mg/L	Milligram per Liter	TNP	Test Not Perfe	ormed	
g%	Gram Percent	ND	Not Detected	ug	Micrograms		
Inc.	Inconclusive	ng/g	Nanograms per Gram	ug/g	Micrograms p	oer Gram	
mg	Milligrams	ng/mL	Nanograms per Milliliter	ug/ml_	Microgram po		

Administratively reviewed by:

Daniel T. Anderson, M.S., FIS-ABET, D-ABC Supervising Criminalist II TOXICOLOGY

(323) 343-0660 Danderson@corener.lacounty.gov

(2-23-13

Report Date: Friday, December 20, 2013 Laboratory Accreditation: ASCLD/LAB-International Page 1 of 1