

# San Bernardino County Sheriff - Coroner Division

## Coroner Investigation

1	<b>MODE</b> Homicide  <b>STATUS</b> Post	<b>CASE #</b> 701509098  <b>DEPUTY</b> Chalone Rhea-Hudgens	<b>Sub File To</b> 701509087	
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### CASE INFO

<b>REPORTED BY</b> ****	<b>AGENCY</b> San Bernardino Co. Sheriff's Dept. (SBCSD)	<b>DATE</b> 12/03/2015	<b>TIME</b> 0052	<b>Call Back Phone</b> ****	
<b>NEWS RELEASE</b> ****	<b>NAME RELEASABLE</b> ****	<b>ROLL-OUT?</b> Yes	<b># OF PHOTOS</b> ****	<b>MEDIUM</b> ****	<b>SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES</b> None

### DECEDENT INFO

<b>1 NAME (FIRST)</b> Juan	<b>2 (MIDDLE)</b> Carlos	<b>3 (LAST)</b> Espinoza				
<b>AKA</b>	<b>DOE TYPE/NUMBER</b>	<b>PHONE</b> ****				
<b>20 ADDRESS</b> ****	<b>21 CITY</b> Highland	<b>25 STATE</b> CA	<b>23 ZIP</b> 92346			
<b>6 SEX</b> Male	<b>14 RACE</b> Hispanic	<b>4 DOB</b> 06/24/1965	<b>5 AGE</b> 50 yrs	<b>RELATED CASE NUMBERS</b> Yes		
<b>BODY BAG #</b> 5209113	<b>TOE TAG</b> 41382	<b>10 SS #</b> *****	<b>HEIGHT</b> 69.0 in	<b>WEIGHT</b> 190.0 lbs	<b>HAIR</b> Salt/Pepper	<b>EYES</b> Brown
<b>DRIVER S LIC #</b> ****	<b>STATE</b> CA	<b>HOW IDENTIFIED</b> (Mary Beebee/ Cal-ID) subj id'd as: Espinoza, Juan C DOB 06/24/65				

### LEGAL NEXT OF KIN

<b>NAME</b> Sandra Espinoza	<b>RELATIONSHIP</b> Wife	<b>DOB/AGE</b>	<b>DATE/TIME NOTIFIED</b> 12/03/2015 0958	<b>NOTIFIED BY</b> Notified at Family Assistance Center, R. Hun	
<b>ADDRESS</b> ****	<b>21 CITY</b> Highland	<b>25 STATE</b> CA	<b>23 ZIP</b> 92346	<b>PHONE</b> ****	<b>ALTERNATE PHONE #</b> ****

### PLACE/DEATH OCCURRED

<b>7 DATE</b> 12/02/2015	<b>8 TIME</b> 1204	<b>DAY OF DEATH</b> Wednesday	<b>PRONOUNCED BY</b> San Bernardino City Fire Department
<b>101 PLACE OF DEATH</b> Conference Center		<b>102 IP-ER/OP-DOA</b>	<b>FAC OTHER THAN HOSPITAL</b> Other
<b>105 FACILITY ADDRESS OR LOCATION WHERE FOUND</b> 1425 S. Waterman Ave.		<b>106 CITY</b> San Bernardino	

### INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

ADDITIONAL NARRATIVE ATTACHED  YES  NO

**MASS SHOOTING INCIDENT – VICTIM 12 OF 14:**

On Wednesday, December 2, 2015, at 1059 hours, a shooting incident was reported to the San Bernardino Police Department (SBPD) from the Inland Regional Center (IRC) in San Bernardino.

Two suspects, dressed in dark clothing, wearing ski masks, entered the south building and began indiscriminately shooting with semi-automatic rifles at the attendees of a Christmas party hosted for employees of the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health. The suspects left the scene prior to law enforcement arrival.

Law enforcement entered the building. Emergency medical services personnel removed multiple injured people to a triage point that was established directly across the street from the scene.

Two gunshot victims, a male and a female, designated as Victims #1 and #2, respectively, were pronounced dead at the triage point. Paramedics from the San Bernardino City Fire Department entered the IRC conference room and pronounced 12 victims dead at the scene.

Three victims, a female and two males, designated from south to north as Victims #3, #4 and #5, were pronounced dead outside the IRC conference room, on the east side of the building.

Nine victims, designated from east to west as Victims #6 through #14, were pronounced dead within the IRC conference room.

All 14 victims died as a result of multiple gunshot wounds.

The incident is under joint investigation by the San Bernardino Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation

Associated cases: 701509087, 701509088, 701509089, 701509090, 701509091, 701509092, 701509093, 701509094, 701509095, 701509096, 701509097, 701509099, 701509100.

### NOTE TO PATHOLOGY

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# San Bernardino County Sheriff - Coroner Division

## Coroner Investigation

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MODE **Homicide**

CASE# **701509098**

Sub File To

**701509087**

STATUS **Post**

DEPUTY **Chalone Rhea-Hudgens**



## Coroner Investigation

**12/04/2015**

### NOTIFICATION TO THE CORONER DIVISION:

On Wednesday, December 2, 2015, at 1208 hours, the San Bernardino County Coroner's Office received a report of multiple fatalities resulting from a shooting at the Inland Regional Center (IRC), located at 1425 S. Waterman Ave., in San Bernardino.

Coroner chain of command personnel, including the division commander, Captain Kevin Lacy, responded to the Incident Command Post (ICP) established just north of the incident location, and began coordinating with the investigating agencies that included the San Bernardino Police Department (SBPD), which would have primary investigative responsibility, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department (SBCSD), the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Department of Homeland Security, and other supporting agencies.

### PRELIMINARY LAW ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION:

According to Capt. Lacy, the preliminary incident assessment was as follows:

At 1059 hours, a shooting incident was reported to the SBPD from the IRC, where a Christmas party was being hosted for employees of the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health. Witnesses reported that at least two suspects, dressed in dark clothing, and wearing ski masks, entered the south building and began indiscriminately shooting with semi-automatic rifles. Following the shooting, the suspects fled in a black sport utility vehicle.

Law enforcement entered the building and extracted survivors. Emergency medical services personnel assisted multiple injured persons to a triage point that was established directly across the street from the scene.

### VICTIM INFORMATION:

It was subsequently learned that multiple attendees were injured; 21 were transported to local hospitals and 14 victims were Pronounced dead at the scene.

Two gunshot victims, a male and a female, designated as Victims #1 and #2, respectively, were pronounced dead at the triage point. Paramedics from the San Bernardino City Fire Department pronounced three victims dead outside the south building conference room and pronounced nine victims dead inside the conference room.

Three victims, a female and two males, designated from south to north as Victims #3, #4 and #5, were pronounced dead outside the conference room, on the east side of the building. Nine victims, designated from east to west as Victims #6 through #14, were pronounced dead within the IRC conference room.

Additional briefings were conducted at the Coroner Division to activate a Family Assistance Center and a scene response plan was prepared.

### SCENE DESCRIPTION: INSIDE CONFERENCE ROOM

I was assigned to respond with Deputy Coroner Investigator L. Perriello and Deputy Coroner Investigator M. Leyva to the scene in order to coordinate the Coroner response for the investigation and recovery of remains.

On 12/03/2015 at 0052 hours, we responded from the Coroner Division in San Bernardino and arrived at 0111 hours. There we met with SBPD Det. William Flesher, who was assigned to act as our primary liaison.

The inside ambient temperature at the scene upon our arrival was estimated to be approximately 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

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The Inland Regional Center (1365 S. Waterman Ave.) was located on the east side of Waterman Ave., surrounded by Park Center Circle. The primary complex consisted of three large buildings on approximately five acres. The buildings were surrounded by paved parking lots encircling the complex. The two northern buildings were multi-story structures (from north to south, 1365 and 1395 S. Waterman Ave, respectively). The south building (1425 S. Waterman Ave.), which contained multi-purpose rooms, consisted of two floors. There were glass entrance doors to the north and three doors located on the east side, accessing the east parking lot.

The glass doors on the east side of the building were designated as follows:

1. South door
2. Center door (Glass door was shattered)
3. North door

The south building contained a large conference room. The large conference room was divided into two separate rooms by an expandable wall partition. The south door entered the southern room. The center and north doors entered the north room where the shooting occurred. The north room was about 85x40 feet in size. The floor was covered with wall to wall carpet squares. There appeared to be no padding beneath the carpet squares. The carpet was saturated with water throughout the room. A large, half circle table was located near the north wall. There were eight groups of tables running north/south. Each group had two, six foot tables in tandem. All the tables were to the north of the center door. The tables were decorated with various Christmas decorations. There was an 18 foot buffet table along the south wall. The ceiling tiles above the buffet area had fallen to the floor. There was a Christmas tree near the southwest corner of the room.

The room was in disarray. The chairs, food, property and decorations were strewn about the room. There were several dozen cartridge casings around the room. There were multiple bullet holes in the ceiling, walls, furniture and floor.

Nine decedents inside the conference room were designated as Victims #6-14.

Victim #6 (701509092) was located about 6'8" southwest of the north door, between the easternmost groups of tables.

Victim #7 (701509093) was located about 14 feet southwest of the north door, east of the southernmost tables.

Victim #8 (701509094) was located about 30 feet southwest of the north door, between two tables.

Victim #9 (701509095) was located about 35 feet southwest of the north door, east of the southernmost tables.

Victim #10 (701509096) was located about 2 feet west of Victim #8.

Victim #11 (701509097) was located about 1 foot southwest of Victim #10.

Victims #12-14 (701509098-701509100) were located about 60 feet southwest of the north door, near the Christmas tree. Victim #13 was about 1 foot to the south of Victim #12. Victim #14 was about 1 foot southeast of Victim #13.

SBCSD Scientific Investigations Division personnel took photographs and measurements of the scene inside the conference room. Precise measurements can be obtained if needed.

We received information that there may have been explosives in the building with one or more detonated. It was later determined there were no explosives detonated inside the building.

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**BODY EXAMINATIONS:**

Deputy Coroner Investigator L. Perriello, Deputy Coroner Investigator M. Leyva, and I conducted the body examinations together.

**EXAMINATION OF THE BODY OF VICTIM #12 (JUAN ESPINOZA):**

I began my examination of the body at 0649 hours. The body was a Hispanic male. The body was supine. The head was oriented to the southwest and the feet to the northeast. The right arm was to the side. The left arm was bent at the elbow with the posterior hand resting on the carpet about a foot from the torso.

**IDENTIFICATION:**

On Scene:

I located a San Bernardino County picture identification card (A9282) with the name Juan Espinoza in the decedent's front, shirt pocket.

Confirmation:

On 12/3/15 at 1116 hours, the decedent was confirmed to be Juan Espinoza DOB: 06/24/65 by fingerprints submitted to CAL-ID.

**BODY TRANSPORTED TO CORONER MORGUE FACILITY:**

Coroner Morgue personnel, Autopsy Assistants Mark Schrader and Karina Gomez, transported the body from the scene at 0739 hours to the Coroner Morgue Facility in San Bernardino, arriving at 0744 hours.

**NOTIFICATION OF DEATH TO NEXT OF KIN:**

On 12/03/2015 at 0958 hours, the notification of death to family was made by Deputy Coroner Investigator R. Hunter.

**DISPOSITION:**

Submitted to pathology for autopsy.



San Bernardino County Sheriff - Coroner Division

Coroner Investigation

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*STATUS* **Post**

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San Bernardino County Sheriff - Coroner Division

Coroner Investigation

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MODE **Homicide**

CASE # **701509098**

Sub File To

701509087

STATUS **Post**

DEPUTY **Chalone Rhea-Hudgens**



**Coroner Supplemental Report**

12/08/2015

Investigator: R. Hunter



175 South Lena Road  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0037  
(909) 387-2542  
Fax (909) 387-2989



**Frank Sheridan, M.D.**  
Chief Forensic Pathologist

**Brian Hutchins**, M.D.  
Forensic Pathologist

**San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department  
Coroner Division**

**Autopsy Protocol**

**Coroner's Case Number:** 701509098

**Autopsy Number:** A-1620-15

**Name:** Juan Carlos Espinoza      **Age:** 50      **Sex:** Male  
**Time of Death:** Reported 1204 hours, December 2, 2015      **Race:** Hispanic  
**Time of Autopsy:** 1230 hours, December 6, 2015  
**Place of Autopsy:** San Bernardino County Coroner's Facility      **Deputy:** Rhea-Hudgens

**HISTORY OF DEATH:** The following information is obtained from the deputy coroner investigative report. On December 2, 2015 a shooting incident was reported to the San Bernardino Police Department (SBPD) from the Inland Regional Center (IRC) in San Bernardino. Two suspects entered the building and began shooting at the attendees of a Christmas party hosted for employees of the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health. Following the shooting, the suspects fled in a vehicle.

Multiple attendees were injured. Fourteen victims were pronounced dead at the scene. Espinoza's body was near the Christmas tree.

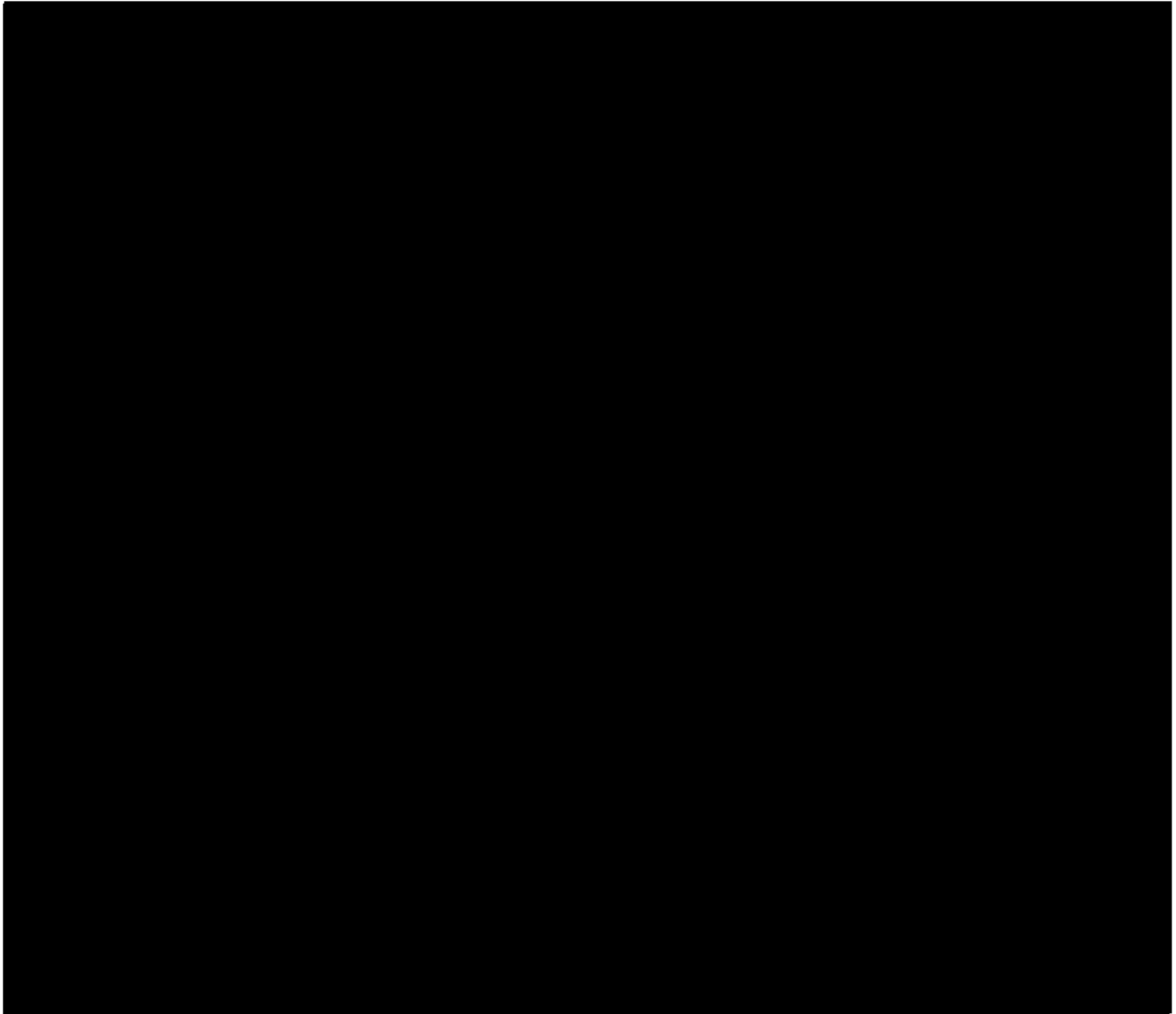
Reference: 701509087, A-1609-15, Shannon Hilliard Johnson  
701509088, A-1603-15, Benetta Bet-Badel  
701509089, A-1608-15, Aurora Luz Godoy  
701509090, A-1610-15, Isaac G. Amanios-Gebreslassie  
701509091, A-1601-15, Larry Daniel Eugene Kaufman  
701509092, A-1625-15, Harry Albert Bowman  
701509093, A-1605-15, Yvette Alexandra Velasco  
701509094, A-1617-15, Sierra Simone Clayborn  
701509095, A-1619-15, Robert C. Adams  
701509096, A-1604-15, Nicholas James Thalasinios  
701509097, A-1618-15, Tin Thanh Nguyen  
701509099, A-1626-15, Damian Lawrence Meins  
701509100, A-1600-15, Michael Raymond Wetzel

Also refer to Coroner's Investigative Report 701509098.

**EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:**







**Description of Injuries:**

**Gunshot Wound of the Left Chest:**

Entry: The entry wound is located in the left chest, 10 inches from the top of the head, and 6 inches left of the midline. It consists of a 1/4 inch circular defect. Marginal abrasion is concentric and measures up to 1/8 inch. No soot or stippling is present.

Direction: The direction of the wound path is from front to back, left to right, and downward.

Path: The bullet perforates the left upper chest skin, left anterior second intercostal space, left lower lung lobe, pericardial sac, and lateral/posterior surface of the left ventricle.

Exit: None

Projectile: A deformed copper jacketed bullet is located within the heart (atrium).

Associated injuries: There are projectile defects of the left second intercostal space, left lower lung lobe, and lateral/posterior aspect of the left ventricle. The laceration of the heart measures 2 x 2 inches. There is 20 ml of hemopericardium and 1100 ml of left hemothorax.

**Gunshot Wound of the Left Arm:**

Entry: The entry wound is located in the left arm, 7 inches from the top of the left shoulder, and midline through a posterior vertical line through the left arm. It consists of a 1/4 inch circular defect. Marginal abrasion is present from the 12 to 6 o'clock position and measures up to 1/4 inch. There is no soot or stippling present.

Direction: The direction of the wound path is from back to front, left to right, and upward.

Path: The bullet perforates the left arm (posterior surface), left humeral bone, and left upper chest soft tissue/muscle including blood vessels.

Exit: None

Projectile: A fragment of copper jacket is located from the left shoulder area.

Associated injuries: There are projectile defects of the left humeral bone and left upper chest blood vessels. There is local tissue hemorrhage present.

**Gunshot Wound of the Left Flank:**

Entry: The entry wound is located in the left flank, 23 inches from the top of the head, and 6 inches left of the midline. It consists of a 3/4 x 1/2 inch irregular-shaped defect. Noted inferior to the main entrance wound is a 2 x 1 inch red abrasion. Noted medial to the main entrance wound is a 1/2 x 1/2 inch red laceration which is associated with an additional penetrating injury. There is no soot or stippling present.

Direction: The direction of the wound path is from back to front, left to right, and upward.

Path: The bullet perforates the left flank skin, left lateral sixth rib, and left lower lung lobe.

Exit: None

Projectile: A fragment of copper jacketed bullet is recovered from the left chest area. According to the deputy coroner investigator, a fragment of copper jacket was recovered near the entrance wound of the left flank injury and was placed within a plastic bag and clipped to the shirt.

Associated injuries: There are projectile defects of the left lateral sixth rib and left lower lung lobe. There is an additional left lateral seventh rib fracture. There is 1100 ml of left hemothorax.

**Gunshot Wound of the Left Thigh:**

Entry: The entry wound is located on the left thigh, posterior surface, 28 inches from the bottom of the left heel, and 2 inches lateral to a posterior vertical line through the left leg. It consists of a 1/4 inch circular defect. Marginal abrasion is concentric and measures 1/8 inch. No soot or stippling is present.

Direction: The direction of the wound path is from back to front, left to right, and upward.

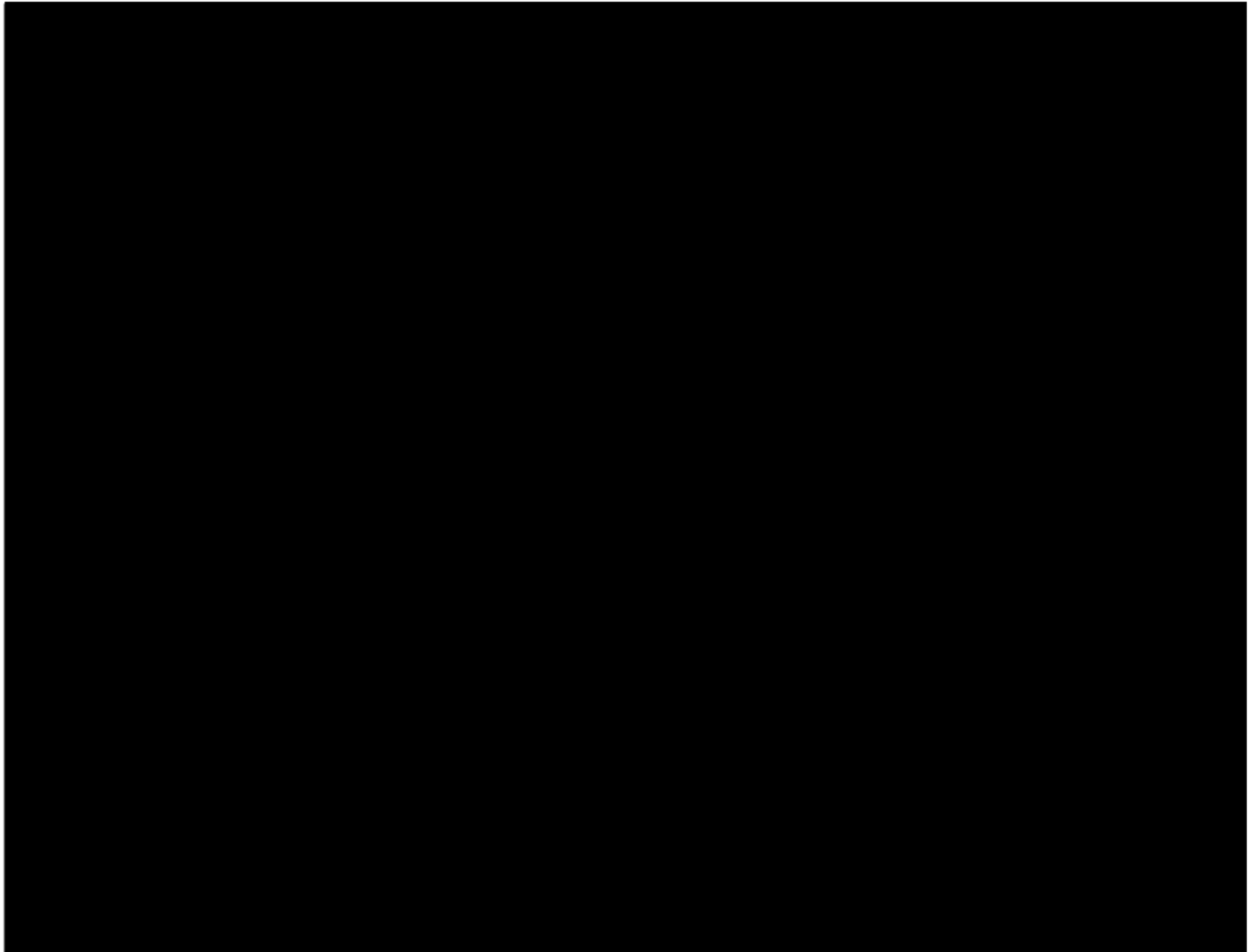
Path: The bullet perforates the posterior/lateral surface of the left thigh, left thigh muscle, left femoral bone, and anterior surface of the left thigh.

Exit: The exit wound is located on the anterior surface of the left thigh, 29 inches from the bottom of the left heel, and midline through an anterior vertical line through the left leg. It consists of a 1-1/2 x 1-1/4 inch irregular-shaped defect. Just superior to the exit wound is a linear red abrasion.

Projectile: A fragment of copper jacket is located on the exit wound (left thigh). Multiple fragments of copper jacket are collected from the cellphone which was near the exit wound in the left pocket. These fragments are seen on the anterior upper screen of the phone and were within the actual phone electronics.

Associated injuries: There are projectile defects (fracture) of the left femoral bone with local tissue hemorrhage.

**INTERNAL EXAMINATION:**







**DIAGNOSIS:**

- I. Gunshot Wound of the Left Chest:
  - A. Entry: Left chest.
    1. No soot or stippling.
  - B. Direction: The direction of the wound path is from front to back, left to right, and downward.
  - C. Path: The bullet perforates the left upper chest skin, left anterior second intercostal space, left lower lung lobe, pericardial sac, and lateral/posterior surface of the left ventricle.
  - D. Exit: None
  - E. Projectile: A deformed copper jacketed bullet is located within the heart (atrium).
  - F. Associated injuries: There are projectile defects of the left second intercostal space, left lower lung lobe, and lateral/posterior aspect of the left ventricle. The projectile defect of the heart measures 2 x 2 inches. There is 20 ml of hemopericardium and 1100 ml of left hemothorax.
- II. Gunshot Wound of the Left Arm:
  - A. Entry: Left arm.
    1. No soot or stippling.
  - B. Direction: The direction of the wound path is from back to front, left to right, and upward.
  - C. Path: The bullet perforates the left arm (posterior surface), left humeral bone, and left upper chest soft tissue/muscle including blood vessels.
  - D. Exit: None
  - E. Projectile: A fragment of copper jacket is located from the left shoulder area.
  - F. Associated injuries: There are projectile defects of the left humeral bone and left upper chest blood vessels. There is local tissue hemorrhage present.
- III. Gunshot Wound of the Left Flank:
  - A. Entry: Left flank.
    1. No soot or stippling.
  - B. Direction: The direction of the wound path is from back to front, left to right, and upward.
  - C. Path: The bullet perforates the left flank skin, left lateral sixth rib, and left lower lung lobe.
  - D. Exit: None
  - E. Projectile: A fragment of copper jacketed bullet is recovered from the left chest area. According to the deputy coroner investigator, a fragment of copper jacket was recovered near the entrance wound of the left flank injury and was placed within a plastic bag and clipped to the shirt.
  - F. Associated injuries: There are projectile defects of the left lateral sixth rib and left lower lung lobe. There is an additional left lateral seventh rib fracture. There is 1100 ml of left hemothorax.
- IV. Gunshot Wound of the Left Thigh:
  - A. Entry: Left posterior thigh.
    1. No soot or stippling.
  - B. Direction: The direction of the wound path is from back to front, left to right, and upward.

- C. Path: The bullet perforates the posterior/lateral surface of the left thigh, left thigh muscle, left femoral bone, and the anterior surface of the left thigh.
  - D. Exit: Anterior surface of the thigh.
  - E. Projectile: A fragment of copper jacket is located on the exit wound (left thigh). Multiple fragments of copper jacket are collected from the cellphone which was near the exit wound in the left pocket. These fragments are seen on the anterior upper screen of the phone and were within the actual phone electronics.
  - F. Associated injuries: There are projectile defects (fracture) of the left femoral bone with local tissue hemorrhage.
- V. [REDACTED]

**CAUSE OF DEATH:** Gunshot wounds of the chest, minutes.

**Manner of Death:** Homicide

**WITNESSES PRESENT:** Detective George Gabera, Forensic Technician R. Meyer, San Bernardino Police Department; Victoria Milko, David Wu, Amy Heintz, Joycelyn Wilson, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Autopsy Completed 1450 hours, December 6, 2015.



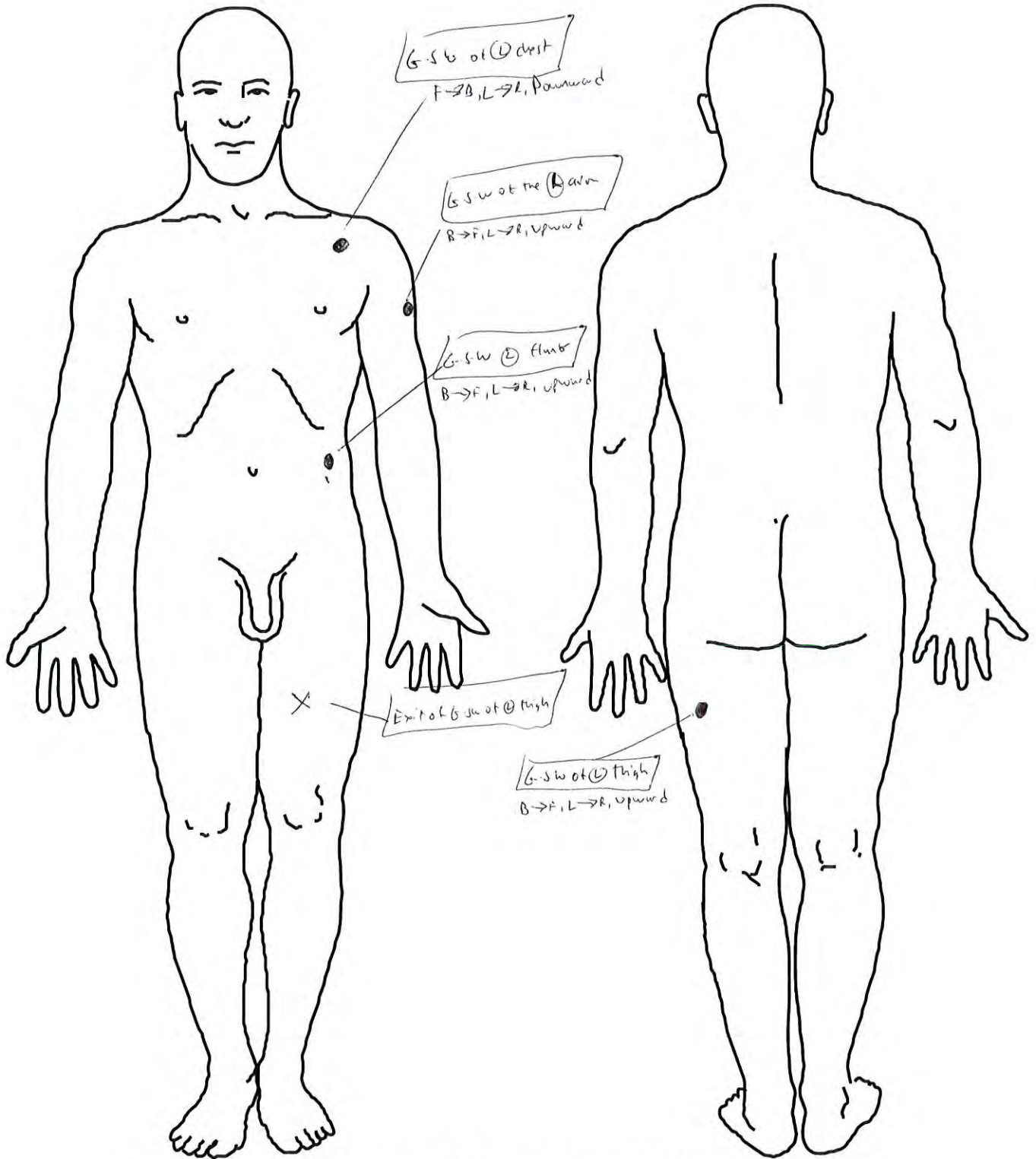
Brian C. Hutchins, M.D.  
Pathologist

Date: 03/15/16

BH:pm



San Bernardino County Sheriff/Coroner



Full Body Male, Anterior & Posterior Views, (Ventral & Dorsal).

Name Juan Espinoza Coroner's Case # 701509098 Autopsy No. A1620-15  
Age 50 Race Hispanic Sex male Date 12/06/15