

Coroner Report Santa Barbara County Sheriff

20-14444

Supplement No
ORIG



4434 Calle Real

Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1002

Report Type
CORONER

Reported Date
12/07/2020

Officer
HENSLIN, W

(805) 681-4100

Administrative Information

Agency Santa Barbara County Sheriff		Report No 20-14444	Supplement No ORIG	Reported Date 12/07/2020	Reported Time 11:31	Status Incident
Report Type Coroner's investigation		Location [REDACTED]				
City Santa Barbara City	ZIP Code 93117	Rep Dist SB70	Area 1	Beat SB	From Date 12/07/2020	From Time 11:31
Officer 2718/HENSLIN, W			Assignment SOUTH COUNTY OPS - GOLETA		Entered by 2718	
Assignment SOUTH COUNTY OPS - GOLETA		RMS Transfer Successful	Prop Trans Stat Successful	Report Title Coroner Report		
Approving Officer 2711		Approval Date 12/08/2020	Approval Time 09:14:30			
Date/Time of death pronounced 12-07-20/1104 HRS		Date/Time body found 12-07-20/1022 HRS		Dr. will sign N		Hospitalization N
Mortuary MCDERMOTT-CROCKETT		Removal Status ON CALL		Date/Time NOK notified PENDING		NOK notified by: PENDING
NOK notified via PENDING		NOK relation to decedent PENDING				
Photograph(s) Yes						

Person Summary

Invl	Invl No	Type	Name	MNI	Race	Sex	DOB
COR	1	I	VAUGHAN, BRANDY RENEE	1029217	W	F	[REDACTED]

Summary Narrative

On 12/07/20, 44-year-old decedent was found by her [REDACTED] after collapsing in the bathroom. Fire/medics responded to the residence however the decedent was pronounced dead at the scene. The decedent was anti-hospital, did not drink alcohol, use drugs or have a primary care doctor. She only used holistic drugs to treat her Gallbladder pain, which she had been experiencing for about 3-4 years. She was very paranoid about the pharmaceutical industry and believed they were out to get her. She lived a quiet lifestyle with her son. NOK lived somewhere in Europe. No indications of foul play was found at the scene or upon the decedent's remains.

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Decedent - Coroner Investigation 1: VAUGHAN, BRANDY RENEE

Involvement Decedent - Coroner Investigation		Inv No 1	Type Individual			
Name VAUGHAN, BRANDY RENEE		MNI [REDACTED]	Race [REDACTED]	Sex [REDACTED]	DOB [REDACTED]	Age [REDACTED]
Height [REDACTED]	Weight [REDACTED]	Hair Color [REDACTED]	Eye Color [REDACTED]	PRN [REDACTED]		
Type Home	Address [REDACTED]			City [REDACTED]		
State [REDACTED]	ZIP Code [REDACTED]	Date [REDACTED]				
Type Operator License	ID No [REDACTED]	OLS [REDACTED]				
Relationship Friend	Name [REDACTED]	Race [REDACTED]	Sex [REDACTED]	Phone Type [REDACTED]		
Phone No [REDACTED]						
Relationship Friend	Name [REDACTED]	Race [REDACTED]	Sex [REDACTED]	DOB [REDACTED]	Phone Type [REDACTED]	
Phone No [REDACTED]						
Relationship Investigating officer	Name OFFICER AMEZQUITA					
Address 215 E FIGUEROA ST			City Montecito	State California	Phone Type Cell	
Phone No [REDACTED]						
Relationship [REDACTED]	Name [REDACTED]	Race [REDACTED]	Sex [REDACTED]	DOB [REDACTED]		
Medical						
Other Agency SBPD	OA Officer AMEZQUITA	OA Case No [REDACTED]				
Private Physician NONE						
Nature of Illness NONE KNOWN						
Treatment NONE						
Narrative						

Outside agency:

Santa Barbara Police Department #20-55739.

Digital images:

Fifty-five images were taken of the decedent at the scene and at the Coroner's Bureau. The images were later downloaded for storage at the Sheriff's Department.

Case review:

On 12/007/20, the decedent was found by her [REDACTED] after collapsing in the bathroom. Fire/medics responded to the residence however the decedent was pronounced dead at the scene. The decedent was anti-hospital, did not drink alcohol, use drugs or have a primary care doctor. She only used holistic drugs to treat her Gallbladder pain, which she had been experiencing for about 3-4 years. She was very paranoid about the pharmaceutical industry and believed they were out to get her. She lived a quiet lifestyle with her [REDACTED]. NOK lived somewhere in Europe. No indications of foul play was found at the scene or upon the decedent's remains.

Examination of decedent:

I found the decedent lying supine on the hardwood floor of the kitchen. Upon inspection of the decedent, I noted she was well-developed, well-nourished Caucasian adult female.

Therapeutic intervention:

- EKG patches were affixed to the decedent's chest.
- An Intraosseous IV attached to a 1000cc saline bag was located on her right lower leg.

Head:

Report Officer 2718/HENSLIN, W	Printed At 02/24/2021 08:56	Page 2 of 4
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- Very minimum dried blood was noted neat the left side of her mouth, which appeared to be from her biting her tongue.
- Slight earlobe ceasing was noted to both ears.
- Arcus senilis was noted in both eyes.
- No trauma was palpated or observed on the decedent's head, neck or face.

Chest/Upper Torso:

- No trauma was palpated or observed on her upper chest or torso.

Arms:

- No trauma was palpated or observed on either arms or hands.

Legs:

- No trauma was palpated or observed on either leg or foot.

Back:

- No indications of trauma or deformities were found on the decedent's back.

Interview with next of kin:

According to the decedent's friend of 8 years, the decedent's mother suffers from severe Bi-Polar disorder and her father's location is unknown. The decedent is estranged from her husband/father of her child and he lives somewhere in France.

Only known family are grandparents that live in France.

The decedent's [REDACTED] was taken by CWS until a background check could be done on the decedent's best friend of eight years, [REDACTED]. The decedent's animals were taken by SB City animal control.

Interview with friend:

I spoke with [REDACTED], who has known the decedent for 8 years and very familiar with her family dynamics and health problems. She last spoke to the decedent on either Friday or Saturday of last week. The decedent was telling her that she (decedent) was experiencing sharp pains in the area of her gallbladder. Per [REDACTED], the decedent would get these pains when he (decedent) was very stressed and they started about 3-4 years ago. The decedent was very anti-hospital, anti-vaccine and paranoid that the pharmaceutical companies were after her. The decedent started a non-profit group called learntherisk.org after leaving an executive job at large pharmaceutical company. She believed that the pharma "people" were after her therefore she reinforced the locks to her residence. She would only seek out holistic doctors for any type of medical ailment she was experiencing.

The decedent did not smoke, drank alcohol socially and did not take any prescription medications. She appeared to be possibly suffering some type of undiagnosed mental health diagnosis. [REDACTED] did not know the location or phone number to the father of the decedent's child and stated that the child's biological grandparents live in France. She was more than willing to watch the decedent's son and take him to France if needed.

[REDACTED] would be a great point of contact regarding the decedent's extended family.

Outside agency interview:

Officer Amezcua stated that the decedent's [REDACTED] said his [REDACTED] told him to get help if she passed out in the bathroom. When he found her down in the bathroom, he immediately went to get help. Her [REDACTED] lived a very secluded life with the decedent and did not interact very much with other children due to him not being vaccinated and her strong beliefs against vaccination for children. See his report for further information.

Interview the PMD:

N/A

Social History:

None. The decedent lived a sedentary and secluded lifestyle with her [REDACTED]

Report Officer 2718/HENSLIN, W	Printed At 02/24/2021 08:56	Page 3 of 4
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Medical History:

Possible Gallbladder pain.

Final disposition:

The decedent was transported to the Coroner's Bureau by the on-call mortuary, McDermott-Crockett. The decedent's property was booked into property at the Coroner's Bureau.

Santa Barbara County Sheriff



4434 Calle Real

Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1002
Report Type
FORENSICS

(805) 681-4100

20-14444

Supplement No
0001

Reported Date
12/14/2020

Officer
SANDOVAL, M

Administrative Information

Agency Santa Barbara County Sheriff		Report No 20-14444	Supplement No 0001	Reported Date 12/14/2020	Reported Time 11:56	Status Incident
Report Type Forensics BOC		Location [REDACTED]				
City Santa Barbara City	ZIP Code 93117	Rep Dist SB70	Area 1	Beat SB	From Date 12/07/2020	From Time 11:31
Officer 3703/SANDOVAL, M		Assignment FORENSICS		Entered by 3703	Assignment FORENSICS	RMS Transfer Pending
Approving Officer 2901		Approval Date 12/14/2020	Approval Time 15:45:28			

Narrative

E-FILE ATTACHMENTS:

SBSO Coroner's Bureau Request for identification form

NARRATIVE:

At approximately 1115 hours on Monday, 12/14/20, Coroner Detective Chad Biedinger brought me a fingerprint comparison request along with a latent lift card containing an inked right thumb print from a decedent presumed to be Brandy Renee Vaughan ([REDACTED]).

Forensic Supervisor Nancy Fabela obtained a DMV Cal Photo printout for Brandy Vaughan.

FINGERPRINT COMPARISON OF DECEDENT'S RIGHT THUMB PRINT TO THE DMV RIGHT THUMB PRINT OF BRANDY RENEE VAUGHAN

I conducted a side by side comparison of the decedent's right thumb print to the right thumb print of Brandy Renee Vaughan ([REDACTED]). The decedent was individualized as being Brandy Renee Vaughan.

Forensics Supervisor Nancy Fabela independently verified the above comparison results on Monday, 12/14/20.

The SBSO Coroner's Bureau Request for comparison along with the inked thumb print was handed back to Detective Chad Biedinger on Monday, 12/14/20 at 1140 hours.

High resolution scans ([REDACTED]) were made of the decedent's right thumb print and Brandy Vaughan's DMV right thumb print. A Photoshop side-by-side comparison was made in this case. These items will be kept on file in the Santa Barbara Forensic Unit's digital imaging system under 20-14444.

~ END OF REPORT ~

Routing Instructions:

Please forward a copy of this report to the Coroner's office.

Coroner Report Santa Barbara County Sheriff

20-14444

Supplement No
0002



4434 Calle Real

Reported Date
02/22/2021

Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1002
Report Type
CORONER

Officer
BRUENING, B

(805) 681-4100

Administrative Information

Agency Santa Barbara County Sheriff		Report No 20-14444	Supplement No 0002	Reported Date 02/22/2021	Reported Time 05:51	Status Incident
Report Type Coroner's investigation		Location [REDACTED]				
City Santa Barbara City	ZIP Code 93117	Rep Dist SB70	Area 1	Beat SB	From Date 12/07/2020	From Time 11:31
Officer 4166/BRUENING, B		Assignment CORONER BUREAU		Entered by 4166	Assignment CORONER BUREAU	
RMS Transfer Pending	Report Title Coroner Report	Approving Officer 3768		Approval Date 02/23/2021		
Approval Time 14:40:17						
Cause of death (COR only) Pulmonary Thromboembolus		Manner of death (COR only) Natural		Date/Time of death pronounced 12-07-20/1104		Date/Time body found 12-07-20/1022
Dr. will sign N	Hospitalization n	Mortuary McDermott-Crockett		Removal Status Public Administrator		

Summary Narrative

The decedent was discovered unresponsive at home by her son. The decedent had been complaining of severe pain in her abdomen and thought it may have been a gallbladder issue in the weeks and days preceding her death. During autopsy, bilateral pulmonary embolus were found and were determined to be the cause of death. This was a naturally occurring death.

Decedent - Coroner Investigation 1: VAUGHAN, BRANDY

Involvement Decedent - Coroner Investigation		Invl No 1	Type Individual			
Name VAUGHAN, BRANDY		MNI [REDACTED]	Race [REDACTED]	Sex [REDACTED]	DOB [REDACTED]	Age [REDACTED]
Height [REDACTED]	Weight [REDACTED]	Hair Color [REDACTED]	Eye Color [REDACTED]			
Type Operator License		ID No [REDACTED]	OLS [REDACTED]			

Medical

Citizenship UNITED STATES		Place of Birth Foreign country not listed		Occupation NON PROFIT	
Coroner Case No 20-14444	Other Agency SANTA BARBARA POLICE	OA Officer OFFICER TREVINO		OA Case No 2020-55739	
NOK Name PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR		Mortuary Name MCDERMOTT-CROCKETT		On Call? Yes	Family Request? No
Private Physician [REDACTED]		Address [REDACTED]			
Phone No [REDACTED]					
Nature of Illness ABNORMAL WEIGHT GIN, FATIGUE					
Last Visit Date 08/06/2020	Decedent Driver No	Decedent Passenger No	Decedent Pedestrian No		

Other 1:

Involvement [REDACTED]	Invl No 1	Type [REDACTED]	Name [REDACTED]	MNI [REDACTED]	Race [REDACTED]	Sex [REDACTED]
DOB [REDACTED]	Age [REDACTED]	Juvenile? [REDACTED]				

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Phone Type [REDACTED]	Phone No [REDACTED]	Date [REDACTED]	
Other 2:			
Involvement Other	Invl No 2	Type Individual	Name [REDACTED]
DOB [REDACTED]	Age [REDACTED]	Juvenile? [REDACTED]	MNI [REDACTED]
Type [REDACTED]	Email [REDACTED]		
Other 3:			
Involvement Other	Invl No 3	Type Individual	Name [REDACTED]
DOB [REDACTED]	Age [REDACTED]	Juvenile? [REDACTED]	MNI [REDACTED]
Type Home	Address [REDACTED]		City [REDACTED]
State [REDACTED]	ZIP Code [REDACTED]	Date [REDACTED]	
Phone Type Home	Phone No [REDACTED]	Date [REDACTED]	Phone Type Home
Date 02/22/2021			
Other 4:			
Involvement Other	Invl No 4	Type Individual	Name [REDACTED]
DOB [REDACTED]	Age [REDACTED]	Juvenile? [REDACTED]	MNI [REDACTED]
Type Home	Address [REDACTED]		City [REDACTED]
State [REDACTED]	ZIP Code [REDACTED]	Date [REDACTED]	
Type Operator License	ID No [REDACTED]	OLS [REDACTED]	
Type Package Number	ID No [REDACTED]		
Type Social Security Number	ID No [REDACTED]		
Phone Type Cell	Phone No [REDACTED]	Date 02/22/2021	
Narrative			

Attachments:

Death Certificate
Amman Death Certificate
Post-Mortem Covid-19 Test Result
Toxicology Report
Autopsy Report

Physical Evidence:

Digital Photographs of the decedent were taken and stored at the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Coroner's Bureau. Samples of blood and vitreous humor were collected, one tube of blood was sent to Ascertain Forensics for toxicology screening, the remaining samples are retained at the Coroner's Bureau pending the need for further analysis.

Case Review:

The decedent, Brandy Vaughan, died at her home on 12/07/2020. The Santa Barbara Police Department responded to investigate and determined that there were no signs of foul play. After extensive searching, I was unable to locate next of kin for the decedent and turned the case over to the Santa Barbara County Public Administrator's Office to handle issues regarding next of kin and the final disposition of the decedent's body. During the course of this investigation, the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office was contacted by many individuals expressing concern over the death of the decedent, however, no valuable leads were developed from these messages/letters/e-mails.

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Narrative

Narrative:

On 12/07/2020, at 1443 hours, an examination of the decedent was conducted at the Coroner's Bureau. The decedent was received unclothed and supine. A tag with her name printed on it was attached to the body bag.

The decedent was a well-developed, Caucasian female whose appearance was commensurate with her stated age of 44 years. She had a full head of medium length black in color hair. Slight arcus senilis was noted in each of her eyes and she had visible creasing on each earlobe. Her chest was symmetrical. The decedent's abdomen was not distended. Post mortem lividity was on her posterior rigor mortis was present her extremities. No signs of visible or palpable trauma were detected. Samples of subclavian blood was collected. One tube of subclavian blood was submitted to Ascertain Forensics for toxicology analysis. The remaining fluid samples were refrigerated at the Coroner's Bureau pending a need for toxicology analysis.

I reviewed the initial report authored by Senior Deputy Henslin. Due to the decedent's age, and lack of medical history, I requested an autopsy be conducted. The autopsy was performed by Dr. Manny Montez on 12/08/2020 at 1000 hours, with the assistance of Coroner Forensic Technician John Kolbert. Detective John DeLeon was also present during the autopsy due to the fact I was not in attendance. Dr. Montez authored an autopsy report, documenting his findings at autopsy. Please refer to his attached report for more details regarding the autopsy.

I received a copy of Santa Barbara Police Department reports regarding this death, authored under SBPD case number 2020-55739; refer to the aforementioned report for additional information regarding statements and scene observations. The responding officers interviewed several parties. Officer Trevino interviewed the decedent's [REDACTED]. In summation, the [REDACTED] told Officer Trevino he had gone through his normal morning routine on the date of the decedent's death, and had gone outside to retrieve their dogs from the backyard while the decedent stated she was going to the bathroom. When he came back into the home, approximately 20 minutes later, he discovered the decedent on the floor of the bathroom. He stated to the officer that she was murmuring, her eyes were open and it appeared that she was breathing. The decedent's [REDACTED] then went to the living room to watch YouTube on his iPad. After approximately an hour, he went back to the bathroom and noticed the decedent was still in the bathroom, in the same position, but she was no longer making any noises. The decedent's [REDACTED] explained that his mom did not look "normal" and called [REDACTED]. The decedent's [REDACTED] told the officer that the decedent had not been feeling well for a while and said she had pain in her lower stomach area.

On 12/09/2020, I spoke with the decedent's friend, and temporary guardian of the decedent's [REDACTED]. In summation, she informed me the decedent had recently been experiencing great pain and that the decedent believed the pains to be related to her gallbladder. [REDACTED] informed me that the decedent was a prominent member of the anti-vaccination community and that many people were speculating about her death. On this date, I also spoke with [REDACTED], the reporting party to 911 when Vaughan was discovered deceased.

In summation, [REDACTED] informed me that on the morning of the decedent's passing, she received a phone call from the decedent's [REDACTED] informing her that the decedent was unresponsive in the bathroom of her home. [REDACTED] who lived near the decedent informed her boyfriend, [REDACTED] and they both ran to aid the decedent. [REDACTED] also called 911 to summon emergency services. They discovered the decedent on the floor of the bathroom. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] attempted to provide aid until EMS arrived. [REDACTED] did not know if the decedent suffered from any medical conditions. I later contacted [REDACTED] who confirmed what [REDACTED] had told me.

On 12/10/2020 I spoke with [REDACTED], the paternal grandmother of the decedent's [REDACTED]. In summation she informed me that the decedent was not married. [REDACTED] told me the decedent had recently been suffering from "pain in her belly" and had complained of being very tired. [REDACTED] stated she communicated with the decedent and her [REDACTED] frequently via telephone. [REDACTED] resides in France. She also informed me that the decedent had recently undergone a road trip in which the decedent traveled to the Grand Canyon with her [REDACTED] during the Thanksgiving Holiday. The decedent told her of a minor collision she had while driving her rented recreational vehicle somewhere in Arizona. The decedent was concerned over the potential cost of the damage to the vehicle.

On 12/11/2020 Detective Baisa and I, in an attempt to locate information regarding next of kin, will, and/or Durable Power of Attorney (DPOA) Health Care information went to the decedent's residence. We were unable to locate

Coroner Report

Santa Barbara County Sheriff

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any helpful information. Later, I met with the decedent's [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (temporary guardian), to retrieve the decedent's laptop and iPad. I searched for next of kin, DPOA and will information to no avail. The laptop was later returned to the decedent's son. I then turned the case over to the Public Administrator's Office for issues regarding next of kin and final disposition of the decedent's body.

On 12/30/2020, at approximately 1503 hours, I spoke with [REDACTED] whom the decedent had visited on 06/16/2020. [REDACTED] informed me that the decedent did not suffer from any chronic illness and that a recent battery of tests showed that the decedent was generally healthy. I submitted a medical records request to [REDACTED] office and received them. The most recent "Assessment" in the record, dated 08/06/2020 read as follows:

"Consult for weight gain and heavier menses x 18 months as well as long term memory issues since hep B vaccine and suspected aluminum toxicity, as well as suspected hormonal imbalances, persistent bloating without gas and possible candida dye to smelly urethral discharge. Labs reveal lower cortisol AM with dramatically increased crp and lower testosterone. Reports she did not start T, but after discussion today would like to begin. PARQ - proposed procedure, alternatives to the procedure, its risks were discussed, and all patient's questions were answered. Recommending DHEA, gut support due to worsening IBS and repeat blood labs in 6 weeks. f/u in 8. Will discuss heavy metal testing at next visit, pending repeat labs."

It should be noted, Vaughn never completed the heavy metals blood panel as requested by her doctor.

The record indicates a suggested return visit to [REDACTED] office to discuss further treatment and conduct other testing. It does not appear the decedent returned to [REDACTED] after 08/06/2020.

On 02/10/2021, I spoke with [REDACTED], the decedent's [REDACTED]. In summation, [REDACTED] Stated she had been working for the decedent in that capacity since August or September, tutoring the decedent's [REDACTED] twice a week for a total of four to six hours a week. She stated that the decedent had been "pretty active" until a couple of weeks before her death. She stated she had slowed down in that time citing pulled muscles and pain. The decedent also related that she was having extreme pain which she (the decedent) attributed to a "Gallbladder attack." 2/05/2020, the decedent texted the [REDACTED] asking her to take her (the decedent's) [REDACTED] to parkour class, and if she could drive her to a hyperbaric appointment. The decedent stated in the text message that she could not drive but was hoping the appointment would help heal the "infection." Also in the text message exchange she said she "can't breathe well with the severe pain :(" [REDACTED] said the decedent did not want to go to the emergency room because she feared she would be diagnosed with the Covid-19, she also stated she had no health insurance. During the drive to the hyperbaric appointment the decedent complained of shortness of breath. In regards to health history of the decedent, [REDACTED] stated she's had a cough since August/September that the decedent attributed to the smokey air conditions of the time, however, the cough never went away. [REDACTED] stated the decedent took "lots of supplements." She stated the decedent had gone a trip to Arizona over the Thanksgiving Holiday and returned to Santa Barbara on 12/01/2020. The decedent mentioned a small accident with the rented RV, but stated the decedent was more concerned about the damage to the vehicle. The decedent did not indicate that it was a large accident, or that there were any injuries from the accident.

I then spoke with [REDACTED] of the Hyperbaric Medical Center of Montecito. She informed me that the decedent had used her office only one time and that was on 12/05/2020. The decedent underwent 1 hour of treatment in the hyperbaric chamber and was scheduled for a second session on 12/07/2020 but never returned. Per the medical record, the decedent reported herself to be healthy except for some stress and fatigue. Reported feeling relaxed after the treatment and expressed wanting to return for more treatment.

On 02/22/2021, I was forwarded an email, authored by [REDACTED] regarding a conversation she had with [REDACTED] regarding the cause of death in this case. In that exchange, [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that the decedent's mother died as the result of Pulmonary Embolism.

I researched the death of the decedent's mother, [REDACTED] died in [REDACTED] on 10/21/2005. I requested information from the [REDACTED]. They provided me with an autopsy report [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] which I received on 02/23/2021. The cause of death listed for [REDACTED], who was 47 years old at the time of death, was listed as a result of bilateral pulmonary thromboemboli.

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Toxicology:

A single tube of subclavian blood was submitted to Ascertain forensics, the expanded panel results are as follows:

delta 9- Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)	Not Detected
11-hydroxy- THC	3.7 ng/ml
11-nor-THC-9-carboxylic acid	54ng/ml
Basic Drug Screen	None Detected
Volatiles (EtOH, IPA, MeOH, Acetone)	Not Detected
Acidic/Neutral Drug Screen	None Detected

A heavy metals test was also ordered, at the request of Sergeant Morris. The results:

Selenium	250 mcg/L
Additional Metals/Metalloids	Not Detected

I shared these results with Dr. Montez who found these results to be non-contributory to the decedent's death.

On 12/14/2020, Detective Biedinger collected and submitted a nasal pharyngeal swab to Santa Barbara County Public Health, the sample tested negative for the Covid-19 Virus.

Consultation with Forensic Pathologist:

I reviewed this case with Dr. Montez, and discussed his findings at autopsy. During the autopsy he found multiple well-formed thromboemboli in the right and left pulmonary arteries. Dr. Montez opined the cause of death to be Pulmonary Thromboembolus. Please see the attached autopsy report for more information regarding his findings.

Conclusion:

After reviewing the medical documents, the toxicology reports, and the circumstances surrounding the death of Brandy Vaughan, I certified her death as follows:

Cause: Pulmonary Thromboembolus

Manner: Natural

Disposition:

The decedent's remains were released to the care of McDermott-Crockett Mortuary after a release signed by the Public Administrator was received.

Agency # 20-1444

FORENSIC LABORATORY REPORT

AF # 2020-004728

To: Brice Bruening
Santa Barbara Co Sheriff-Coroner

Sample Collection Date: December 7, 2020

Decedent: Brandy R. Vaughan

The following evidence was submitted to the Laboratory by a representative of the Santa Barbara Co Sheriff-Coroner on 12/11/2020 via FedEx:

Submission 01: One tape sealed screw top metal canister containing a second screw top metal canister with one tube of blood. Attached paperwork marked in part "Vaughan Brandy R".

Item # 01-A: One gray top tube with approximately 9 mL of peripheral blood collected at 1315 hours.

Service Request:

F3048B - Misc. Chemicals (Confirm) - Blood

Confirmation/Screen Results

Analyte Name	Concentration	Method	Sample Type
Selenium	250 mcg/L	ICP-MS	Blood
Additional Metals/Metalloids	Not Detected	ICP-MS	Blood

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laureen J. Marinetti', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Laureen J. Marinetti, Ph.D., F-ABFT
Laboratory Director

Date of Report: January 25, 2021

Ascertain Forensics at Redwood Toxicology is accredited by The American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT) and is recognized by the State of California as a Title 17 Forensic Alcohol Laboratory.

All samples, including the sample packaging, will be retained at the laboratory for one year after the date of report. After one year, the samples and packaging will be destroyed unless the client requests that the samples be returned or an alternate retention policy has been set up with the laboratory. The laboratory cannot ship controlled substances.

Comments

Testing was performed by NMS Labs.

Metals/Metalloids tested includes: antimony, arsenic, bismuth, lead, mercury, selenium and thallium.

Agency # 20-1444

FORENSIC LABORATORY REPORT

AF # 2020-004728

To: Brice Bruening
Santa Barbara Co Sheriff-Coroner

Sample Collection Date: December 7, 2020

Decedent: Brandy R. Vaughan

The following evidence was submitted to the Laboratory by a representative of the Santa Barbara Co Sheriff-Coroner on 12/11/2020 via FedEx:

Submission 01: One tape sealed screw top metal canister containing a second screw top metal canister with one tube of blood. Attached paperwork marked in part "Vaughan Brandy R".

Item # 01-A: One gray top tube with approximately 9 mL of peripheral blood collected at 1315 hours.

Service Request:

FP222B - Expanded Pnl (Confirm) - Blood

Drug Screen Results - ELISA

Drug Screen Classification	Result	Limit of Detection
Amphetamine	Not Detected	20.0 ng/mL
Barbiturates	Not Detected	1.0 mcg/mL
Benzodiazepines	Not Detected	25.0 ng/mL
Buprenorphine	Not Detected	1.0 ng/mL
Carisoprodol	Not Detected	500.0 ng/mL
Cocaine Metabolite	Not Detected	50.0 ng/mL
Fentanyl	Not Detected	1.0 ng/mL
Marijuana Metabolite	Positive	10.0 ng/mL
Methadone	Not Detected	25.0 ng/mL
Methamphetamine	Not Detected	20.0 ng/mL
Opiates	Not Detected	10.0 ng/mL
Oxycodone \ Oxymorphone	Not Detected	5.0 ng/mL
PCP	Not Detected	5.0 ng/mL
Tramadol	Not Detected	50.0 ng/mL
Zolpidem	Not Detected	5.0 ng/mL

Confirmation/Screen Results

Analyte Name	Concentration	Method	Sample Type
delta 9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)	Not Detected	LC-MS-MS	Blood
11-hydroxy-THC (11-OH-THC)	3.7 ng/mL	LC-MS-MS	Blood
11-nor-THC-9-carboxylic acid (THC-COOH)	54 ng/mL	LC-MS-MS	Blood
Basic Drug Screen	None Detected	LC-MS-MS	Blood
Volatiles (EtOH, IPA, MeOH, Acetone)	Not Detected	GC-Headspace	Blood
Acidic/Neutral Drug Screen	None Detected	GC-MS	Blood

Respectfully,



Laureen J. Marinetti, Ph.D., F-ABFT
Laboratory Director

Date of Report: January 15, 2021

Ascertain Forensics at Redwood Toxicology is accredited by The American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT) and is recognized by the State of California as a Title 17 Forensic Alcohol Laboratory.

All samples, including the sample packaging, will be retained at the laboratory for one year after the date of report. After one year, the samples and packaging will be destroyed unless the client requests that the samples be returned or an alternate retention policy has been set up with the laboratory. The laboratory cannot ship controlled substances.

Comments

EtOH - ethanol, IPA - isopropanol, MeOH - methanol



Santa Barbara County Sheriff-Coroner
Coroner's Bureau
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Santa Barbara, California 93110
(805) 681-4145

AUTOPSY REPORT

Name: VAUGHAN, BRANDY
Coroner's Case
Number: 20-14444

Date of Autopsy:	12/08/20	Age:	44 years
Time of Autopsy:	1000 hours	Sex:	Female
Site of Autopsy:	Coroner's Bureau	Length:	64 inches
	Santa Barbara, California	Weight:	155 pounds

Coroner's Investigator:
Pathologist:

Coroner Detective Brice Bruening
Manny Montez, M.D.

CAUSE OF DEATH:

PULMONARY THROMBOEMBOLUS



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VAUGHAN, BRANDY
Coroner's Case Number: 20-14444

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A postmortem examination of the body, **VAUGHAN, BRANDY**, a 44 year old female, White, is authorized by the sheriff coroner and is performed at 1000 hours, on December 8, 2020, at the Santa Barbara County Sheriff Coroner's Facility in Santa Barbara, California.

Present is Sheriff Coroner Detective John DeLeon. Assisting during the examination is Coroner Forensic Technician John Kolbert.

The body is received in a zipped black plastic body bag and is identified by an appropriately labeled identification tag affixed to the bag. The identification tag is inscribed with the decedent's name and case number. When first viewed, the body is unclad.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

The body is of a well-developed, well-nourished, White female, weighing approximately 155 pounds, measuring approximately 64 inches in length, and appearing the recorded age of 44 years.

The head is symmetric and the brown scalp hair is greater than 12". The eyes have hazel irides and the conjunctivae and sclerae are without petechiae, jaundice, or hemorrhage. The dilated pupils are round and equal. Slight arcus is present. The eyelids are unremarkable. The pierced ears are normally formed. The nasal cartilage and bones are unremarkable upon palpation. The nares are patent and have no discharge. The nasal septum is intact. The lips are unremarkable. The oral cavity has intact teeth and an atraumatic mucosa. The tongue is unremarkable. The face is symmetric and there are no palpable fractures. The neck is unremarkable. The trachea is in the midline. The anterior aspect of the torso is well-developed. The breasts are without palpable masses. The abdomen is not distended. The posterior aspect of the torso is well developed. The genitalia are of a normally developed female without trauma. The empty anus is patent and atraumatic. The extremities are well-developed.



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The fingernails are long and intact. The toenails are short, intact, and painted with pink polish.

There is a tattoo of an Asian symbol over the lower midline back. There is a 1/4" mole over the lateral right buttock. There is a faint irregular scar below the right knee. There is a faint linear scar/healing abrasion over the front of the upper left thigh. There are two small linear scars over the left knee.

POSTMORTEM CHANGES:

Rigor mortis is full and symmetrical; livor mortis is non-fixed and dorsal; the body is cold to touch. Tach noire is present over the eyes.

THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES:

There are cardioversion patches on the chest. There is an intra-osseous fluid catheter in the right lower leg.

INJURIES:

- A 1/8" faint abrasion over the right elbow.
- A 1/8" old abrasion over the left elbow.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION:

HEAD: The scalp is unremarkable. The subgaleal tissues and temporalis muscles are unremarkable. The skull is without fracture. There is no epidural, subdural, or subarachnoid hemorrhage. The dura and leptomeninges are unremarkable. The brain



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weighs 1260 grams and has normal distributions of cranial nerves and cerebral vessels. There is no significant atherosclerosis. The white and grey matter are normally distributed. The deep nuclei and ventricles are unremarkable. The pituitary gland is unremarkable insitu. The brainstem and cerebellum are unremarkable. The base of the skull is without fracture. The proximal spinal cord is unremarkable.

NECK: The cervical vertebrae, hyoid bone, tracheal and laryngeal cartilages, strap muscles, carotid and jugular vessels, and other paratracheal soft tissues are unremarkable. The larynx, trachea, epiglottis and aryepiglottic folds are unremarkable. The upper airway is not obstructed. The tongue is unremarkable.

BODY CAVITIES: The organs are in their normal situs without adhesions. The subcutaneous adipose tissue is unremarkable. The parietal and peritoneal surfaces are unremarkable. The diaphragm is unremarkable. There is no free fluid in the body cavities.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: There is no excess fluid in the unremarkable pericardial sac. The pericardium is without exudate or adhesion. The heart weighs 320 grams. The epicardial surface and fat are unremarkable. The heart has a normal distribution of patent coronary arteries. The left ventricular myocardium shows no infarcts. The left ventricular wall is not hypertrophied. The endocardium, papillary muscles, chordae tendineae and four cardiac valves are unremarkable. There are no septal defects. The cardiac chambers are not dilated. The venae cavae are unremarkable. The distal main pulmonary artery contains multiple well-formed thromboemboli which completely occlude the lumen. The thromboemboli are not attached to the vessel wall. The thromboemboli extend into the right and left pulmonary arteries. The aortic arch and great vessels are unremarkable. The descending aorta shows no significant atherosclerosis. The renal and iliac vessels are unremarkable.



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RESPIRATORY SYSTEM: The right lung weighs 640 grams and the left lung weighs 480 grams. The pleural surfaces show no blebs or bullae. There is subpleural hemorrhage over the lower lobes. The lungs are not hyper-inflated. The lungs show congestion. The lungs are without consolidation or neoplasm. The patent tracheobronchial tree contains no mucus or mucus plugs. The right and left pulmonary arteries contain multiple well-formed thromboemboli which completely occlude the lumens. The thromboemboli are not attached to the vessel walls. The thromboemboli are removed and collectively measure 11 cm x 3 cm x 1 cm in aggregate.

LIVER, GALLBLADDER, PANCREAS: The liver weighs 1880 grams and has an intact brown capsule and brown parenchyma without focal lesions. The portal vessels are unremarkable. The unremarkable gallbladder contains 5 ml of yellow bile and no stones or obstructions. The pancreas is without focal lesions.

HEMIC AND LYMPHATIC SYSTEMS: The spleen weighs 180 grams and has an intact purple capsule and dark red parenchyma without focal lesions. Lymph nodes are not enlarged.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM: The right kidney weighs 180 grams and the left kidney weighs 180 grams. The subcapsular surfaces are smooth and unremarkable. The architecture and vasculature are unremarkable. The ureters maintain uniform caliber into an unremarkable bladder containing approximately 100 ml of clear light-yellow urine. The internal reproductive organs are unremarkable.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM: The pituitary, thyroid, and adrenal glands are without focal lesions.

DIGESTIVE SYSTEM: The esophagus and gastroesophageal junction are unremarkable. The stomach contains approximately 50 ml of tan liquid without visible food, tablets, or pills. The gastric mucosa and wall are unremarkable. The intestines and appendix are unremarkable. The distal colon shows constipation.



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MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM: The vertebrae, clavicles, sternum, ribs, and pelvis are unremarkable with the exception of mild scoliosis. The musculature is unremarkable. There are bilateral anterior rib fractures consistent with cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

TOXICOLOGY: Samples of blood and vitreous are taken at autopsy. DNA is taken at autopsy.

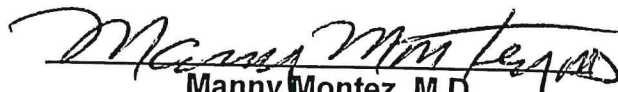
HISTOLOGY: Tissue is retained in formalin for stock. One stock jar is retained. No histology is submitted.

ANATOMIC DIAGNOSES:

1. Pulmonary thromboembolus.

OPINION:

This 44 year old female, White, **VAUGHAN, BRANDY**, died of Pulmonary Thromboembolus.


Manny Montez, M.D.

February 18, 2021
Date