

Dr. Maria Morton
Office of the Medical Examiner
Dublin District Mortuary, Whitehall
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Narrative Report of Medical Investigation

Case 41165-43

The body of an adult female, 34 years old, was examined following discovery at her residence in Kilbride in the early hours of November 1st. The deceased was found lying in a face down position, and was transported securely to DDM within an hour of discovery. Examination was completed at approximately 1pm on the same day by myself, Dr. Maria Morton and assistant medical examiner Dr. Ferghal Grant. An initial external review revealed two tattoos: one on the right shoulder and another inside the right ankle that are well healed and evidently not recent. The primary cause of death is attributed to a single, forceful blow to the occipital region of the skull. The impact produced a depressed fracture with associated cerebral haemorrhage. Based on injury pattern and severity, this wound would have resulted in rapid loss of consciousness followed shortly by death.

No evidence of defensive injuries were observed on the hands, arms, or torso. This is indicative of a blow delivered either from behind or in a context where the decedent was unprepared or otherwise incapacitated. Additionally, the angle of the impact suggests the assailant stood at a height broadly similar to, or more likely taller than, the victim. While it is possible the blow was delivered while the victim was bending forward, the lack of secondary abrasions or balance related injuries makes this less likely.

Traces of woodsmoke odour were retained in hair and clothing alongside minor particulate debris (ash, cinders), again in the outer garments and hair. These findings, alongside small soot deposits beneath the fingernails of the left hand are consistent with the deceased having been in close proximity to an outdoor fire prior to death, likely within a short period before the incident. This combined forensic evidence would put the estimated time of death between 2130 and 2330 on October 31st.

Toxicology samples were retained for further analysis, though there is no immediate evidence of alcohol or drug intoxication at time of death.