

# IA-427 Forensics Report Internal Case Hands-On Project 1-1

Incident Status: **CLOSED** 

Report written by: Jesse Russell Revision: 1

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## 2 Executive Summary

Joshua Zarkan found his girlfriend Sylvia's dead body and reported it to authorites. Investigators found a USB stick and pulled a few files off of it that may suggest what happened to her. It appears to suggest that Sylvia committed suicide.

Nature of the case: Investigation into who is responsible for the death of Sylvia, whether it was a murder, suicide, or death of natural causes.



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## 3 Incident Discovery

- 3.1 Summary -
- 3.2 Action Items investigation artifacts

| Item to analyze    | Assigned to   | Status / Completion date |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Sylvias Assets.xls | Jesse Russell | Completed on 1/19/21     |
| suicide1.txt       | Jesse Russell | Completed on 1/19/21     |
|                    |               |                          |
| Continue as needed |               |                          |
|                    |               |                          |
|                    |               |                          |
|                    |               |                          |

- 3.3 Description of system(s) in
- 3.4 Type of Evidence: Skip
- 4 Forensics Process
- 4.1 Tools (list all tools)
- 4.1.1 Pro Discover Version 8.2.0.2

File analysis tool used to look through files that were or were not deleted.

4.1.2 Microsoft Excel 16.0.13530.20376

Microsoft Excel was used to open .xls files for this report.

4.2 Evidence to Analyze - Fill out data

| File name    | MD5                              | Status   |
|--------------|----------------------------------|----------|
| Sylvias      | 3815e0687955ca64df2222f82216f4ca | Complete |
| Assets.xls   |                                  |          |
| Suicide1.txt | cb3899712da5c2bd5faf405c28bc95d4 | Complete |
|              |                                  |          |
|              |                                  |          |
|              |                                  |          |
|              |                                  |          |
|              |                                  |          |

# 5 Results and Findings

#### 5.1 Analysis of Evidence



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#### 5.1.1 Sylvias Assets.xls

MD5: 3815e0687955ca64df2222f82216f4ca

| Silvia's Assets |                |              |  |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|--|
|                 |                |              |  |
| Stocks          |                | 125,000.00   |  |
| Bonds           | \$             | 651,000.00   |  |
| Real Estate     |                | 850,000.00   |  |
| Annuities       | \$             | 125,000.00   |  |
| Savings Account | \$             | 45,000.00    |  |
| Life Insurance  | \$1,000,000.00 |              |  |
|                 |                |              |  |
| Total           | \$2            | 2,796,000.00 |  |

How artifact was found: Found on USB stick.

Comments: This is an excel spreadsheet that details Sylvia's Assets.

#### 5.1.2 suicide.txt

MD5: cb3899712da5c2bd5faf405c28bc95d4

I just can't go on any longer. Someone has to help lme! Sylvia

How artifact was found: Found on USB stick.

Comments: Appears to be a suicide note left by Sylvia.

#### 6.0 Conclusion

The evidence listed above suggests that Sylvia committed suicide, and her death should be handled as such. One may look at the file detailing her high value assets and conclude that Sylvia's boyfriend murdered her and staged it to look like a suicide, but this seems unlikely in my professional opinion. Since they were not married, her assets likely would not go to Joshua and instead would probably go to the bank. Because of this, the most logical explanation is that this was a genuine and legitimate suicide.