



County of San Diego

STEVEN C. CAMPMAN, M.D.
CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

DEPARTMENT OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER
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JONATHAN R. LUCAS, M.D.
CHIEF DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINER

CALL INFO	NAME OF DECEASED ARCE-LARA , Heriberto		AKA	HIO <input type="checkbox"/>	CASE NUMBER 2014-00161	
	INVESTIGATOR Susan Stolberg	REPORTED BY Miley Macleod, R.N.	REPORTING AGENCY Alvarado Hospital		PREVIOUS WAIVE #	
	CALL DATE AND TIME 1/18/2014 2048	ARRIVAL DATE AND TIME 1/18/2014 2125		RETURN DATE AND TIME 1/18/2014 2334		
DECEDENT	DATE AND TIME OF DEATH 1/18/2014 1948	DATE OF BIRTH 11/29/1963	AGE 50 Years	GENDER Male	RACE White	
	RESIDENCE (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP) 480 Alta Road, San Diego, CA, 92179			COUNTY San Diego	LAST SEEN ALIVE	
	COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE San Diego	OCCUPATION Inmate			PAID AUTOPSY <input type="checkbox"/>	
DEATH	LOCATION OF DEATH Alvarado Hospital			TYPE OF PLACE Hospital		
	ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP) 6655 Alvarado Rd, San Diego, CA, 92120					
	SUMMARY The decedent was a 50-year-old single White male who was incarcerated at RJ Donovan Correctional Facility. On 01/17/14, he presented to Alvarado Hospital due to shortness of breath. Upon arrival, he was diagnosed with bilateral pneumonia and admitted for further care. He was given a grim prognosis and made a do not resuscitate status. On 01/18/14, the decedent went into cardiac arrest and death was pronounced. Medical Examiner's jurisdiction invoked according to the California Government Code 27491: Sudden and unexpected death.					
INCIDENT	LOCATION OF INCIDENT		INCIDENT PLACE TYPE Other			
			AT WORK <input type="checkbox"/>		AT RESIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/>	
	ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)					
	COUNTY					
	DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT	INVESTIGATING AGENCY R.J. Donovan Correctional Facility	OFFICER E. Oliver	BADGE # 1410925	REPORT #	
DECEDENT WAS	BELTED No	HELMETED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	POSITION	ON PRIVATE PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
VEHICLE		LICENSE NUMBER		STATE		
NOTIFICATION	IDENTIFIED BY E. Oliver		METHOD Visual		DATE AND TIME 01/18/2014 1948	
	FUNERAL HOME Bishop Mortuary	PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR False		TYPE OF EXAM External Exam	
	NAME OF NOK OR OTHER Martin Yanez		RELATIONSHIP Brother in law		DATE NOTIFIED 1/19/2014	NOTIFIED BY Telephone

INVESTIGATIVE NARRATIVE

Decedent: Heriberto Arce-Lara

Antemortem Events:

The following information was obtained on 01/18/14, upon review of the decedent's medical records received from Alvarado Hospital. The decedent was a 50-year-old Single Hispanic male who was incarcerated at RJ Donovan Correctional Facility. He had been incarcerated since 1991. On 01/17/14, he presented to Alvarado Hospital due to fever, chills, cough with bloody vomitus, shortness of breath, and abdominal pain. Upon arrival to the emergency department at 1332 hours, a chest x-ray was performed which revealed bilateral pneumonia. He was also diagnosed with acute respiratory distress and sepsis. The decedent was placed on antibiotics and admitted to the Intensive Care Unit for further care. He was given a grim prognosis and on 01/18/14, hospital staff elected to make him a do not resuscitate status. The decedent condition rapidly declined and on 01/18/14 he coded. Death was pronounced by hospital staff on 01/18/14, at 1948 hours.

Past Medical, Surgical, and Social History:

The following information was obtained upon review of the decedent's medical records received from Alvarado Hospital. The decedent had a medical history significant for hepatitis C, end stage liver disease, cirrhosis with varices, ascites, portal hypertension with portal hypertensive gastropathy, gastrointestinal bleed, hiatal hernia, gastroesophageal reflux disease, cholecystitis, thrombocytopenia, anemia, and chronic back pain. He had a past history of alcohol, tobacco, and heroin use. There is no known history of depression, suicidal ideations, or past suicide attempts. The decedent was recently hospitalized on 01/03/14, at Alvarado Hospital for acute cholecystitis and renal failure. During his hospitalization he underwent a laparoscopic cholecystectomy with liver biopsy. The procedure was completed on 01/08/14, without complications and the decedent was discharged back to R.J. Donovan Correctional Facility on 01/14/14.

Scene Description:

On 01/18/14, at 2125 hours I arrived at the scene which was Alvarado Hospital Intensive Care Unit Room 507 located at 6655 Alvarado Road, in San Diego.

Body Description:

During the above mentioned scene investigation I viewed the decedent lying supine on a standard hospital bed. He was covered to his chin with a blanket. Removal of the blanket revealed the body of a thin Caucasian male clad in a standard hospital gown. The following medical interventions were noted to be in place: an endotracheal tube held in place with white tape, electrocardiogram pads affixed to his chest, intravenous lines established to his right and left antecubital fossae, a blood pressure cuff around his left bicep, a Foley catheter, and compression stockings on his legs. An identification band encircled his right wrist. The decedent was cool to the touch and flaccid. Slow blanching posterior lividity was observed and consistent with the position in which he was viewed. Upon palpation there was no crepitus felt to the decedent's head, neck, shoulders, or chest. His eyes were clear and the sclera were yellow. There were no petechial hemorrhages noted. There was no ligature mark furrow observed around his neck. Scars in various stages of healing were noted on his abdomen. The decedent's back was unremarkable. His right pinky finger was amputated and a large fleshy bump was noted on his wrist and palm. There was no obvious trauma noted to any part of the decedent's body.

On 01/18/14, at 2205 hours, a yellow identifying band was placed on the decedent's right ankle. 92M Transport personnel A. Martin placed the decedent in a new white pouch and blue tamper evident seal 2888274 was affixed at 2209 hours, for transport to the Medical Examiner's Office.

Special Requests:

There are no special requests.

Identification:

The decedent was visually identified by California Department of Corrections Officer Oliver ID 1410925, while at the scene.

Antemortem Specimens:

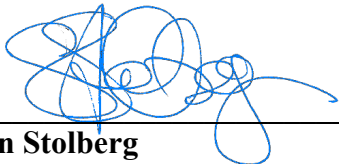
Four vials of antemortem specimens were collected at the hospital and impounded at the Medical Examiner's Office.

Public Administrator:

No referral necessary.

Other Important Factors:

There are no other important factors.

Signed:  03/17/14
Susan Stolberg
Medical Examiner Investigator

Approved by: 

External Exam NOT Dictated

CAUSE OF DEATH WORKSHEET

County of San Diego
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER

San Diego County Medical Examiner
14-00161
Dr. B. Schaber
1/19/2014
Arcelara, Ehriberto

time interval

CAUSE OF DEATH: (PENDING No MEO D/C)

Acute Klebsiella pneumoniae pneumonia
Due To: with Sepsis (days)

Due To: _____

Due To: _____

CONTRIBUTING: End stage hepatic cirrhosis with chronic hepatitis C viral infection, Recent acute cholecystitis

MANNER OF DEATH: ☒ Natural () Accident () Suicide () Homicide () Pending
() Undetermined () Fetal Death / no manner

HOW OCCURRED: _____

DATE and TIME of INJURY:

LOCATION:

SURGERIES and DATES: Laparoscopic cholecystectomy 1/8/14

If FEMALE, pregnant within the last year? () Yes () No () Unknown

PS
Deputy Medical Examiner

Supervising DME

1/19/14
Date

Rev. 07/06

1/20/14
JE

County of San Diego
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER

San Diego County Medical Examiner
14-00161 Dr. B. Schaber
1/19/2014
Arcelara, Ehriberto

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

Dictated

BRIEF HISTORY: 50 y/o male RJ Dorian. Seen at work and cholelithiasis & spiro. Underwent lap cholelithectomy & cholecystitis. D/C back to prison. Then developed fever, chills, cough & ER. DX & Klebsiella pneumoniae sepsis. Then died after end stage liver disease. Hx of cirrhosis, hepatitis and hypodysplasia. ETOH abuse, past drug use. Family requests no autopsy

EXTERNAL DESCRIPTION: (See also diagram)

well developed well nourished: obese/ thin/ cachectic
if Embalmed if Postmortem artifacts:

Rigor mortis: absent/ mild/ moderate/ full
Livor mortis: unfixed/ fixed, posterior/ anterior:
if Decomposition:

Head: 6 ft 10 in (male pattern baldness)
Hair: gray/ brown/ black/ blond/ mix Length: short
Facial hair: shaven; mustache/ beard: 1/2"
Irides: brown/ hazel/ green/ blue/ undet Pupils: equal
Corneas: opaque/ clear/ removed/ arcus senilis dots
Sclerae & conjunctivae: or
Petechiae: yes/ no Nose: normal
Ears: pierced creased
Mouth and lips: normal
Upper Teeth: intact/ partial/ absent/ denture
Lower Teeth: intact/ partial/ absent/ denture

Neck: symmetrical IV RT

Chest: symmetrical
Breasts: no masses

Abdomen: flat / distended; soft/ firm
scars: healed lap. incision

Genitalia: male / circumcised Foley cath
edema

Arms: normal
senile ecchymoses
Fingernails: short

Legs: 1 edema; 0 deformity
Toenails: short clean

Back: symmetrical
Anus: normal

Skin: jaundiced

EVIDENCE OF MEDICAL THERAPY:

None See Diagram
Endotracheal tube Oral airway
Nasogastric tube EKG pads
Defib pads/marks
Needle punctures / IV lines:

EXTERNAL EVIDENCE OF INJURY:

See Diagram No significant None
As below:

SPECIMENS TAKEN:

None Urine CSF
Vitreous Blood; site:
OTHER:

STAT CO / alcohol:
Rapid screens:

HISTOLOGY: None / cassettes

X-RAYS: 0

PHOTOGRAPHS: ID photo
External overall Other:

CAUSE OF DEATH:

Due to: See Cause of

Due to: Death

CONTRIBUTING: WALSH

MANNER: Natural / Accident / Suicide/

Biopsy performed

SURGERIES:

Date/Time of injury:
How injury occurred:

DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINER

DATE

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION REPORT

AGE: 50 yrs SEX: Male HEIGHT: 66 in. WEIGHT: 171 lbs. Date & Time of EXAM: 10:25

ETHNICITY: ☐ Caucasian ☒ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Asian ☐ Filipino ☐ Native American ☐ Other:

CLOTHING: (☒ None/ ☐ Not examined)

IDENTIFICATION: ☒ M.E. ankle band checked

