

**12**

**AUTOPSY REPORT**

No. 2020-08357

HERRERA JR., SAMUEL

I performed an autopsy on the body of →

at the DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

Los Angeles, California on September 12, 2020 0830  
(Date) (Time)

From the anatomic findings and pertinent history I ascribe the death to:

(A) Gunshot wounds

DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF  
(B)

DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF  
(C)

DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF  
(D)

OTHER CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING BUT NOT RELATED TO THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH

MANNER OF DEATH

Homicide

HOW INJURY OCCURRED

By on duty law enforcement officers

*Anatomic Summary :*

- I. Gunshot wound #1, left upper chest (GSW A, G, I)
  - A. Entrance (GSW A): left upper chest
  - B. Exits (GSWs G, I): left axilla, left upper back
  - C. Associated injuries
    - a. **Perforated left lower lung lobe**
    - b. **Left hemothorax, fresh, 150 mL**
  - D. Direction: front to back, right to left and downward
  - E. Range of fire: indeterminate
  
- II. Gunshot wound #2, right elbow (GSWs B,C)
  - A. Entrance (GSW B): right elbow
  - B. Exit (GSW C): right forearm
  - C. Associated injuries
    - a. Right proximal radius fracture
  - D. Direction: back to front right to left an upward
  - E. Range of fire: indeterminate
  
- III. Gunshot wound #3, right hand (GSWs D, E)
  - A. Entrance (GSW D): right hand
  - B. Exit: right hand
  - C. Associated injuries
    - a. Right first digit proximal phalange fractures
  - D. Direction: back to front, left to right and downward
  - E. Range of fire: indeterminate

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- IV. Gunshot wound #4, right lateral thigh (GSW F)  
A. Entrance: right lateral thigh  
B. Recovery: right posterior thigh deformed jacketed bullet  
C. Direction: front to back, right to left and downward  
D. Range of fire: indeterminate
- V. Gunshot wound #5, right calf (GSWs H,N)  
A. Entrance (GSW N): right calf  
B. Exit (GSW H): right shin  
C. Direction: back to front and right to left  
D. Range of fire: indeterminate
- VI. Gunshot wound #6, left upper back (GSWs J, O)  
A. Entrance (GSW J): left upper back  
B. Exit (GSW O): right lower back  
C. Direction: back to front, left to right and downward  
D. Range of fire: indeterminate
- VII. Gunshot wound #7, right lower back (GSW P)  
A. Entrance (GSW P): right lower back  
B. Recovery: left side of sacral bone deformed jacketed bullet  
C. Direction: back to front, right to left and downward  
D. Range of fire: indeterminate
- VIII. Gunshot wound #8, mid back (GSW L)  
A. Entrance (GSW L): mid back  
B. Recovery: paraspinal soft tissue deformed jacketed bullet  
C. Direction: back to front, left to right and downward  
D. Range of fire: indeterminate
- IX. Gunshot wound #9, right buttock (GSW M)  
A. Entrance: right buttock  
B. Recovery: right thighs soft tissue deformed bullet fragment  
C. Direction: back to front, left to right and downward  
D. Range of fire: indeterminate
- X. Gunshot wound #10, right upper back (GSW K)  
A. Entrance: right upper back

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- B. Recovery: mid abdomen soft tissue deformed jacketed bullet
- C. Associated injuries
  - a. **Perforated right lower lung lobe**
  - b. **Perforated right liver lobe**
  - c. **Right hemothorax, fresh, 125 ml**
  - d. **Right pneumothorax**
- D. Direction: back to front, right to left and downward
- E. Range of fire: indeterminate

- XI. Probable graze wounds
  - A. Right frontal/parietal full thickness laceration
  - B. Left forearm laceration

- XII. Blunt trauma, head
  - A. Superficial
    - a. Frontal scalp abrasions
    - b. Left malar red abrasion
    - c. Nasal bridge abrasion
  - B. Epicranium
    - a. Frontal subgaleal hemorrhage

- XIII. Blunt trauma, torso
  - A. Right axilla abrasion

**CIRCUMSTANCES:**

Please see Investigator's Report.

**EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:**

The body is identified by toe tags and is that of an unembalmed refrigerated adult male who appears the reported age of 41 years. The body measures 67 inches, weighs 208 pounds, and is normally developed. The nutritional status is unremarkable. Examination of the skin no evidence of jaundice. Scars: not identified. Tattoos: (there are numerous tattoos present with only a select few described) right upper chest woman with wings "Reina", left upper chest two women faces "Samuel", left deltoid region Grim Reaper, mid upper back "Herrera", anterior aspect of left forearm "CUTKS13", distal aspect of right anterior thigh "LA", right shin "Compton", left shin "TOKERS", right arm sleeve with numerous skulls and posterior aspect of right hand "CPTKS".

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Rigor mortis is absent. Livor mortis is fixed and posterior.

The head is normal in size and shape. The scalp hair is brown. There is no temporal or vertex balding. Mustache is present. Beard is present. Examination of the eyes reveals irides that appear to be brown and sclerae that are white. The conjunctivae are not congested. The oronasal passages are unobstructed. There is no foam in the nares or oral cavity. Upper and lower teeth are present. Frenulae and oral mucosa are intact.

There is no chest deformity. There is no increased anterior-posterior diameter. The abdomen is obese. The genitalia are those of an adult male. The external genitalia are without trauma or lesions.

**EVIDENCE OF THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTION:**

There is no evidence of recent therapeutic intervention. Recent needle punctures are not identified. There has not been post mortem intervention for organ procurement.

**POST MORTEM CHANGES:**

There is no evidence of post mortem changes.

**EVIDENCE OF INJURY:**

The gunshot wounds are arbitrarily labeled for reference purposes only and do not indicate temporality or severity.

**Gunshot wound #1, left upper chest (GSWs A,G,I)**

Entrance (GSW A):

On the left upper chest, 15 inches from the top of the head, 2 inches right of anterior midline and 2.25 inches superior and medial to the nipple is a 0.25 inch entrance gunshot wound with circumferential marginal abrasion. Soot, unburned gun powder particles, and stippling are not visible on the skin surrounding the wound.

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Exit (GSW G):

On the left axilla, 18 inches from the top of the head, 9 inches right of anterior midline and 2.5 inches inferior and lateral to the nipple is a 0.25 inch laceration without circumferential marginal abrasion.

Exit (GSW I):

On the left upper back, 16 inches from the top of the head, 9 inches left of coaster midline and 7.5 inches inferior to the acromioclavicular joint is a 0.5 inch laceration without circumferential marginal abrasion.

Path:

The bullet sequentially preferred skin of the left upper chest, left anterior third rib, left lower lung lobe, left lateral ribs (five through six), soft tissue and exited the skin of the left axilla (GSW G) and left upper back (GSW I).

Associated injuries:

1. **Perforated left lower lung lobe**
2. **Hemothorax, fresh, 150 mL**

Direction:

The bullet went from his front to back, right to left and downward.

Range of fire:

The range of fire is indeterminate.

**Gunshot wound #2, right elbow (GSWs B, C)**

Entrance (GSW B):

On the right elbow region, 14 inches from the acromioclavicular joint, 2 inches right of posterior midline and 2 inches lateral

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to the elbow is a 0.25 inch entrance gunshot wound with circumferential marginal abrasion. Soot, unburned gunpowder particles and stippling are not visible on the skin surrounding the wound.

Exit (GSW C):

On the anterior aspect of the right forearm, 16 inches from the acromioclavicular, 1.25 inches right of anterior midline and 3 inches inferior to the antecubital fossa is a 1 x 0.5" laceration without marginal abrasion.

Path:

The bullet sequentially penetrated skin of the right elbow region, soft tissue, right proximal radius, soft tissue and exited the skin of the anterior aspect of the right forearm.

Associated injuries:

1. Right proximal radius fractures

Direction:

The bullet went from his back to front, right to left and upward.

Range of fire:

The range of fire is indeterminate.

**Gunshot wound #3, right hand (GSW D, E)**

Entrance (GSW D):

On the posterior aspect of the right hand, 27 inches from the acromioclavicular joint, 4 inches right of posterior midline and 2 inches inferior to the wrist is a 0.25 inch entrance gunshot wound with circumferential marginal abrasion that is widest at the 11 to 1 o'clock position of the wound. Soot, unburned gunpowder particles and stippling are not visible on the skin surrounding the wound.

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Exit (GSW E):

On the right hand (involving the webbing between digits one two), 27.75 inches from the acromioclavicular joint, 2 inches right of anterior midline and at the metacarpophalangeal joint is a 3 x 0.5" laceration.

Path:

The bullet sequentially penetrated skin of the posterior aspect of the right hand, soft tissue, proximal phalange and exited the skin of the webbing between digits one and two.

Associated injuries:

1. Right hand proximal phalange fractures

Direction:

The bullet went from his back to front, left to right and downward.

Range of fire:

The range of fire is indeterminate.

**Gunshot wound #4, right lateral thigh (GSW F)**

Entrance (GSW F):

On the right lateral thigh, 35 inches from the heel, 9 inches left of anterior midline and 6 inches inferior and lateral to the inguinal region is a 0.25 inch entrance gunshot one with circumferential marginal abrasion that is widest at the nine to 12 o'clock position of the wound. Soot, unburned gunpowder particles and stippling are not visible on the skin surrounding one.

Recovery:

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Recovered from the soft tissue of the right posterior thigh (associated with a 2 x 1.5" purple - red contusion) is a deformed jacketed bullet.

**Path:**

The bullet sequentially perforated skin of the right lateral thigh, soft tissue and came to rest in the soft tissue of the right posterior thigh.

**Direction:**

The bullet went from his front to back, right to left and downward.

**Range of fire:**

The range of fire is indeterminate.

**Gunshot wound #5, right calf (GSWs H,N)****Entrance (GSW N):**

On the right calf, 14 inches from the heel, 0.5 inches left of posterior midline and 4 inches inferior to the popliteal fossa is a 0.25 inch entrance gunshot wound with circumferential marginal abrasion. Soot, unburned gunpowder particles and stippling are not visible on the skin surrounding the wound.

**Exit (GSW H):**

On the medial aspect of the right shin, 14 inches from the heel, 2.5 inches right of anterior midline and 5 inches inferior to the knee is a 1.5 x 1" stellate laceration.

**Path:**

The bullet sequentially perforated skin of the right calf, soft tissue and exited the skin of the right shin.

**Direction:**



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The bullet went from his back to front and right to left.

Range of fire:

The range of fire is indeterminate.

**Gunshot wound #6, left upper back (GSWs J, O)**

Entrance (GSW J):

On the left upper back, 16.5 inches from the top of the head, 6.5 inches left of posterior midline and 8 inches inferior to the acromioclavicular joint is a 0.5 inch entrance gunshot wound was circumferential marginal abrasion that is widest at the six to 10 o'clock position of the wound. Soot, unburned gunpowder particles and stippling are not visible in skin surrounding the wound.

Exit (GSW O):

On the right lower back, 25 inches from the top of the hand, 5 inches right of posterior midline and 2 inches superior to the iliac crest is a 0.25 inch laceration without circumferential marginal abrasion.

Path:

The bullet sequentially perforated skin of the left upper back, soft tissue and exited the skin of the right lower back.

Direction:

The bullet went from his back to front, left to right and downward.

Range of fire:

The range of fire is indeterminate.

**Gunshot wound #7, right lower back (GSW P)**

Entrance (GSW P):

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On the right lower back, 26.5 inches from the top of the head, 7 inches right of posterior midline and 3 inches superior to the iliac crest is a 0.25 inch entrance gunshot wound with circumferential marginal abrasion. Soot, unburned gunpowder particles and stippling are not visible on the skin surrounding the wound.

**Recovery:**

Recovered from the left side of the sacral bone is a deformed jacketed bullet.

**Path:**

The bullet sequentially perforated skin of the right lower back, soft tissue, right iliac crest and came to rest in the left side of the sacral bone.

**Associated injuries:**

1. Right iliac crest fractures
2. Left side of sacral bone fractures

**Direction:**

The bullet went from his back to front, right to left and downward.

**Range of fire:**

The range of fire is indeterminate.

**Gunshot wound #8, mid back (GSW L)****Entrance (GSW L):**

On the mid back, 26 inches from the top of the head, 0.5 inch right of posterior midline and 5 inches superior to the palpable sacral bone is a 0.25 inch entrance gunshot wound with circumferential marginal abrasion that is widest at the 12 to 3 o'clock position of the wound. Soot, unburned gunpowder

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particles and stippling are not visible on the skin surrounding the wound.

**Recovery:**

Recovered from the paraspinal soft tissue of the lumbar region is a deformed jacketed bullet.

**Path:**

The bullet sequentially perforated skin of the mid back, soft tissue and came to rest and paraspinal soft tissue lumbar region.

**Direction:**

The bullet went from his back to front, left to right and downward.

**Range of fire:**

The range of fire is indeterminate.

**Gunshot wound #9, right buttock (GSW M)****Entrance (GSW M):**

On the right buttocks, 22.5 inches from the top of the head, 1 inch right of posterior midline and 1 inch lateral to the gluteal cleft is a 0.25 inch entrance gunshot wound was circumferential marginal abrasion. Soot, unburned gunpowder particles and stippling are not visible on the skin surrounding the wound.

**Recovery:**

In the soft tissue of the lateral aspect of the right thigh is a deformed jacketed bullet.

**Path:**

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The bullet sequentially perforated skin of the right buttock, soft tissue and came to rest in the soft tissue associated with the lateral aspect of the right thigh.

**Direction:**

The bullet went from his back to front, left to right and downward.

**Range of fire:**

The range of fire indeterminate.

**Gunshot wound #10, right upper back (GSW K)****Entrance (GSW K):**

On the right upper back, 16 inches from the top of the head, 3 inches right of posterior midline and 9 inches inferior to the acromioclavicular joint is a 0.25 inch entrance gunshot wound was circumferential marginal abrasion. Soot, unburned gunpowder particles and stippling are not visible on the skin surrounding the wound.

**Recovery:**

Recovery from the soft tissue of the mid abdomen (associated with a 1.25 inch blue contusion) is a deformed jacketed bullet.

**Path:**

The bullet sequentially perforated skin of the right upper back, soft tissue, right posterior ninth intercostal space, right lower lung lobe, right liver lobe and came to rest in the soft tissue of the mid abdomen.

**Associated injuries:**

- 1. Perforated right lower lung lobe**
- 2. Perforated right liver lobe**
- 3. Right hemothorax, fresh, 125 mL**
- 4. Right pneumothorax (radiographic)**

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## Direction:

The above went from his back to front, right to left and downward.

## Range of fire:

The range of fire is indeterminate.

**Probable graze wounds**

1. Right frontoparietal full thickness laceration, 2 x 0.2"
2. Posterior distal lateral aspect of left forearm (proximal to rest) laceration, 2 x 1"
3. Medial aspect of right distal shin superficial laceration, 3 x 0.5"

**Blunt trauma, head**

## Superficial:

1. Right frontal scalp black abrasion, one by 0.5 inch
2. Left frontal scalp (just superior to left eyebrow) red - black abrasion, 2 x 0.5"
3. Left malar region red abrasion, one by 0.5 inch
4. Mid nasal bridge black abrasion, 0.5 x 0.25"
5. Left frontal scalp (proximal to hairline) cluster of linear black abrasions in an area measuring 1.25 x 1 inches

## Epicranium:

1. Mid frontal subgaleal hemorrhage

**Blunt trauma, torso**

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1. Right mid axilla red abrasion, 0.75 x 0.5"

**INITIAL INCISION:**

The body cavities are entered through the standard coronal incision and the standard Y-shaped incision. No foreign material is present in the mouth, upper airway, and trachea.

**NECK:**

The neck organs are removed en bloc with the tongue. There is no edema of the larynx. Both hyoid bone and larynx are intact and without fractures. No hemorrhage is present in the adjacent throat organs investing fascia, strap muscles, thyroid, or visceral fascia. There are no prevertebral fascial hemorrhages. The tongue when sectioned shows no trauma.

**CHEST/ABDOMINAL CAVITY (see evidence of injury):**

Pleural effusions are absent. Pleural fibrous adhesions are absent. The parietal pleurae are intact. Soft tissues of the thoracic and abdominal walls are well-preserved. The organs of the abdominal cavity have a normal arrangement and none are absent. Ascites is not present. The peritoneal cavity is without evidence of peritonitis. There are no adhesions.

**SYSTEMIC AND ORGAN REVIEW:**

Note: The following observations are limited to findings other than injuries, if described above.

**MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM (see evidence of injury):**

No abnormalities of the uninjured bony framework or muscles are identified.

**CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:**

The thoracic and abdominal aorta have no atherosclerosis. There is no tortuosity or widening of the thoracic segment. There is no dilation of the lower abdominal segment. No aneurysm is present. The major branches of the aorta show no abnormality. Within the pericardial sac there is minimal fluid.

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The heart weighs 400 grams. It has a normal configuration. The cardiac silhouette is not globular and the myocardium is not flabby. The right ventricle is 0.3 cm, the interventricular septum is 1 cm in thickness, and the left ventricle is 1 cm in thickness. The chambers are normally developed and are without mural thrombosis. The valves are thin, leafy, and competent. No cardiac valve vegetations are present. There is no endocardial discoloration. There is no abnormality of the apices of the papillary musculature. There are no defects of the septum. The great vessels enter and leave in a normal fashion. The ductus arteriosus cannot be probed. The coronary ostia are patent, located at or below the sinotubular junction and are relatively centrally located within their respective sinuses. The coronary artery distribution is right dominant. Serial sectioning of the coronary arteries show no atherosclerosis.

**RESPIRATORY SYSTEM (see evidence of injury):**

Scant secretions are found in the upper respiratory and lower bronchial passages. The mucosa is intact and pale. The right lung weighs 400 grams and the left lung weighs 400 grams. The pulmonary parenchyma is dark red-purple and the cut surfaces exude a moderate amount of blood and frothy fluid. The visceral pleurae are smooth and intact. The pulmonary vasculature is without thromboembolism. There is no evidence of pulmonary infarction.

**GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM:**

The esophagus is intact throughout. Esophageal varices are not present. The stomach contains approximately 300 cc of brown (cannot identify types of food). The mucosa is unremarkable. The small intestine and colon are unremarkable. The appendix is present. The pancreas occupies a normal position. There is no necrosis or trauma. There is no evidence of pancreatic fibrosis or of pancreatitis.

**HEPATOBIILIARY SYSTEM (see evidence of injury):**

The liver weighs 1900 grams, and is red-brown. The capsule is intact and the consistency of the parenchyma is firm. The cut surface is smooth. There is no evidence of cirrhosis. There is

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a normal lobular arrangement. The gallbladder is present. The wall is thin and pliable. It contains a moderate amount of bile and no calculi.

**URINARY SYSTEM:**

The right kidney weighs 150 grams and the left kidney weighs 150 grams. The kidneys are normally situated and the capsules strip easily revealing a surface that is smooth and glistening. The corticomedullary demarcation is preserved. The pyramids are not remarkable. The peripelvic fat is not increased. The ureters are without dilation or obstruction and pursue their normal course. The urinary bladder is unremarkable. It contains approximately 125 cc of yellow urine. The urine is not tested at autopsy .

**GENITAL SYSTEM:**

The prostate is not enlarged and is without nodularity. Both testes are in the scrotum and are unremarkable and without trauma.

**HEMOLYMPHATIC SYSTEM:**

The spleen weighs 200 grams. The capsule is intact. The parenchyma is dark red and soft. There is no increased follicular pattern. The bone is not remarkable. The bone marrow of the rib is unremarkable.

**ENDOCRINE SYSTEM:**

The thyroid, adrenal, and pituitary glands are unremarkable. The parathyroid glands are not identified. The thymus is the usual appearance for the age.

**SPECIAL SENSES:**

The eyes are not dissected. The middle and inner ear are not dissected.

**HEAD AND CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM:**

There is no subcutaneous, subgaleal, or subperiosteal hemorrhage in the scalp. The external periosteum and dura mater are stripped showing no fractures of the calvarium or base of the skull. There are no tears of the dura mater. There is no epidural, subdural or subarachnoid hemorrhage.



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The brain weighs 1400 grams. The leptomeninges are thin and transparent. A normal convolutionary pattern is observed. Coronal sectioning demonstrates a uniformity of cortical gray thickness. The basal ganglia are intact. Anatomic landmarks are preserved. Cerebral contusions are not present. The ventricular system has a normal appearance without dilation or distortion. Pons, medulla, and cerebellum are unremarkable. There is no evidence of uncal or cerebellar herniation. Vessels at the base of the brain have a normal pattern of distribution. There are no aneurysms. The cerebral arteries are without arteriosclerosis.

**SPINAL CORD:**

The cord is not dissected.

**EVIDENCE COLLECTION:**

The following was collected and submitted to the evidence custodian:

1. Deformed jacketed bullet of right posterior thigh
2. Deformed jacketed bullet of paraspinal lumbar soft tissue
3. Deformed jacketed bullet of left sacral bone
4. Deformed jacketed bullet of right lateral thigh soft tissue
5. Deformed jacketed bullet of mid abdomen soft tissue
6. Deformed bullet fragment of lateral aspect of right side of abdomen

**HISTOLOGIC SECTIONS:**

Representative sections from various organs are preserved in one storage jar.

**HISTOLOGIC KEY:**

None.

**TOXICOLOGY:**

Samples of chest blood, femoral blood, urine and vitreous are submitted to the laboratory. An EDTA tube is collected for blood typing.

**SPECIAL PROCEDURES:**

None.

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Page 18**PHOTOGRAPHY:**

Photographs have been taken prior to and during the course of the autopsy.

**RADIOLOGY:**

Postmortem computer tomography of the head, neck, chest, abdomen, and pelvis was performed. In addition to the injuries described in the autopsy above demonstrates catastrophic right iliac crest fractures and the right, right proximal radius fractures and right hand first proximal phalange fractures.

**WITNESSES:**

Detective Woodruff with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and Cara Williams with the Office of Inspector General witnessed the autopsy.

**DIAGRAMS USED:**

Diagram Forms #20-1, 20-2, 21, 22, and 23 were used during the performance of the autopsy. Coroner diagrams are not intended to be facsimiled nor are they drawn to scale.

**SUMMARY & OPINION:**

This 41-year-old man, Samuel Herrera Jr., died of gunshot wounds.

According to reports, Mr. Herrera was in a standoff with police. At some point during the confrontation, Mr. Herrera set fire to property in the residence. He subsequently exchanged gunfire with the police. He was struck by bullets and was pronounced dead at the scene.

Autopsy revealed 10 indeterminate range gunshot wounds of torso and extremities. A gunshot wound of back perforated the right lung and liver. A gunshot wound of the left upper chest perforated the left lung. Both injuries were associated with bleeding in the chest. Gunshot wounds of the right upper extremity (right arm) showed fractures of the right radius (bone in the arm) and right thumb. There were bullets retrieved from the body. There were probable graze wounds of the scalp, left

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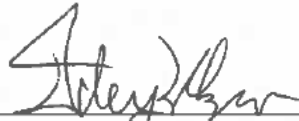
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arm and right leg. Facial abrasions were also identified. There was no evidence of thermal or inhalational injuries.

The manner of death is homicide.



Odey C. Ukpo, M.D., M.S.  
Senior Deputy Medical Examiner

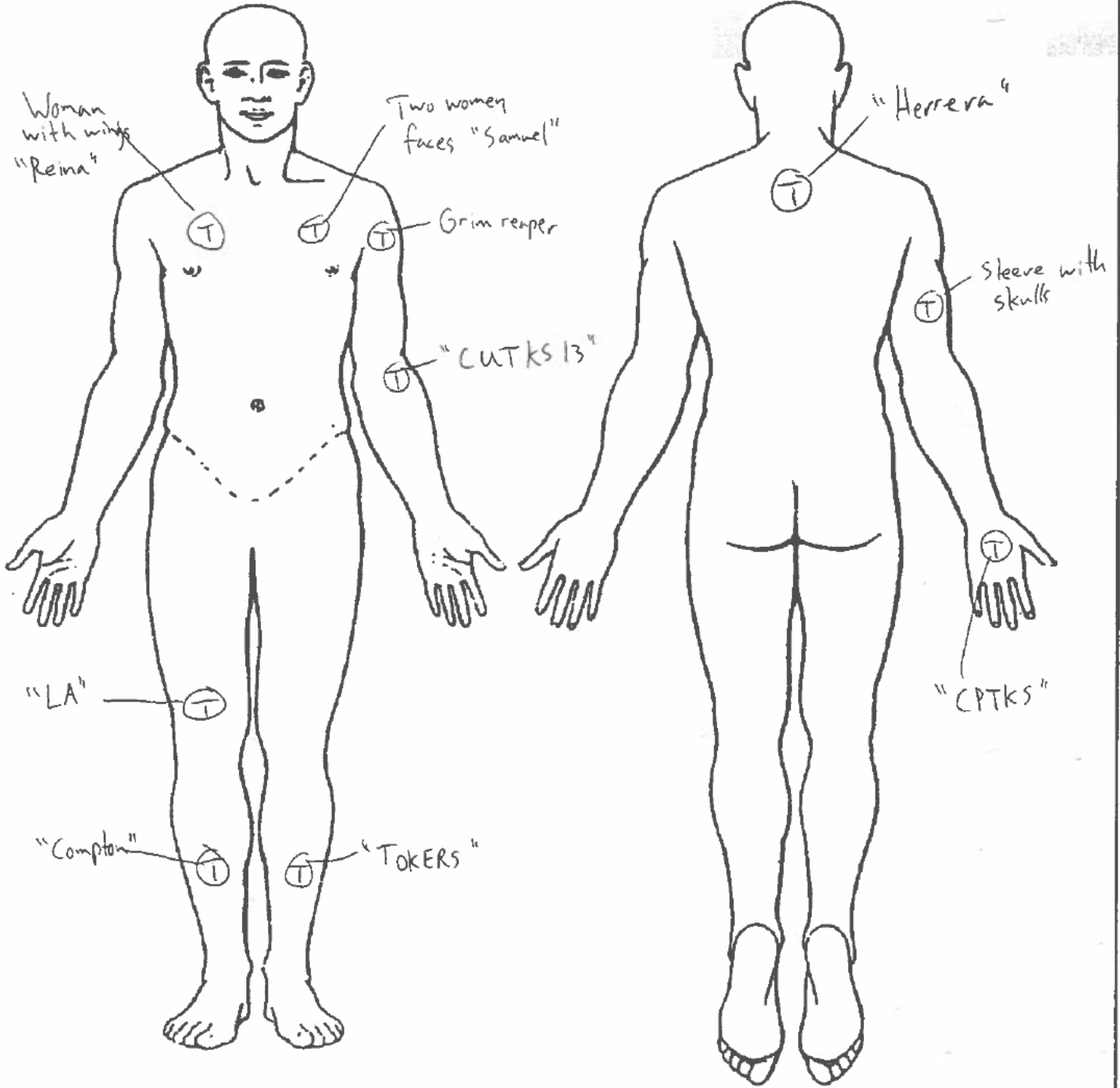
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Date

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Right Thumbprint

Date 9-11-2020

*[Signature]*

Deputy Medical Examiner

M.D.

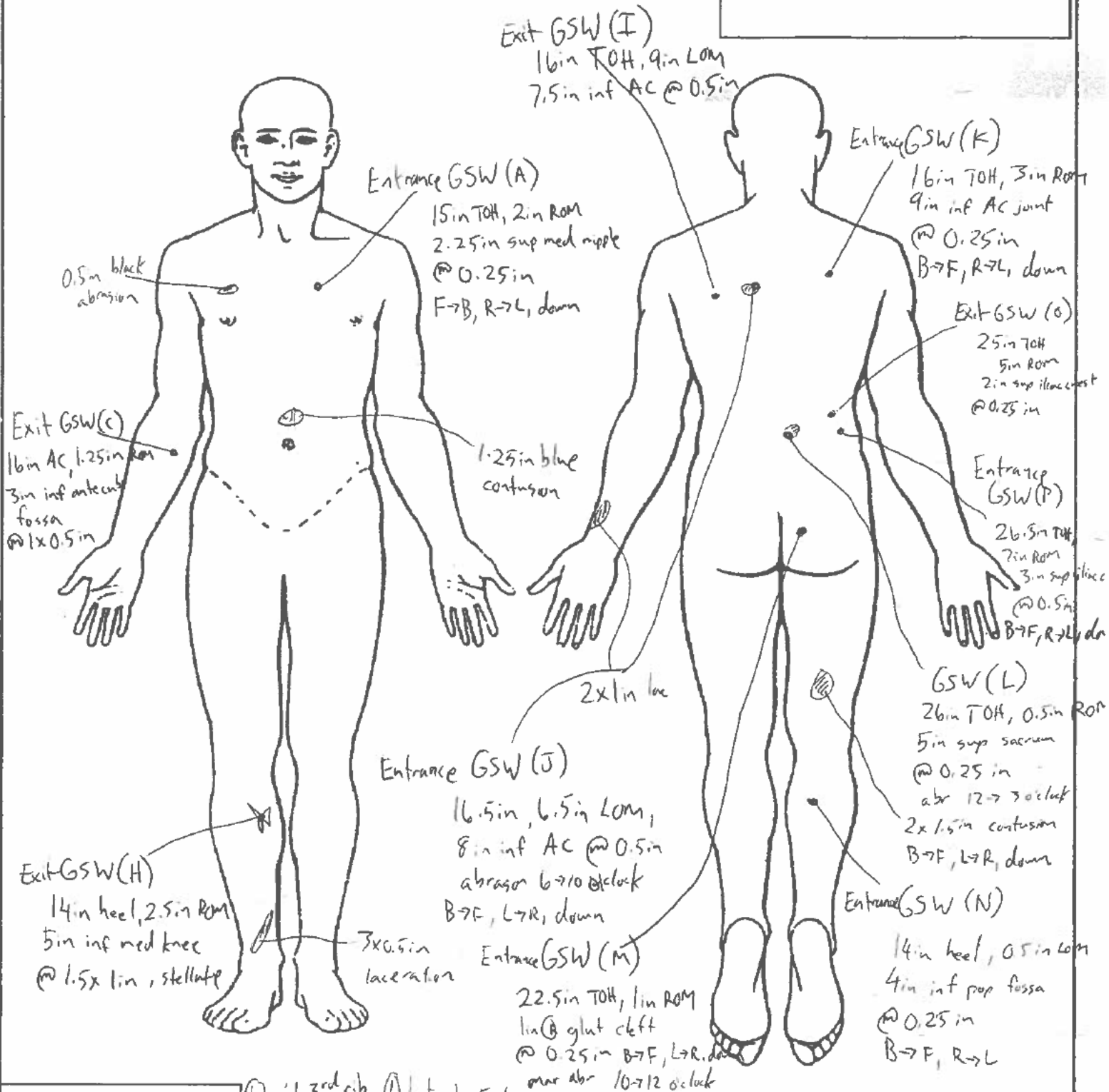
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Ⓛ ant 3rd rib, Ⓟ lat ribs 5-6  
 LLL, RLL, Ⓟ liver lobe  
 Ⓟ pos 8th ICS  
 Right hemortho cat, fresh, 150ul

Date 9-11-2020

*Stacy Lynn*

M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiner

Right Thumbprint

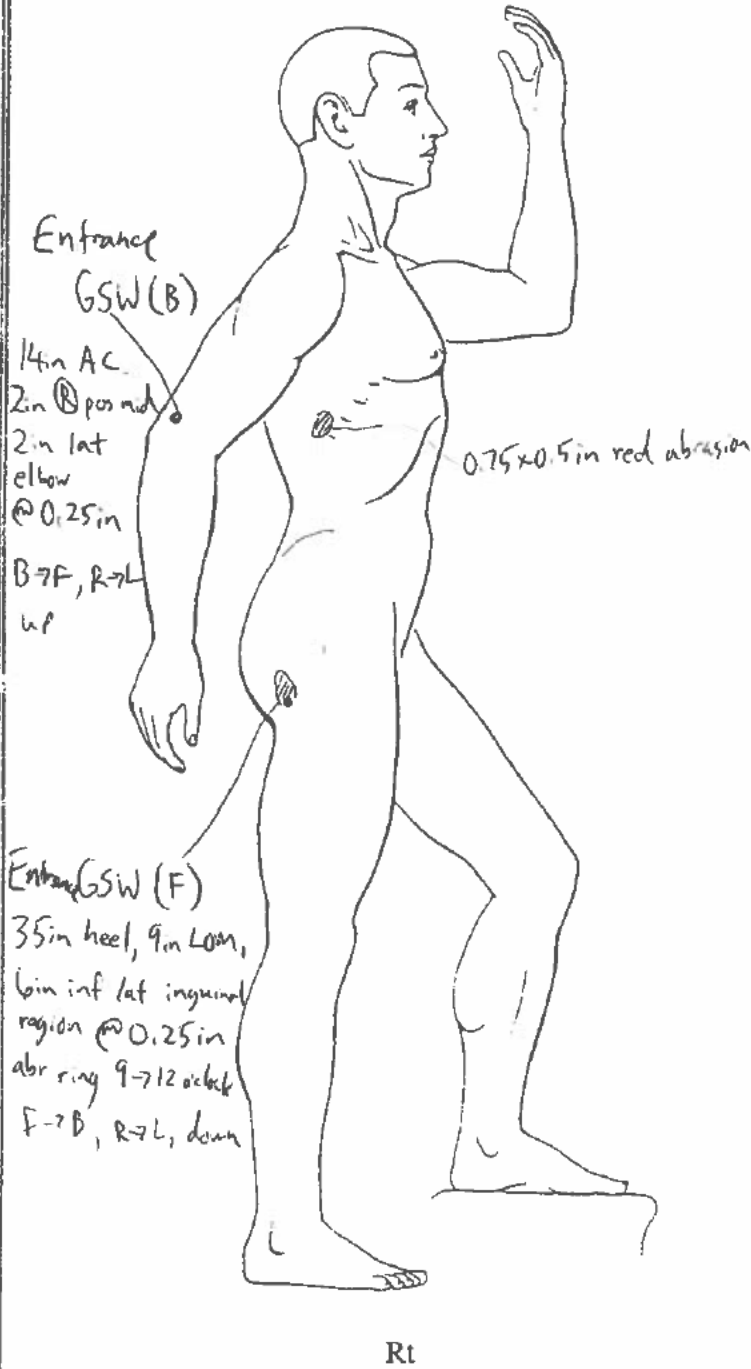
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A, G

9-11-2020

*Stacy Johnson*

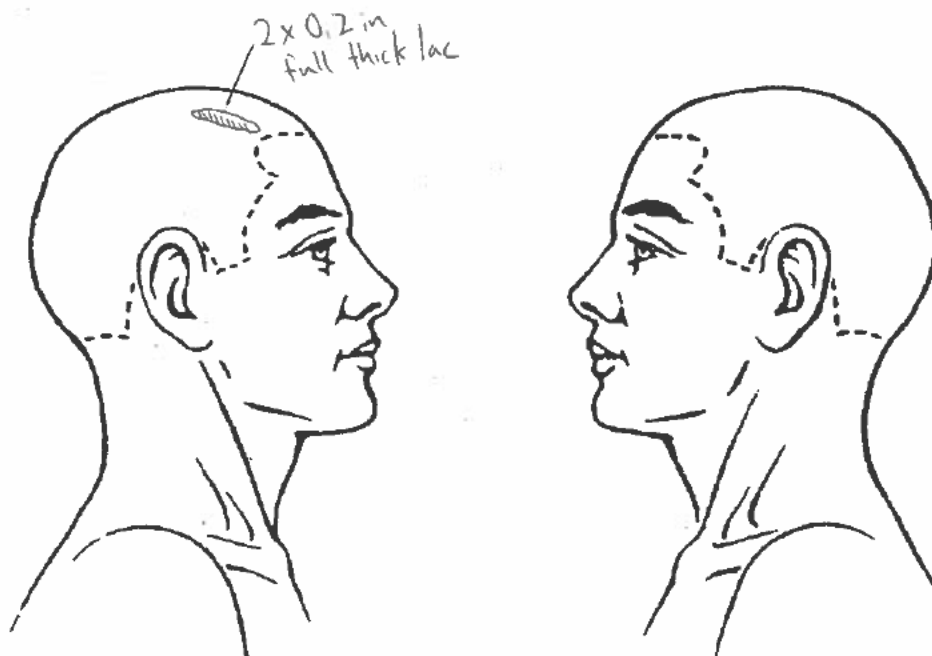
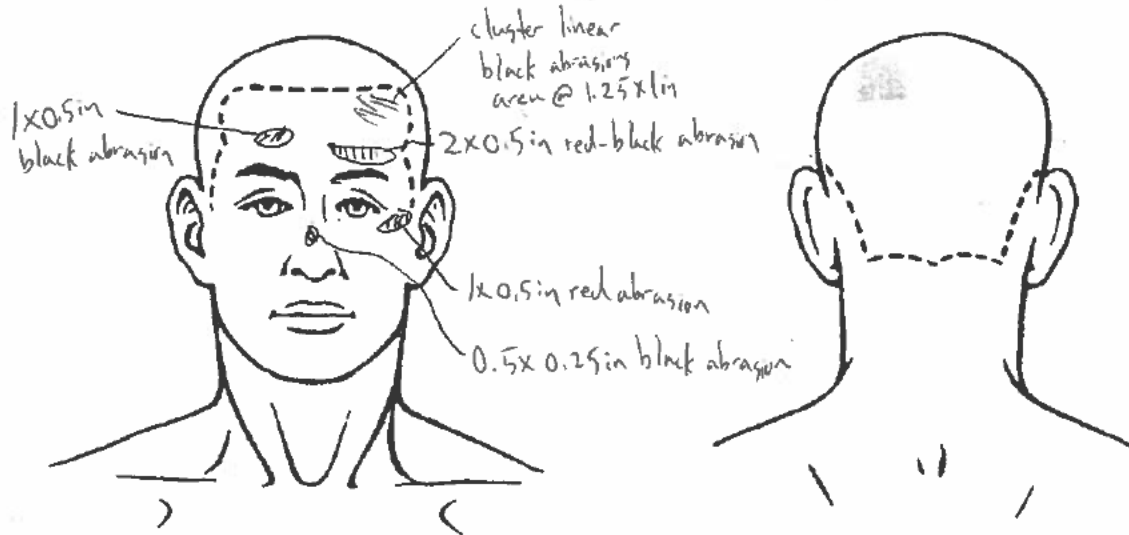
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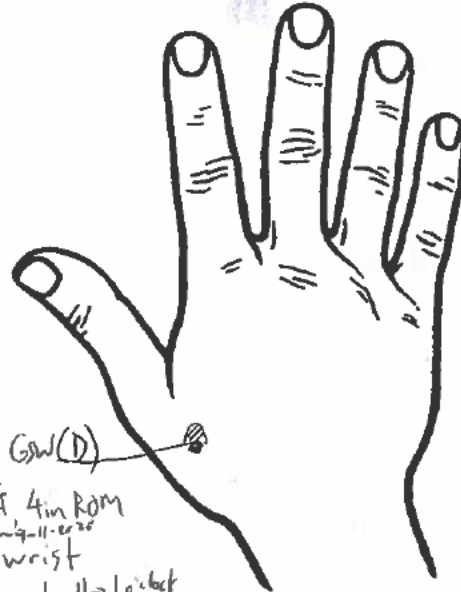
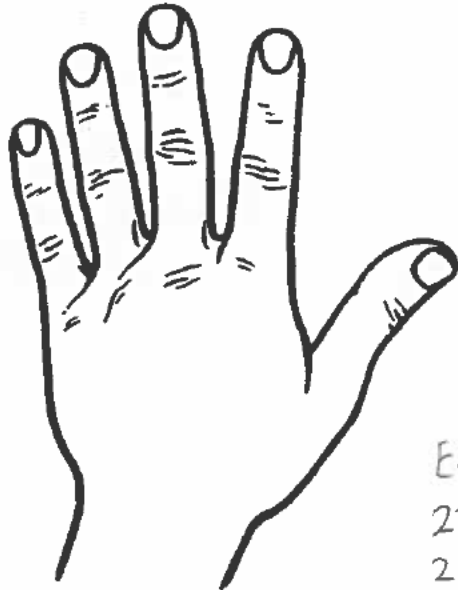
HERRERA JR., SAMUEL

HOMI

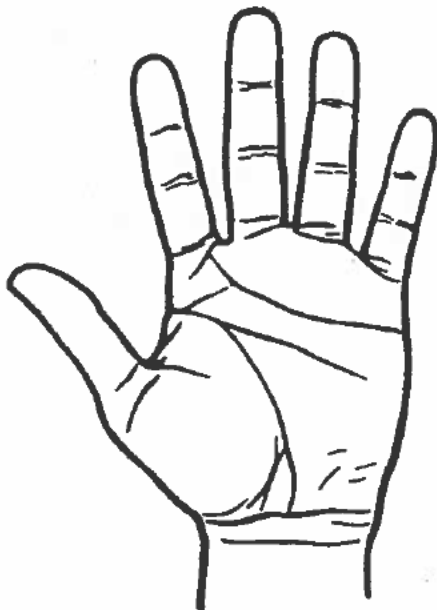
34

(L)

(R)



Entrance GSW (D)  
AC  
27 in FOH 4 in ROM  
oc 4-11-2020  
2 in inf wrist  
@ 0.25 in abr ll to locket  
B → F, L → R, down



Exit GSW (E)  
27.75 in, 2 in ROM  
@ MCP joint @ 3 x 0.5 in

9-11-2020

*Steph...*

Deputy Medical Examiner

M.D.



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AUTOPSY CLASS:  A  B  C  Examination Only D

FAMILY OBJECTION TO AUTOPSY

Date: 9-12-2020 Time: 0830 Dr. Adley Ukpo  
(Print)

FINAL ON: 9-12-2020 By: Adley Ukpo  
(Print)

APPROXIMATE INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH

2020-08357

HERRERA JR., SAMUEL  
HOKI 34

DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: (Enter only one cause per line for A, B, C, and D)

IMMEDIATE CAUSE:

(A) Gunshot wounds

Minutes

DUE TO, OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF:

(B)

DUE TO, OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF:

(C)

DUE TO, OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF:

(D)

OTHER CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING BUT NOT RELATED TO THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH:

Age: 41 Gender: Male / Female

PRIOR EXAMINATION REVIEW BY DME

BODY TAG  CLOTHING  
 X-RAY (No. CT)  FLUORO  
 SPECIAL PROCESSING TAG  MED. RECORDS  
 AT SCENE PHOTOS (No. \_\_\_\_\_)

CASE CIRCUMSTANCES

EMBALMED  
 DECOMPOSED  
 >24 HRS IN HOSPITAL  
 OTHER: field (Reason)

TYPING SPECIMEN

TYPING SPECIMEN TAKEN BY: Gonzalez  
SOURCE: heart blood

TOXICOLOGY SPECIMEN

COLLECTED BY: Gonzalez  
 HEART BLOOD  STOMACH CONTENTS  
 FEMORAL BLOOD  VITREOUS  
TECHNIQUE: chest BLOOD  SPLEEN  
 BILE BLOOD  KIDNEY  
 LIVER   
 URINE  EDTA heart blood

URINE GLUCOSE DIPSTICK RESULT: 4+ 3+ 2+ 1+ 0  
TOX SPECIMEN RECONCILIATION BY: \_\_\_\_\_

HISTOLOGY

Regular (No. 1)  Oversize (No. \_\_\_\_\_)  
Histopath Cut:  Autopsy  Lab

TOXICOLOGY REQUESTS

FORM 3A:  YES  NO  
 NO TOXICOLOGY REQUESTED  
SCREEN  C  H  T  S  D  
 ALCOHOL ONLY  
 CARBON MONOXIDE  
 OTHER (Specify drug and tissue)

REQUESTED MATERIAL ON PENDING CASES

POLICE REPORT  MED HISTORY  
 TOX FOR COD  HISTOLOGY  
 TOX FOR R/O  INVESTIGATIONS  
 MICROBIOLOGY  EYE PATH. CONS.  
 RADIOLOGY CONS.  
 CONSULT ON: \_\_\_\_\_  
 BRAIN SUBMITTED  
 NEURO CONSULT  DME TO CUT  
 CRIMINALISTICS  
 GSR  SEXUAL ASSAULT  OTHER

NATURAL  SUICIDE  HOMICIDE  
 ACCIDENT  COULD NOT BE DETERMINED

If other than natural causes, HOW DID INJURY OCCUR? By on duty law enforcement officers

WAS OPERATION PERFORMED FOR ANY CONDITION STATED ABOVE:  YES  NO

TYPE OF SURGERY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGAN PROCUREMENT  TECHNICIAN: R Gonzalez  
PREGNANCY IN LAST YEAR  YES  NO  UNK  NOT APPLICABLE

WITNESS TO AUTOPSY  EVIDENCE RECOVERED AT AUTOPSY  
Item Description:

Detective Woodruff with LASD

- 1) Deformed jacketed bullet of right posterior thigh
- 2) Deformed jacketed bullet of paraspinel lumbar tissue
- 3) Deformed jacketed bullet of left sacral bone
- 4) Deformed jacketed bullet of right lateral thigh soft tissue
- 5) Deformed jacketed bullet of mid abdomen soft tissue
- 6) Deformed bullet fragment of right lateral abdomen

Adley Ukpo  
RESIDENT \_\_\_\_\_ DME \_\_\_\_\_

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2020-08357

HERRERA JR., SAMUEL

HOMI

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**EXTERNAL EXAM**

Sex  
Race  
Age  
Height  
Weight  
Hair  
Eyes  
Sclera  
Teeth  
Mouth  
Tongue  
Nose  
Chest  
Breasts  
Abdomen  
Scar  
Genitals  
Edema  
Skin  
Decubitus  
**HEART Wt. 400**  
Pericardium  
Hypertrophy  
Dilation  
Muscle  
Valves  
Coronaries

RV  
Septum  
LV  
Septum

**AORTA**

**VESSELS**

**LUNGS Wt.**

R 400  
L 400  
Adhesions  
Fluid  
Atelectasis  
Oedema  
Congestion  
Consolidation  
Bronchi  
Nodes

**PHARYNX**

**TRACHEA**

**THYROID**

**THYMUS**

**LARYNX**

**HYOID**

**ABDOMINAL WALL FAT**

**PERITONEUM**

Fluid  
Adhesions  
**LIVER Wt. 1900**  
Capsule  
Lobules  
Fibros  
GB (+)  
Calculus  
Bile ducts

**SPLEEN Wt. 200**

Color  
Consistency  
Capsule  
Malpignent

**PANCREAS**

**ADRENALS**

**KIDNEYS Wt.**

R 150  
L 150  
Capsule  
Cortex  
Vessels  
Pelvis  
Ureters

**BLADDER 125 ml**

**GENITALIA**

Prostate  
Testes  
~~Uterus~~  
~~Tubes~~  
Ovaries

**OESOPHAGUS**

**STOMACH**

Contents

**DUOD. & SM. INT.**

**APPENDIX (+)**

**LARGE INT.**

**ABDOM. NODES**

**SKELETON**

Spine  
Marrow  
Rib Cage  
Long bones  
Pelvis

**SCALP**

**CALVARIUM**

**BRAIN Wt. 1400**

Dura  
Fluid  
Ventricles  
Vessels  
Middle ears  
Other

**PITUITARY**

**SPINAL CORD**

**TOXICOLOGY SPECIMENS**

**SECTIONS FOR HISTOPATHOLOGY**

**MICROBIOLOGY**

**DIAGRAMS  
X-RAYS**

**OTHER PROCEDURES**

**GROSS IMPRESSIONS**

Date

9-12-2020

Time

0830

Deputy Medical Examiner



Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner, County of Los Angeles

**FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORIES**

1104 North Mission Road, Los Angeles, CA 90033

**Laboratory Analysis Summary Report**



Ukpo, Odey M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiner  
1104 North Mission Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90033

PendingTox

**Coroner Case Number:** 2020-08357 **Decedent:** HERRERA JR., SAMUEL

**SPECIMEN    SERVICE                      DRUG                                      RESULT                      ANALYST**

**Alcohol Quantitation/Confirmation**

Blood, Chest

Alcohol-GC/FID-HS                      Ethanol                                      Negative                      A. Chavez

**Drug Screen**

Blood, Chest

ELISA-Immunoassay	Benzodiazepines	ND	J. Posada
ELISA-Immunoassay	Cocaine and Metabolites	PP	J. Posada
ELISA-Immunoassay	Fentanyl	ND	J. Posada
ELISA-Immunoassay	Marijuana: 11-nor-Delta-9-Carboxy-THC	PP	J. Posada
ELISA-Immunoassay	Methamphetamine & MDMA	PP	J. Posada
ELISA-Immunoassay	Opiates: Codeine & Morphine	ND	J. Posada
ELISA-Immunoassay	Opiates: Hydrocodone & Hydromorphone	ND	J. Posada
ELISA-Immunoassay	Phencyclidine	ND	J. Posada

**Drug Screen/Confirmation**

Blood, Chest

Bases-GC/NPD &/or MS	Basic Drugs	ND	B. Helmer
Cannabinoids-LC/MS/MS	11-nor-Delta-9-Carboxy-THC, Free	ND	C. Castellino
Cannabinoids-LC/MS/MS	Delta 9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), Free	ND	C. Castellino
Cocaine-GC/MS	Benzoylcegonine	ND	P. PfyCruz
Cocaine-GC/MS	Cocacethylene	ND	P. PfyCruz
Cocaine-GC/MS	Cocaine	ND	P. PfyCruz
Sympath. Amines-GC/MS	Amphetamine	0.19 ug/mL	M. Rodriguez
Sympath. Amines-GC/MS	Ephedrine	ND	M. Rodriguez
Sympath. Amines-GC/MS	Methamphetamine	2.9 ug/mL	M. Rodriguez
Sympath. Amines-GC/MS	Methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA)	ND	M. Rodriguez
Sympath. Amines-GC/MS	Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)	ND	M. Rodriguez
Sympath. Amines-GC/MS	Pseudoephedrine	ND	M. Rodriguez

Blood, Femoral

**Coroner Case Number:** 2020-08357 **Decedent:** HERRERA JR., SAMUEL

<u>SPECIMEN</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>DRUG</u>	<u>RESULT</u>	<u>ANALYST</u>
	Sympath Amines-GC/MS	Amphetamine	0.06 ug/mL	M. Rodriguez
	Sympath Amines-GC/MS	Ephedrine	ND	M. Rodriguez
	Sympath Amines-GC/MS	Methamphetamine	0.94 ug/mL	M. Rodriguez
	Sympath Amines-GC/MS	Methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA)	ND	M. Rodriguez
	Sympath Amines-GC/MS	Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)	ND	M. Rodriguez
	Sympath Amines-GC/MS	Pseudoephedrine	ND	M. Rodriguez
<b>EDTA Heart Blood</b>				
	Carbon Monoxide-CO-Ox	Carboxyhemoglobin	< 10 % Saturation	I. Lee
<b>Vitreous</b>				
	Cocaine-GC/MS	Benzoylcegonine	ND	P. Pfy/Cruz
	Cocaine-GC/MS	Cocaehtylene	ND	P. Pfy/Cruz
	Cocaine-GC/MS	Cocaine	ND	P. Pfy/Cruz

<b>Legend:</b>		ND	Not Detected	SNS	Specimen Not Suitable
g	Grams	ng/g	Nanograms per Gram	TNP	Test Not Performed
g%	Gram Percent	ng/mL	Nanograms per Milliliter	ug	Micrograms
Inc.	Inconclusive	PP	Presumptive Positive	ug/g	Micrograms per Gram
mg	Milligrams	QNS	Quantity Not Sufficient	ug/mL	Micrograms per Milliliter

The alcohol analysis was performed in accordance to California Code of Regulations "Title 17" compliance by a qualified analyst in the Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, Forensic Laboratories Division, County of Los Angeles Department of Medical Examiner - Coroner.

Enzyme-linked immunosorbant assay (ELISA) provides only a preliminary analytical result that is contingent upon a confirmatory test. A "presumptive positive" (PP) signifies a detection of a drug class and must be confirmed by additional testing for true identification and/or quantitation of specific drug(s) present in the specimen.

Per the Department's Evidence Retention Policy, the blood specimen(s) will be retained for one year (minimum) and all other specimens six months (minimum) from Postmortem Exam.

**Final Review By:**



**Sarah Buxton de Quintana**  
Supervising Criminalist I

**Date:**

11/9/20

The above results relate only to the items sampled and tested and have been technically and administratively reviewed and are the opinions and conclusions of the analysts noted. The final review has been certified by the noted Toxicologist to ensure that all standard operating procedures were followed as set by the Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, Forensic Sciences Laboratory Division, County of Los Angeles Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner.

OCH 11-18-2020

1	APPARENT MODE <b>HOMICIDE</b>	CASE NO 2020-08357
	SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES Gang Related, Gunshot Wound, Officer Involved	CRYPT 34

LAST, FIRST MIDDLE <b>HERRERA JR., SAMUEL</b>	AKA	#
--	-----	---

ADDRESS <b>516 S. BRADFIELD AVENUE</b>	CITY <b>COMPTON</b>	STATE <b>CA</b>	ZIP <b>90221</b>
---	------------------------	--------------------	---------------------

SEX MALE	RACE APPEARS HISPANIC/LATIN AMERICAN	IDOB 1/9/1979	AGE 41	HGT 67 in.	WGT 208 lbs.	EYES BROWN	HAIR BROWN	TEETH ALL NATURAL TEETH	FACIAL HAIR BEARD AND MUSTACHE	ID VIEW Yes	CONDITION HEAD TRAUMA
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MARK TYPE	MARK LOCATION	MARK DESCRIPTION
TATTOO	LEFT ARM	SLEEVE
TATTOO	RIGHT ARM	SLEEVE
TATTOO	BACK	INDISCERNIBLE WRITING



ID METHOD FINGERPRINTS FROM LASD
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IDENTIFIED BY NAME (PRINT) LACRIS, DOJ, AND FBI PRINTS	RELATIONSHIP	PHONE	DATE 9/10/2020	TIME 21:56
---	--------------	-------	-------------------	---------------

PLACE OF DEATH / PLACE FOUND DRIVEWAY	ADDRESS OR LOCATION 518 S. BRADFIELD AVE	CITY COMPTON	ZIP 90221
--	---	-----------------	--------------

PLACE OF INJURY PRIVATE RESIDENCE	AT WORK No	DATE 9/10/2020	TIME 06:00	LOCATION OR ADDRESS 518 S. BRADFIELD AVENUE, COMPTON, CA	ZIP 90221
--------------------------------------	---------------	-------------------	---------------	---	--------------

DOD 9/10/2020	TIME 06:29	FOUND OR PRONOUNCED BY LACOFD PARAMEDIC SALAZAR
------------------	---------------	--

OTHER AGENCY INV OFFICER LASD HOMICIDE - DETECTIVE GARCIA # 441879	PHONE (323) 890-5500	REPORT NO 020111742896013	NOTIFIED BY NO
---	-------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------

TRANSPORTED BY DUSTIN MIRANDA	TO LOS ANGELES FSC	DATE 9/10/2020	TIME 21:20
----------------------------------	-----------------------	-------------------	---------------

FINGERPRINTS? Yes	CLOTHING Yes	PA RPT No	MORTUARY ALL SOULS
MED. EV. No	INVEST. PHOTO # 62	SEAL TYPE NOT SEALED	HOSP RPT No
PHYS. EV. Yes	EVIDENCE LOG Yes	PROPERTY? Yes	HOSP CHART No
SUICIDE NOTE No	GSR NO	RCPT. NO. 321964	PF NO.

**SYNOPSIS**  
 \*2 HOUR POST EXAMINATION NOTIFICATION REQUESTED\* PER DETECTIVES ON SCENE, THE INVESTIGATION IS ONGOING AND THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IS PRELIMINARY. ON 09/10/2020 AT APPROXIMATELY 0600 HOURS, DETECTIVES FROM THE LASD GANG UNIT WERE SERVING A SEARCH WARRANT AT THE DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE WHEN THE DECEDENT, A 41-YEAR-OLD HISPANIC MALE, BARRICADED HIMSELF IN THE DETACHED GARAGE. THE DECEDENT BEGAN FIRING A WEAPON AND DEPUTIES ON THE SCENE RETURNED FIRE TOWARDS THE GARAGE. IT IS UNKNOWN IF THEY WOUNDED THE DECEDENT AT THAT TIME. THE DECEDENT THEN SET FIRE TO THE GARAGE HE WAS IN AND CRAWLED OUT OF A HOLE IN THE SOUTH WALL THAT LED TO THE NEIGHBOR'S BACKYARD. APPROXIMATELY 8 DEPUTIES WERE IN THE NEIGHBOR'S DRIVEWAY THAT WAS PARALLEL TO THE BACKYARD AND CONTINUED TO ENGAGE WITH THE DECEDENT. THE DECEDENT THEN BECAME UNRESPONSIVE, DEPUTIES HANDCUFFED HIM, AND ATTEMPTED TO RENDER AID. PARAMEDICS ARRIVED AND DETERMINED DEATH AT 0629 HOURS. THE DECEDENT HAD AT LEAST 13 APPARENT GUNSHOT WOUNDS AND TWO LACERATIONS: ONE TO THE HEAD AND ONE ON THE RIGHT HAND.

CHEYENNE TARDIE 648740	INVESTIGATOR <i>Cheyenne Tardie</i>	DATE 9/10/2020	REVIEWED BY KELSIE WEBER <i>KW</i>	DATE 9/11/2020
		TIME 23:15		TIME 00:54 1/14/21



# County of Los Angeles, Department of Coroner Investigator's Narrative



Case Number: 2020-08357

Decedent: HERRERA JR., SAMUEL

## Information Sources:

1. Detective Garcia # 44189. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Division, 1 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755. (323) 890-5500.
2. On Scene Investigation.

## Investigation:

On Thursday, September 11, 2020 at 0731 hours, Officer Castillo from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Division reported this apparent homicidal death to G. Rios. Reporting desk, at the Los Angeles County Department of the Medical Examiner-Coroner. It was reported that the decedent was in an officer involved shooting and his death was determined at the scene.

I was assigned this field case by Investigator Kelsie Weber, acting supervisor, on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 1822 hours. I left the Forensic Science Center at 1905 hours and arrived at the scene at 1922 hours. I left the scene at 2049 hours and arrived back at the Forensic Science Center at 2111 hours.

## Location:

Place of Injury: Private Residence: 518 S. Bradfield Avenue, Compton, CA 90221.

Place of Death: Driveway: 518 S. Bradfield Avenue, Compton, CA 90221.

## Informant/Witness Statements:

Upon arrival at the scene, I interviewed Detective Garcia from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Division. He provided me with the following information:

*It should be noted that the information provided is preliminary, and that the investigation is still ongoing.*

On Thursday, September 10, 2020 at approximately 0600 hours, Detectives from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Gang Unit were serving a search warrant of the residence when the decedent fled the main residence and barricaded himself in the detached garage. Gunfire then began coming from the garage and deputies from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department returned fire. The decedent then allegedly lit the garage building on fire and fled through a hole on the south wall into the neighbor's yard. Approximately eight deputies were in the neighbor's yard and the driveway parallel to where the decedent exited, and they continued to engage with the decedent. The decedent then became unresponsive and deputies moved him to the driveway, where they handcuffed him and rendered aid. Los Angeles County Fire Department Engine 422 responded to the scene and Paramedic Salazar determined death on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 0629 hours. Detective Garcia informed me that the deputies were utilizing a variety of different firearms. He stated that approximately 50 ammunition casings were recovered from the neighbor's yard and driveway, of both primarily 9mm and .223 caliber. They stated at this point that they were currently in the process of recovering any firearms from the garage and surrounding area.

## Scene Description:

The scene was the driveway of a private residence, neighboring the decedent's residence, that was located on the north end of S. Bradfield Avenue in a residential neighborhood. The decedent was observed lying in a prone position, with his hands handcuffed behind his back on the cement driveway. His head was facing a westerly direction, while his feet were facing an easterly direction. Apparent blood spatter patterns were noted on the cement driveway surrounding the decedent. Multiple evidence tags marking the location of spent ammunition casings were noted to



County of Los Angeles, Department of Coroner  
Investigator's Narrative



Case Number: 2020-08357

Decedent: HERRERA JR., SAMUEL

be surrounding the immediate vicinity of the decedent in the driveway. Approximately ten feet north of the decedent was the entry into the backyard of the private residence. On the north side of the backyard, the decedent's garage was noted, with a diameter of approximately one and a half feet on the south wall. The hole had apparent fire damage. All weapons and spent ammunition casings were removed prior to my arrival. An overall search of the scene for evidence of drug or alcohol abuse yielded negative results.

**Evidence:**

I collected the following evidence at the scene on Thursday, September 10, 2020: a gunshot residue kit at 2000 hours; a fingernail kit at 2010 hours; and hair kit at 2020 hours.

**Body Examination:**

The decedent is an adult Hispanic male who appears to be the reported age of 41 years old with brown hair, brown beard and mustache, and brown eyes. The decedent was observed lying in a supine position on the cement driveway of the neighboring residence, with his hands handcuffed behind his lower back. He was seen wearing two black shirts, blue denim pants that were partially down his legs, red underwear, and black socks. A white metal watch was noted around the decedent's left wrist. Dried dirt and apparent blood spatter were noted on the decedent's arms and hands. Multiple electrocardiogram patches were noted: one on the right buttock; one on the right flank; one on the upper left quadrant of the back; and one on the upper right quadrant of the back. Multiple apparent gunshot wounds were noted: two on the right buttock; one in the center lumbar region; one near the right antecubital fossa; two on the upper left quadrant of the back; one on the upper right quadrant of the back; one on the dorsal surface of the right hand; two on the lower right side on the back; one on the left side of the chest; and two on the lower right extremity. An apparent abrasion was noted on the decedent's right flank. Two apparent lacerations were noted: one on the decedent's right first metacarpal and one on the superior head. Multiple indiscernible tattoos were noted throughout the decedent's chest, back, and extremities. Livor mortis was observed, fixed, and consistent with the position in which the decedent was examined. Rigor mortis was observed a scale of 2+. Insect activity was noted. There were no other marks, scars, trauma, tattoos, or deformities noted.

On Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 2120 hours, Forensic Attendant D. Miranda transported the decedent from the scene to the Forensic Science Center. Forensic Attendant D. Miranda then processed the decedent in the facility on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 2150 hours. At the time of processing, the decedent was recorded with a height of 67 inches and a weight of 208 pounds.

**Identification:**

On Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 2156 hours, the decedent was positively identified as Herrera Jr., Samuel (Date of Birth: January 9, 1979) by LACRIS fingerprint comparison. Positive identification was also accomplished by Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint comparison.

**Next of Kin Notification:**

The decedent's [REDACTED] was notified in person by the decedent's [REDACTED] on Saturday, September 11, 2020 at approximately 0130 hours. Detective Garcia from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department confirmed notification.

**Tissue Donation:**

The decedent is no longer a viable candidate for tissue donation due to the time lapse since he expired on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 0629 hours.



County of Los Angeles, Department of Coroner  
Investigator's Narrative



Case Number: 2020-08357

Decedent: HERRERA JR., SAMUEL

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**Autopsy Notification:**

Two-hour post examination notification is requested. See case notes for contact information.

*Cheyenne Tardie*

CHEYENNE TARDIE

09/11/2020

Date of Report

*[Signature]*

~~KELSIE WEBER~~

*Molano*