Sonoma County Sheriff's Office

Eddie Engram Sheriff-Coroner
Coroner Investigations Unit
3336 Chanate Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95404
(707) 565-5070

DEATH INVESTIGATION REPORT

Donald Timothy Miller
20-0000861

INITIAL CALL

DATE / TIME RECEIVED	REPORTED BY	PHONE #
08/15/2020 14:00	**Jayson Fowler, Sonoma County Sheriff's Office**	**(707) 565-2650**

CASE TYPE	DATE / TIME ARRIVED	DATE / TIME DEPARTED	PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR
Coroner Case	**08/15/2020 14:41**	**08/15/2020 16:00**	**James Mallamo**

DECEDENT INFORMATION

DECEDENT'S NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)	DOB	AGE	RACE	GENDER
Donald Timothy Miller	[redacted]	**49 yrs**	**Caucasian**	**M**

DECEDENT'S RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Street, City, State, Zip)	MARITAL STATUS	HEIGHT	WEIGHT
[redacted]	**Married**	**5'06"**	**210**

DATE / TIME ID'D	ID	SSN#	DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER	PROPERTY
08/15/2020 08:25	**Other**	[redacted]	[redacted]	**NO**

LEGAL NEXT OF KIN

NAME	RELATIONSHIP TO DECEDENT	TELEPHONE	CELL PHONE
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

ADDRESS	DATE / TIME NOTIFIED	IF NOTIFIED, BY WHOM
[redacted]	**08/15/2020 09:02**	**Mark Leonard**

DEATH INFORMATION

DATE / TIME OF DEATH	DATE / TIME PRONOUNCED	PRONOUNCED BY	TELEPHONE	EXAM TYPE	EXAM DATE
08/15/2020 09:02	**08/15/2020 09:02**	**Mark Leonard Paramedic**	**(707) 433-1114**	**Autopsy**	**08/19/2020**

PLACE OF DEATH	ADDRESS OF DEATH
IFO 15650 River Road	**15650 River Road, Guerneville, CA 95446**

MANNER OF DEATH	CAUSE OF DEATH
Homicide	**Cardiopulmonary Arrest**

DUE TO	DUE TO
Noncompliance During Physical Confrontation with Police Officers	**Schizoaffective Disorder with Agitation and Threatening Behavior**

DUE TO	DATE DC SIGNED	SIGNED BY
	02/17/2021	**Roger D. Fielding**

OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS
Obesity; Marked Cardiac Dilation; Severe Obstructive Sleep Apnea; Marked Steatosis of Liver; Prerenal Azotemia Consistent with Dehydration

DONOR CASE	REFERRAL #	MORTUARY	TELEPHONE
No		**George l. Klumpp Chapel of Flowers**	**(916) 443-7917**

INJURY INFORMATION

DATE / TIME OF INJURY	INJURY ADDRESS	PLACE OF INJURY	WORK INJURY?
08/15/2020 08:21	**15650 River Road, Guerneville, CA 95446**	**Roadside**	**No**

DESCRIBE HOW INITIAL INJURY OCCURRED
Decedent being detained by law enforcement for being a danger to himself / others was non-compliant with lawful commands, became involved in a physical altercation and collapsed.

INITIAL CASE SUMMARY

The decedent, a suspect in a domestic violence incident, was contacted by deputies and became combative. The deputies attempted to subdue the decedent with the use of a Taser and the decedent became unresponsive. Life saving measures were attempted but unsuccessful. Due to Sonoma County deputy involvement in this case,

REPORTING EMPLOYEE	ID #	APPROVED BY	DATE
J. MALLAMO / DEPUTY SHERIFF	**1101379**	**J. HAUGEN / LIEUTENANT**	**02/25/2021**

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Sheriff's Administration enacted the county-wide, critical incident (officer involved) protocol and requested Marin County Coroner for the coroner investigation. SRPD VCI detectives were requested to investigate the death.

The decedent was transported to a location designated by Marin County Coroner's Office, where he was registered for a postmortem examination by a forensic pathologist.

The Marin County Coroner determined the cause of death to be: **"CARDIOPULMONARY ARREST, due to NONCOMPLIANCE DURING PHYSICAL CONFRONTATION WITH POLICE OFFICERS, due to SCHIZOAFFECTIVE DISORDER WITH AGITATION AND THREATENING BEHAVIOR."** Other significant conditions contributing to death were noted as: **"OBESITY; MARKED CARDIAC DILATION; SEVERE OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA; MARKED STEATOSIS OF LIVER; PRERENAL AZOTEMIA CONSISTENT WITH DEHYDRATION."**

The Marin County Coroner mannered this death as a **HOMICIDE**, which was consistent with the circumstances and cause.

ASSISTING AGENCIES

RESPONDING AGENCY	RESPONDING PERSONNEL	AGENCY REPORT #
Sonoma County Sheriff's Office	**B. Jensen**	**200815-005**
Other		**20-0230**
Santa Rosa Police Department		

MEDICAL / SOCIAL HISTORY

DECEDENT'S PRIMARY PHYSICIAN	PHYSICAN OFFICE #

MEDICAL / SOCIAL HISTORY
UNK

MEDICATIONS COLLECTED
See Marin County Coroner report for any found medications.

DRUG / ALCOHOL / TOBACCO HISTORY
UNK

NARRATIVE

SCENE DESCRIPTION:

The death took place in front of 15650 River Road Guerneville. The business is known as Bonnie Sew Good. The decedent was between a van parked on the side of the road and a raised curb in front of the business. Refer to Marin County Coroner report 20-0230 for further.

BODY CONDITION AND POSITIONING:

The decedent was located on his back on a supine position on the ground. Refer to Marin County Coroner report

DEATH INVESTIGATION REPORT

20-0230 for further information regarding the decedent's body condition and position.

MODE OF IDENTIFICATION:

Investigator C. Nielson positively identified the decedent through fingerprint analysis with known DMV fingerprints.

NARRATIVE:

On 08/15/2020 at approximately 1315 hours, I was contacted by VCI Sergeant J. Fowler who advised me that there had been a death in front of 15650 River Road Guerneville. He had limited information, but said that deputies had been dispatched to the area on a domestic violence call. When they arrived the suspect became combative and they attempted to subdue him with the use of a Taser. The decedent fell unresponsive and life saving measures were attempted but not successful. Paramedic Mark Leonard from Bell's Ambulance pronounced the death at 0902 hours.

Due to the fact that deputies were involved in the incident the county-wide, (officer involved) critical incident protocol was initiated and the Santa Rosa Police Department was tasked with investigating the case. Sgt. Haugen later called me and told me that he had been in contact with the Marin County Coroner's Office and they would be handling the coroner investigation.

I performed an Internet search on the decedent. I printed out a DMV photograph of the decedent. I contacted Investigator C. Nielson of the Marin County Coroner's Office to touch base with her. I faxed her a jurisdictional release, which she signed and faxed back to me. I told her that I would call her back when detectives were ready for her to respond to the scene.

After some time, I was advised that detectives on scene were requesting the Coroner's Office to respond. I called Investigator Nielson and responded to the scene with Coroner Sgt. Haugen.

At the scene we signed into the incident log and met with Investigator Nielson. Sgt. Haugen and I stood while Investigator Nielson conducted her investigation. When she had completed her investigation, a removal team loaded the decedent into a vehicle and transported him to a location in Marin County where he was scheduled for a post mortem examination with a forensic pathologist.

I received the PCR from Bell's Ambulance. I saw that the ambulance was dispatched at 0824 hours. They arrived on scene at 0841 hours, and were at the decedent's side a minute later. Life saving measures were not successful and death was pronounced death at 0902 hours. I faxed the PCR to Investigator Nielson to assist with her investigation.

This case is pending a Marin County Coroner's Office postmortem examination by their forensic pathologist and any test required at that time.

See Marin County Coroner's case number 20-0230 for further information.

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SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT by Sergeant J. Haugen #855

I contacted Investigator Nielson who advised the postmortem examination would take place at on 08/19/2020 . We will provided Santa Rosa VCI and CSI detectives that information so as to be in attendance.

I completed the required, State of California, Death In-Custody Reporting Form (BCIA 713) and later the amendment, and faxed it to the Department of Justice in Sacramento, Ca.

Nothing further.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT: By Detective James Mallamo #1379

On 02/24/2021 I received an electronic copy of the completed case file via email from the Marin County Coroner's Office.

The Marin County Coroner determined the cause of death to be: **"CARDIOPULMONARY ARREST, due to NONCOMPLIANCE DURING PHYSICAL CONFRONTATION WITH POLICE OFFICERS, due to SCHIZOAFFECTIVE DISORDER WITH AGITATION AND THREATENING BEHAVIOR."** Other significant conditions contributing to death were noted as: **"OBESITY; MARKED CARDIAC DILATION; SEVERE OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA; MARKED STEATOSIS OF LIVER; PRERENAL AZOTEMIA CONSISTENT WITH DEHYDRATION."**

The Marin County Coroner mannered this death as a **HOMICIDE**, which was consistent with the circumstances and cause. Refer to the Marin County Coroner's report for further information. Nothing further.

SUPPLEMENTALS

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