

NOTICE

**This document may contain graphic information
that some people find disturbing.**

Viewer discretion is advised.

T O X I C O L O G Y R E P O R T

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7580

Toxicology Folder: T200905664
Case Folder: F200906397
Date of Report: 27-jul-2009
Page: 1

DECEDENT: Jarniece Latonya Hargrove

Status of Report: Approved
Report Electronically Approved By: Ruth Winecker, Ph.D.

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** Comments Concerning This Report **
No analyses requested, specimen(s) held.
** End of Comments Concerning This Report **

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SPECIMENS received from William R. Oliver on 10-jul-2009

S090014952: Tissue CONDITION: Decomposed
SOURCE: Leg OBTAINED: 30-jun-2009

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B200902863

* * * E N D O F R E P O R T * * *

ECU Brody School of Medicine

Dept of Clinical/Forensic Path Greenville, NC 27858-4354

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REPORT OF AUTOPSY EXAMINATION

DECEDENT

Document Identifier B200902863

Autopsy Type ME Autopsy

Name Jarniece Latonya Hargrove

Age 30 yrs

Race Black

Sex F

AUTHORIZATION

Authorized By William R. Oliver MD

Received From Edgecombe

ENVIRONMENT

Date of Exam 06/30/2009

Time of Exam 13:24

Autopsy Facility ECU Brody School of Medicine **Persons Present** Lisa Leone; Special Agent Justin Godwin of North Carolina SBI; Intern Meghan Robbins of North Carolina SBI; Lieutenant Gary Brady of Edgecombe County Sherriff's Office

CERTIFICATION

Cause of Death

Undetermined

The facts stated herein are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Digitally signed by

William R. Oliver MD 22 December 2009 15:54

DIAGNOSES

1. Skeletonized remains
2. No cause of death identified

IDENTIFICATION

Body Identified By

Dental Exam

EXTERNAL DESCRIPTION

Length 65 inches

Rigor Not applicable.

Livor Not applicable.

Hair Black and curled.

Eyes Not applicable.

Teeth Natural (see discussion in Skeletal section)

Body Condition

Mummified/Skeletonized

Presentation:

The body is received nude, in the prone position and contained within a blue zippered remains pouch sealed with a small lock but without identification. No clothes are noted. Present around the neck is a white metal chain with white metal pendant with dollar sign. There is a white metal ring over the fourth finger of the right hand. No other articles of clothing or personal effects are noted.

Evidence of therapeutic intervention:

- None.

Identifying marks:

- A tattoo of a heart is present over the dorsum of the left hand.

General external examination:

The body is that of a mummified female of age to be determined by anthropological means. Upon turning the body to the supine position, it is noted that the anterior flesh and soft tissues are largely decomposed.

The head is largely defleshed with fragments of scalp and hair adherent to the occipital parietal area on the left. The maxillary and mandibular arches display post-mortem tooth loss as well as atrophy in the area of the upper incisors, which are missing antemortem. Examination of the left earlobe reveals it to be doubly pierced.

Examination of the internal organs reveals essentially complete absence with replacement by residual mummified connective tissue. No obvious fractures or scoring or instrument marking is noted. A 10 centimeter section from the left femur is obtained and submitted for possible DNA evaluation.

The skin of the back is mummified. There is a 2-1/4 x 1-1/4 inch elliptical defect over the mid-back on the left approximately 13 inches below the top of the head and 3-1/2 inches to the left of the midline; neither display obvious vital reaction.

INJURIES

No injuries are noted, though the degree of decomposition precludes evaluation of the internal non-skeletal organs.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

Body Cavities

Examination of the body cavities reveals almost complete decomposition of the internal organs with only a few strands of remaining tissue and no identifiable organs.

Skin

The skin of the posterior aspect of the body is mummified. No obvious lesions are noted. The remaining tissue is removed from the skeleton to allow skeletal survey.

SKELETAL EXAMINATION

Survey

Approximately 95% of the skeleton was recovered. All but five teeth were missing, as was the hyoid bone. No evidence of inflicted recent trauma was noted in the recovered skeleton. A depression is noted in the parietal bone. A healed fracture is noted of the left distal tibia. Examination of the dentition reveals antemortem loss of the upper central incisors, which would have been noticeable during life. Of the remaining teeth, fillings are noted that correspond with antemortem records. Examination of the mummified skin under IR/UV illumination reveals a small heart-shaped tattoo on the dorsum of the left hand.

Attributions

Age was estimated using cranial suture fusion and the amount of wear found in the pubic symphysis, providing an estimate of 30-39 years. Sex determination was based on nuchal crest, mastoid process, supraorbital margin, glabella, and mental eminence, as well as cranial measurement, providing an estimation of female sex. Race determination was estimated using cranial morphologic indicators, suggesting African-American heritage. Stature determination was based on the lengths of the femur, humerus, and tibia, providing an estimate of 5'2" to 5'6".

SUMMARY AND INTERPRETATION

The remains of Ms. Jarnice Hargrove were found skeletonized in Edgecomb County. An autopsy was ordered in the public interest to investigate remains found under suspicious circumstances.

Autopsy examination revealed the almost completely skeletonized remains of an African-American female with remnants of mummified skin. Skeletal and dental examination revealed identifying correspondences with Ms. Hargrove. No cause of death was determined, due to the degree of decomposition.

DIAGRAMS

There are no diagrams for this Autopsy.