

**Coroner Report
Santa Barbara County Sheriff**

19-11448

Supplement No
ORIG



4434 Calle Real
Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1002
Report Type
CORONER

Reported Date
09/02/2019

Officer
CARLSON, M

(805) 681-4100

Administrative Information									
Agency Santa Barbara County Sheriff			Report No 19-11448		Supplement No ORIG	Reported Date 09/02/2019	Reported Time 04:43	Status Incident	
Report Type Coroner's investigation			Location PLATTS HARBOR 34.02858 N X 119.44172 W						
City SNTA CRUZ ISL	Rep Dist 101	Area 1	Beat 10	From Date 09/02/2019		From Time 03:32			
Officer 2726/CARLSON, M			Assignment CORONER BUREAU		Entered by 2726		Assignment CORONER BUREAU		
RMS Transfer Pending	Report Title Coroner Report		Approving Officer 3768		Approval Date 02/21/2020				
Approval Time 13:38:57									
Cause of death (COR only) SMOKE INHALATION		Due to (COR only) FIRE		Manner of death (COR only) ACCIDENT		Date/Time of death pronounced 09-02-2019 / 0443			
Determined by (COR only) INVESTIGATION		Dr. will sign N	Hospitalization N		Mortuary CORONER REMOVAL				
Removal Status CORONER REMOVAL		Date/Time NOK notified 09-06-2019 / 1303		NOK notified by: MARTHA SOSA		NOK notified via TELEPHONE			
NOK relation to decedent QUITASOL, CHRISTINA / DAUG.									
Person Summary									
Invl COR	Invl No 1	Type I	Name QUITASOL, EVAMICHEL SOLANO		MNI 989149	Race H	Sex F	DOB [REDACTED]	
Summary Narrative									
On 09-02-19, at approximately 0443 hours, 37 year-old, Evanmichael Quitasol died from traumatic injuries sustained when the vessel she was on caught fire, burned to the water line and sank. Quitasol had been a passenger on the chartered dive boat, Conception.									

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Decedent - Coroner Investigation 1: QUITASOL, EVAMICHEL SOLANO									
Involvement Decedent - Coroner Investigation				Invl No 1	Type Individual				
Name QUITASOL, EVAMICHEL SOLANO				MNI 989149	Race Hispanic/Mexican/Latin			Sex Female	
DOB	Age 37	Juvenile? No	Height 5'03"	Weight 185#	Hair Color Brown	Eye Color Brown			
Type Home	Address				City	State			
ZIP Code	Date 09/02/2019								
Type Operator License	ID No			OLS					
Relationship Sister	Name				Sex				
Address				City	State				
ZIP Code	Phone Type Cell	Phone No							
Medical									
Citizenship UNITED STATES				Place of Birth California	Occupation NURSE	Coroner Case No 19-11448	NOK Notified? Yes		
Premise Sealed? No	Property? No	Vehicle? No	Legal Document No	Other Documents? No	NOK Name				
Mortuary Name WELCH RTYCE HAIDER			On Call? No	Family Request? Yes					
Nature of Illness NOT RELEVANT									
Injury Place PLATTS HARBOR ABOARD DIVE BOAT				Injury Date 09/02/2019	Injury Time 03:32:00	Injured At Work? No			
Injury Premise THE DECEDENT WAS A PASSENGER ABOARD A CHARTERED DIVE BOAT WHICH CAUGHT FIRE.									
How Injured THE DECEDENT WAS A PASSENGER ABOARD A BOAT WHICH CAUGHT FIRE RESULTING IN DEATH.									
Decedent Passenger Yes									

Narrative

Continuations:

Evanmichael Quitasol is the decedent.

Narrative:

On 09-02-19, at approximately 0516 hours, the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office was notified by the Ventura Fire Department of a vessel on fire in the Channel Islands off the coast of Santa Barbara County. The Coast Guard responded along with Ventura Fire Department and Santa Barbara County Fire Department. Upon arrival at the scene the vessel was found to be fully engulfed in fire. The call had originally come into the Coast Guard at 0332 hours, on 09-02-19.

Reports to the Coast Guard said there were possibly be 34 subjects trapped below the water line, in the vessel.

The vessel was identified as the "Conception" and it was in jurisdiction of the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office near Santa Cruz Island, not in Ventura Sheriff's Department jurisdiction. The location was later found to be 300 yards offshore of Platts Harbor on Santa Cruz Island. See Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department case number 19-11415 for full details.

Det. Morris was notified of the incident by Sergeant Valencia. Sergeant Morris requested the response of Detective Henslin, Detective Biedinger, and Detective Carlson to the Coroner's Bureau to assist in the incident at approximately 0525 hours.

Det. Baisa was also called at that time and asked to respond to Ventura Harbor to act as the liaison for the

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Narrative

Sheriff's Office.

It was later found the vessel, the "Conception" contained 33 passengers and six crew members. Five of the crew members were rescued, but none of the 33 passengers had been found.

During the course of the morning four deceased passengers had been located by Coast Guard personnel. The Coast Guard transported the decedents to the Santa Barbara Harbor.

At 1150 hours, on 09-02-19, Sgt. Morris, Detective Henslin and Detective Biedinger responded to the Santa Barbara Harbor to retrieve decedents documented as 1 through 4.

At 1220 hours, on 09-02-19, the decedents were brought to Santa Barbara Harbor. Detective Henslin and Detective Biedinger transported two decedent's each to the Santa Barbara Coroner's Bureau, where physical examinations were later conducted on them.

At that time digital photographs were taken of the decedents along with samples collected for DNA analysis identification and for an expanded toxicology panel. All of the decedents retrieved on 09-02-19, were found to have significant thermal burns to their bodies with limbs missing due to the intensity of the fire. None of the decedents could be identified by physical characteristics.

At 2030 hours, on 09-02-19, Sgt Morris, Det. Biedinger, Det. Henslin, Det. Carlson, Det. Baisa, Deputy Bruening and staff from the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office responded to the Santa Barbara Harbor for retrieval of 16 additional bodies recovered from the Conception, documented as decedents 5 through 20.

The decedents were then transported to Coroner's Bureau for examinations, drawing of fluids for toxicology and DNA analysis, and collection of personal property.

At approximately 2330 hours, on 09-02-19, all the examinations of the decedents were completed and the decedents were placed in a portable morgue provided by the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office.

On 09-03-19, at 1930 hours, Sgt Morris, Det. Biedinger, Det. Henslin, Det. Carlson, Det. Baisa, Deputy Bruening and staff from the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office responded to the Santa Barbara Harbor for retrieval of 13 more remains recovered from the Conception, documented as decedents 21 through 33.

The decedents were then all transported to the Santa Barbara Coroner's Bureau, where physical examinations, digital photographs, and fluid samples for DNA analysis and toxicology were conducted on each recovered decedent.

All of the decedents recovered on 09-03-19 were placed on portable coroner racks and secured in the Santa Barbara Coroner's Bureau morgue.

On 09-09-19, at approximately 1400 hours, Pathologist Dr. Manny Montez, Detective Henslin, Detective Baisa, and Sgt. Morris, along with representatives from the FBI and ATF performed tracheal examinations of the remaining decedents at the Coroner's Bureau.

On 09-10-19, at approximately 1830 hours, Detective Baisa met with Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department Sgt. Nelson, from the National Park Service, 1901 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura, Ca. Sgt. Nelson provided Detective Baisa with a bag of suspected human flesh, a backpack and an air vent from the Conception that had suspected human hair embedded in it. The suspected human tissue and other items were found in the bow of the Conception.

The items later numbered 35 and 36 were transported to the Santa Barbara Coroner's Bureau where digital photographs were taken of the suspected human tissue and suspected human hair, which was removed from the suspect air vent.

The suspected human tissue and hair were later flown to the Sacramento County Coroner's Office in Sacramento, Ca., under the care of Sgt. Morris and Deputy Bruening for DNA analysis.

At approximately 1330 hours, on 09-11-19, Detective Henslin and Detective Biedinger responded to Santa Barbara Harbor, after Divers from the Los Angeles Police Department located the remains of a decedent, near the location of the Conception fire. The Los Angeles Police Department collected the remains, with a section of hair,

Report Officer
26/CARLSON, M

Printed At
02/27/2020 10:59

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documented as numbers 37 and 38.

The decedent and the remains were then transported to the Santa Barbara Coroner's Bureau, where a physical examination, digital photographs, and fluid samples for DNA analysis and toxicology were conducted on the recovered decedent.

The sample of collected hair was packaged and sent along the DNA samples of decedent number 37 for DNA analysis in Sacramento California, under the care of Detective Henslin, who flew to the Sacramento Airport and provided the samples to Sgt. Morris who was still in Sacramento.

The samples were then taken to the Sacramento County Coroner's Office, for DNA analysis.

Physical evidence:

A series of digital photographs were taken of the decedent at the Coroner's Bureau by Forensic Personnel from the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department. The photo card was later downloaded for storage at the Coroner's Bureau.

Identification of decedent:

The decedent was positively identified by a DNA comparison, with samples submitted by the decedent's mother, Susana Pompa Solano-Rosas. The DNA comparison was conducted via the Sacramento County Coroner's Office.

Examination of decedent:

Once the decedent was received at the Santa Barbara County Coroner's Morgue, a physical examination was conducted at the Coroner's Bureau. The decedent was received clothed and prone within a black colored body bag. A tag with case #19-11448 was attached to the body bag.

The decedent was not identifiable due to extensive and severe postmortem thermal injuries. Severe 4th degree thermal burns were present. The face and head had been burned and degraded severely. The decedent was wearing multi-colored cat pajamas and a black t-shirt.

The chest and abdomen were charred from extensive 4th degree thermal burns. The burns extended through muscle and fatty tissue.

The upper legs displayed 4th degree burns. Both legs were burnt over their entirety, with the lower legs and feet displaying third- and fourth-degree burns.

The arms displayed extensive 4th degree burns with charring at the ends.

The decedent was rolled to her side and the rear of the body was examined. The entirety of the back of the torso and buttocks displayed 3rd and 4th degree burns. There were no indications of a struggle or defensive wounds to the decedent, specifically the hands, arms, and chest.

1 tube of heart blood was submitted to Alere Forensics for toxicology analysis. The remaining fluid samples were refrigerated at the Coroner's Bureau pending a need for toxicology analysis.

Post mortem examination:

Due to the severity of the decedent's injuries and in consideration of the circumstances associated with this tragic incident including: Extensive vessel fire which consumed the craft below the water line resulting in all decedents being submerged with the wreckage. All decedents were recovered by open water and confined space divers. Following a review of these circumstances and a physical examination of all decedents, a post mortem examination was deferred.

Forensic toxicology:

On 09-17-2019, a toxicology report was received from Alere Forensics regarding the decedent's carbon monoxide saturation. The report indicated the following:

Carbon monoxide 45 %

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On 9-15-19, a toxicology report was received from Alere Forensics regarding the decedent's cyanide saturation. The report indicated the following:

Cyanide < 1 %.

The reports were reviewed with Dr. Manny Montez and found to be contributive to the decedent's death.

On 9-28-19, a toxicology report was received from Alere Forensics regarding a toxicology screen. The report indicated the following:

Expanded Drug Screen Positive Findings:

NONE DETECTED.

Volatiles

(EtOH, IPA, MeOH, Acetone) None Detected

The report was reviewed with Dr. Manny Montez and found to be non-contributive to the decedent's death.

Consultations with Forensic Pathologist:

I reviewed the circumstances surrounding this death with Dr. Manny Montez. Dr. Montez opined that the decedent died as a result of smoke inhalation due to boat fire.

In review of the circumstances of this death:

On 09-02-19, at approximately 0443 hours, 37 year-old, Evanmichael Quitasol died from traumatic injuries sustained when the vessel she was on caught fire, burned to the water line and sank. Quitasol had been a passenger on the chartered dive boat, Conception.

Cause of Death:

It was determined that the decedent (QUITASOL) died as a result of the following cause;

SMOKE INHALATION (MINS)

Due to:

BOAT FIRE (MINS)

Manner of death:

The manner of death will be certified by the Office of the Coroner as ACCIDENTAL.

Final Disposition:

The decedent was released to representatives of Welch Ryce Haider Mortuary in Santa Barbara, Ca. The decedent's property was released to the family via the mortuary.

Case closed

Santa Barbara County Sheriff



4434 Calle Real
 Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1002
 Report Type
FORENSICS

(805) 681-4100

19-11448

Supplement No
 0001

Reported Date
 09/24/2019

Officer
SANDOVAL, M

Administrative Information													
Agency	Santa Barbara County Sheriff		Report No	19-11448	Supplement No	0001	Reported Date	09/24/2019	Reported Time	10:01	Status	Incident	
Report Type	Forensics BOC		Location	66 S SAN ANTONIO RD									
City	Santa Barbara City	ZIP Code	93110	Rep Dist	137	Area	1	Beat	40	From Date	09/02/2019	From Time	03:32
Officer	3703/SANDOVAL, M		Assignment	FORENSICS		Entered by	3703		Assignment	FORENSICS		RMS Transfer	Pending
Approving Officer	2901		Approval Date	09/24/2019		Approval Time	12:41:06						

Summary Narrative

Additional photo-documentation of Decedent #30.

Narrative

E-FILE ATTACHMENTS:

None

NARRATIVE:

At 1320 hours on Monday, 09/09/19, I received a call from Forensic Supervisor Nancy Fabela advising our assistance was needed to take additional photographs of the victims from the 'Conception' boat fire.

WALK THROUGH:

CSI Technician Avalos and I arrived at the Santa Barbara Coroner's Office at 1430 hours and met with Forensic Supervisor Fabela, SBSO Coroner Detective, Doctor Manny Montez, along with an FBI Evidence Response Manager. Photographs were being requested of the inside of the victims' tracheas only. Doctor Montez proceeded to expose each victims' tracheas and photographs were taken at this request.

PHOTO-DOCUMENTATION :

At 1440 hours, on Monday 09/09/19, I took close up digital photographs of Decedent #30's trachea. Photo-documentation was completed at 1528 hours on 09/09/19. All of the photographs were later uploaded to the Santa Barbara Forensic Unit's digital evidence hard drive under 19-11448 for future reference.

FINAL WALK-THROUGH:

Forensic Supervisor Fabela, CSI Technician Avalos and I gathered our equipment and left the Coroner's Office at 1545 hours. We arrived at the Santa Barbara station at 1550 hours, downloaded all photos, and left at 1630 hours.

- END OF REPORT ~

Santa Barbara County Sheriff



4434 Calle Real

Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1002
 Report Type
FORENSICS

(805) 681-4100

19-11448

Supplement No
 0002

Reported Date
 09/24/2019

Officer
AMEZOLA, V

Administrative Information									
Agency Santa Barbara County Sheriff			Report No 19-11448		Supplement No 0002	Reported Date 09/24/2019	Reported Time 11:22	Status Incident	
Report Type Forensics BOC			Location PLATTS HARBOR 34.02858 N X 119.44172 W						
City SANTA CRUZ ISL	Rep Dist 101	Area 1	Beat 10	From Date 09/02/2019		From Time 03:32			
Officer 3949/AMEZOLA, V			Assignment FORENSICS	Entered by 3949	Assignment FORENSICS	RMS Transfer Pending			
Approving Officer 2901		Approval Date 09/24/2019		Approval Time 13:09:34					

Summary Narrative

This report contains information in reference to the Coroners request for Forensics assistance in photo documenting the bodies recovered from the Conception Boat Fire Incident.

Narrative

E-FILE ATTACHMENTS:

None

NARRATIVE:

On Tuesday, 09/03/19 at approximately 0100 hours, prior to CSI Tech Melissa Sandoval's and my return to the North County Forensics Office, Forensics Supervisor Nancy Fabela requested we respond to the South County Forensics Office at 1200 hours, on Tuesday, 09/03/19. She advised we would continue assisting the Coroner's Office with photo documentation and fingerprint identification on the remaining bodies that were to arrive later that day.

At approximately 1100 hours, CSI Tech Melissa Sandoval and I left the North County Forensics Office, and arrived at the South County Forensics Office around 1230 hours.

At approximately 1700 hours, Supervisor Fabela contacted me, via phone, and advised that the additional bodies would be arriving at the Coroners Bureau around 2130-2200 hours.

At 2015 hours, we were advised that the bodies had arrived at the Coroner's Office. CSI Tech Sandoval and I responded, as well as CSI Tech Avalos and Supervisor Fabela.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION (Decedent #30, female):

On Tuesday, 09/03/19, at 2118 hours, I began overall photo documentation on a female decedent. Her body was on a body bag with a Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Coroner tag hanging from the zipper. Her body was badly turned. She was wearing long pants with "Alice in Wonderland" characters on them, Cacique pink/teal/white underwear and a dark colored shirt.sports bra, dark colored yoga pants, and a dark colored torn top. A single zipper was located under her body. As well as one phone cable by her hands. Overall photo documentation of her unclothed body was also taken. An iPhone (with a teal cover) was located in the left pant leg.

Photo documentation was completed at 2132 hours.

Supervisor Fabela, CSI Tech Sandoval and myself left the Coroner's Bureau at 0020 hours, on Tuesday, 9/03/19.

All digital photos were later uploaded into the South County Forensics digital imaging computer for future reference.

Santa Barbara County Sheriff

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0002

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~END OF REPORT~



ALERE FORENSICS AT REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY LABORATORY

3650 Westwind Blvd. Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Phone 866-584-0887 FAX 707-703-1319

Agency # 19-11448

FORENSIC LABORATORY REPORT

AF # 2019-003240

To: Brice Bruening
Santa Barbara County Sheriff-Coroner

Sample Collection Date: September 3, 2019

Decedent: Evan Quitasol

The following evidence was submitted to the Laboratory by a representative of the Santa Barbara County Sheriff-Coroner on 9/5/2019 via FedEx:

Submission 01: One tape sealed and initialed screw top metal canister containing a second screw top metal canister containing one tube of blood with paperwork marked in part "#30 Doe Jane". The name "Quitasol, Evan" was supplied on 9-9-19.

Item # 01-A: One gray top tube with approximately 6 mL of femoral blood collected at 2200 hours.

Service Request:

F1048B - Misc. Chemicals (Qualitative) - Blood

Confirmation/Screen Results

Analyte Name	Concentration	Method	Sample Type
Cyanide	< 1 mcg/mL	Color Screen	Blood



2019-003240-0003

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren J. Marinetti".

Lauren J. Marinetti, Ph.D., F-ABFT
Laboratory Director

Date of Report: September 15, 2019

Alera Forensics at Redwood Toxicology is accredited by The American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT) and is recognized by the State of California as a Title 17 Forensic Alcohol Laboratory.

All samples, including the sample packaging, will be retained at the laboratory for one year after the date of report. After one year, the samples and packaging will be destroyed unless the client requests that the samples be returned or an alternate retention policy has been set up with the laboratory. The laboratory cannot ship controlled substances.

Comments

The limit of detection for the cyanide color screen is 0.5 mcg/mL.



ALERE FORENSICS AT REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY LABORATORY

3650 Westwind Blvd. Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Phone 866-584-0887 FAX 707-703-1319

Agency # 19-11448

FORENSIC LABORATORY REPORT

AF # 2019-003240

To: Brice Bruening
Santa Barbara County Sheriff-Coroner

Sample Collection Date: September 3, 2019

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Item # 01-A: One gray top tube with approximately 6 mL of femoral blood collected at 2200 hours.

Service Request:

FP760B - Carboxyhemoglobin/Carbon Monoxide - Blood

Confirmation/Screen Results

Analyte Name	Concentration	Method	Sample Type
Carbon Monoxide	> 45 %	Micro Diffusion	Blood
Carbon Monoxide	Unsuitable	AVOXimeter 4000	Blood



2019-003240-0002

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren J. Marinetti". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small flourish at the end.

Lauren J. Marinetti, Ph.D.,F-ABFT
Laboratory Director

Date of Report: September 17, 2019

Alere Forensics at Redwood Toxicology is accredited by The American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT) and is recognized by the State of California as a Title 17 Forensic Alcohol Laboratory.

All samples, including the sample packaging, will be retained at the laboratory for one year after the date of report. After one year, the samples and packaging will be destroyed unless the client requests that the samples be returned or an alternate retention policy has been set up with the laboratory. The laboratory cannot ship controlled substances.

Comments

None



ALERE FORENSICS AT REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY LABORATORY

3650 Westwind Blvd. Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Phone 866-584-0887 FAX 707-703-1319

Agency # 19-11448

FORENSIC LABORATORY REPORT

AF # 2019-003240

To: Brice Bruening
Santa Barbara County Sheriff-Coroner

Sample Collection Date: September 3, 2019

Decedent: Evan Quitasol

The following evidence was submitted to the Laboratory by a representative of the Santa Barbara County Sheriff-Coroner on 9/5/2019 via FedEx:

Submission 01: One tape sealed and initialed screw top metal canister containing a second screw top metal canister containing one tube of blood with paperwork marked in part "#30 Doe Jane". The name "Quitasol, Evan" was supplied on 9-9-19.

Item # 01-A: One gray top tube with approximately 6 mL of femoral blood collected at 2200 hours.

Service Request:

FP222B - Expanded Pnl (Confirm) - Blood



2019-003240-0001

Drug Screen Results - ELISA

<u>Drug Screen Classification</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Limit of Detection</u>
Amphetamine	Not Detected	20.0 ng/mL
Barbiturates	Not Detected	1.0 mcg/mL
Benzodiazepines	Not Detected	25.0 ng/mL
Buprenorphine	Not Detected	1.0 ng/mL
Carisoprodol	Not Detected	500.0 ng/mL
Cocaine Metabolite	Not Detected	50.0 ng/mL
Fentanyl	Not Detected	1.0 ng/mL
Marijuana Metabolite	Not Detected	10.0 ng/mL
Methadone	Not Detected	25.0 ng/mL
Methamphetamine	Not Detected	20.0 ng/mL
Opiates	Not Detected	10.0 ng/mL
Oxycodone \ Oxymorphone	Not Detected	5.0 ng/mL
PCP	Not Detected	5.0 ng/mL
Tramadol	Not Detected	50.0 ng/mL
Zolpidem	Not Detected	5.0 ng/mL

Confirmation/Screen Results

<u>Analyte Name</u>	<u>Concentration</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Sample Type</u>
Basic Drug Screen	None Detected	LC-MS-MS	Blood
Volatiles (EtOH, IPA, MeOH, Acetone)	Not Detected	GC-Headspace	Blood



2019-003240-0001

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren J. Marinetti", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lauren J. Marinetti, Ph.D., F-ABFT
Laboratory Director

Date of Report: September 28, 2019

Alere Forensics at Redwood Toxicology is accredited by The American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT) and is recognized by the State of California as a Title 17 Forensic Alcohol Laboratory.

All samples, including the sample packaging, will be retained at the laboratory for one year after the date of report. After one year, the samples and packaging will be destroyed unless the client requests that the samples be returned or an alternate retention policy has been set up with the laboratory. The laboratory cannot ship controlled substances.

Comments

EtOH - ethanol, IPA - isopropanol, MeOH - methanol