

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER  
6600 NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL ROAD, SUITE 100  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24019-2836  
PHONE: (540) 561-6615

AUTOPSY No: W-172-15  
DAY/DATE: 3-27-2015, Friday  
TIME: 8:45 AM

REPORT OF AUTOPSY

DECEDENT: NOAH THOMAS

AUTOPSY AUTHORIZED BY: Dr. Amy Tharp, Acting Medical Examiner for Pulaski County

BODY IDENTIFIED BY:

Tag on the bag in which the body was received.

PERSONS PRESENT AT AUTOPSY:

Dr. Tharp, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Meador, Inv. Ritter (Pulaski Co. Sheriff's Office), Mr. Fleenor (Pulaski Co. Commonwealth Attorney)

Rigor: Passed/not evident	Livor: Pink-red, fixed	Distribution: Anterior
Age: 5	Race: White	Sex: Male
Hair: Red-brown, short	Eyes: Brown	Pupils: Equal at 10 mm
	Circumcised: Yes	Body Heat: Cold

CLOTHING, PERSONAL EFFECTS, EXTERNAL WOUNDS, SCARS, TATTOOS, OTHER IDENTIFYING FEATURES:

GENERAL EXTERNAL EXAMINATION: The decedent is received in a bag, labeled and clothed. The clothing is wet and coated in sewage debris including foreign material and fecal matter. There is also abundant liquid and semi-solid material in the body bag. The body is that of a Caucasian male child with water submersion changes (wrinkling) of the hands and feet. There are no petechiae on the face or in the conjunctivae or sclerae. There are no morphological abnormalities of the face. The palate is intact and there is no injury to the frenulum. The teeth are appropriate for age. The external genitalia are within normal developmental limits with no injuries to the penis or anus/rectum. The hands are not bagged. A physical evidence recovery kit is collected at the time of autopsy. There is a 0.7 cm brown birthmark of the left buttock.

EXTERNAL MEASUREMENTS: Weight - 69lb. (normal 35-48 lb.); Body length - 51" (normal 42-48 1/2"). "Normal" weight and length designations are based on the decedent's age; 95% of children of this age would be expected to fall within this range.

CLOTHING: Coat, pants, jersey shirt, underwear, rubber boots.

PERSONAL EFFECTS: Cell phone in right pants pocket, action figure. Additional material found in the body bag included a used condom and a toothpaste tube cap.

EXTERNAL WOUNDS: There is a 3" linear vertical abrasion of the left upper abdomen. There are two additional 4 1/2" linear abrasions (arranged parallel and adjacent and lateral to the previously described abrasion) on the left abdomen. There is a 0.3 cm laceration with minimal hemorrhage of the right upper gingiva. There is a 1/2 x 1/2" blue contusion of the right lower leg and a 1/2 x 1/2" contusion of the left lower thigh.

SCARS: None visible.

MARKS OF THERAPY: None.

X-RAYS: A full skeletal survey reveals no acute fractures. A reported remote left humerus fracture (from August 2014) is well-healed.

HISTORY: 5 year old found in septic tank/sewage system at home; missing for 5 days.

PATHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSES:

1. Drowning.
  - a. Acute hypoxic-ischemic changes and edema, brain.
  - b. Mild pulmonary hyperinflation.
  - c. Microscopic foreign debris, peripheral air spaces.
  - d. Water submersion changes, skin of hands and feet.
2. Hypothermia.
  - a. Pink-red livor mortis.
3. No lethal injuries.

POSTMORTEM TOXICOLOGY: Femoral/Iliac mixed blood - Alkali-extractable drugs not detected. Subclavian blood - ethanol, methanol/acetone/isopropanol, cocaine/benzoyllecgonine, opiates, methamphetamine/MDMA, phencyclidine, methadone, fentanyl, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, carisoprodol/meprobamate, zolpidem, amphetamine/phentermine, acetaminophen, salicylates, buprenorphine, cannabinoids and acidic or neutral drugs not detected.

Cause of death: Drowning with hypothermia contributing.

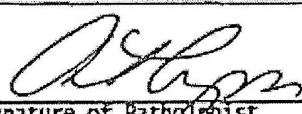
Provisional Report:


Final Report: XX (4 pages)

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

June 3, 2015  
Date Signed

OCME Roanoke, Va.  
Place of Autopsy

  
Signature of Pathologist  
Amy M. Tharp, M.D.

A COPY SENT JUN 08 2015  
  
AMY THARP, M.D.  
Assistant Chief Medical Examiner