

SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER

REPORT OF EXAMINATION



NAME: SHANNAN MARIA GILBERT

AUTOPSY PERFORMED BY: Hajar Sims-Childs, M.D.

ME#: 11-04655

DATE: December 14, 2011

FINAL DIAGNOSES

- I. PREDOMINANTLY SKELETONIZED HUMAN REMAINS OF YOUNG WOMAN FOUND IN MARSHLAND NEAR OAK BEACH
 - A. ANTHROPOLOGICAL PROFILE, DENTAL PROFILE AND DNA ANALYSIS ON REMAINS ARE CONSISTENT WITH MISSING PERSON SHANNAN MARIA GILBERT
 - B. EXAMINATION OF REMAINS REVEALS NO EVIDENCE OF TRAUMA
 - C. HISTORY OF COCAINE AND MARIJUANA USE; TOXICOLOGY ANALYSIS ON LIMITED SAMPLE NEGATIVE RESULTS
 - D. SEE FORENSIC BIOLOGY LABORATORY REPORT, TOXICOLOGY REPORT, AND ANTHROPOLOGY REPORT

AUSE OF DEATH:

UNDETERMINED

MANNER OF DEATH:

UNDETERMINED

Hajar Sims-Childs, M.D. Deputy Medical Examiner

3-12-2012

Date

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MEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY.

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SHANNAN MARIA GILBERT

CASE 11-04655

I hereby certify that I, Hajar Sims-Childs, M.D., Deputy Medical Examiner, have performed an examination on the body subsequently identified as that of **Shannan Maria Gilbert** on December 14, 2011 at the Suffolk County Medical Examiner's Office commencing at 9:00 A.M.

EXAMINATION:

The body consists of predominantly skeletonized remains of a young woman whose reported age is 23 years (comment: see Anthropology report C11-061 from the New York City Office Chief Medical Examiner Forensic Anthropology Unit, for race, sex, stature and age determinations). The body is almost completely recovered; skeletal elements with a small amount of residual soft tissue and missing several small bones, including phalanges of the fingers and toes, metatarsal bones, and the greater horns of the hyoid bone.

When first viewed at the scene examination, the remains are exposed and in direct contact with the ground within a marshland area, partially entangled within overgrown shrubbery, and partially buried and covered by mud. The remains are mainly detached and in close proximity to one another, spanning an area of approximately 10 feet (comment: a few smaller bones are found approximately 40-50 feet from the body). There are remnants of clothing on or adjacent to the skeletal remains, further described below under "CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EFFECTS".

There is a tangled mass of brown scalp hair having a straight, slightly wavy texture and indeterminate length, closely associated with the skeletal remains and mixed with dirt, vegetation and debris. The skull is intact and free of fractures, including the nose and facial bones. Dried soft tissue is adherent on the left posterior scalp and left temple. Non-descript gray material is within the intracranial cavity. The maxilla and mandible have natural teeth, which are in fair repair with apparent restorations of the molars. There are two metal plates of the body of the right mandible, containing four screws each. The plates are intact and well-healed into the bone. The neck cartilages are not present. The cervical vertebrae are free of fractures. The body of the hyoid bone is recovered intact and free of fracture. The greater horns of the hyoid bone are not recovered.

The torso shows intact, detached thoracic and lumbar vertebrae, ribs, sternum and manubrium, without fractures or evidence of trauma. There is limited dried soft tissue adherent to the pelvis and right femur. There are no internal viscera present.

The upper and lower extremities appear normally developed and there are no fractures or evidence of trauma. There is residual soft tissue of the mid portion of the right arm involving the elbow, distal upper arm and proximal forearm. Green moss/vegetation is on the right scapula and left humerus. The radius and ulna of the left arm are soil stained. A single toenail is identified, having chipped black polish and mud on the undersurface. There is a large area of soft tissue on the right lower extremity, covering the right pelvis and right femur. The long bones of the lower extremity are mainly soil stained, with green moss/vegetation of the knees and right lower leg.

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SHANNAN MARIA GILBERT

CASE 11-04655

TATTOOS:

Examination of the limited amount of remaining desiccated skin reveals marked post-mortem dark discoloration and soil staining; such that the presence of tattoos can not be discerned.

POSTMORTEM CHANGES

The remains show decomposition with exposed skeletal elements as previously described. The bones are partially sun bleached and soil stained, with focal areas of green moss/vegetation as previously described. There are very small areas of possible post-mortem animal activity. There are numerous insects, beetles, spiders and fly casings associated with the remains.

CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EFFECTS:

On or closely associated with the remains are several weathered, soil stained, and fragmented, damp articles of clothing, including: two halves of a black brassiere, a torn, soil stained fragment of a possibly tan or white shirt, wrapped around the right arm, a small thin, black lace torn item of clothing, (comment: resembling a pair of thong panties), and several tattered fragments of a black stretchy fabric (comment: possibly a pair of tights).

Additionally viewed in the Suffolk County Medical Examiner's Office Crime Laboratory is a pair of weathered, thin fabric blue denim jeans with large and numerous defects, showing rust and soil stains (comment: denim jeans submitted to Crime Laboratory by Suffolk County Police Department Detectives).

Additional personal belongings are not present at post-mortem examination, and are recovered separately and secured by the Suffolk County Police Department.

TOXICOLOGY:

Body samples, including hair, desiccated tissue resembling skeletal muscle, and debris within the intracranial cavity, are submitted for toxicological analysis. A separate report will be issued.

EVIDENCE AND ADDITIONAL STUDIES:

Postmortem photographs and radiographs of the entire body, including the skull and mandible are made and retained. Clothing and other trace evidence, including the hair mass, is submitted to the Suffolk County Medical Examiner's Office Crime Lab for analysis; a separate report is issued. DNA analysis of the remains performed in the Department of Forensic Biology Office of Chief Medical Examiner, City of New York (comment: see Forensic Biology Additional Laboratory report on case FB11-06960). Anthropological analysis of the remains is conducted by the Forensic Anthropology Unit of New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (comment: see Anthropology Report C11-0161)

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Toxicologic Report

Division of Medical-Legal Investigation and Forensic Sciences Suffolk County, New York

NAME: <u>Gilbert, Shannan Maria</u>

ME NO: 2011-04655

EXAMINATION DATE: 12/14/2011 ANALYSIS PERFORMED: General Unknown

SPECIMENS SUBMITTED:

Hair, material in skull, rib/costal cartilage, rodent dropping/maggot casing, Skeletal muscle

SPECIMENS USED FOR ANALYSIS:

Hair, material in skull, Skeletal muscle, Skeletal muscle (Blood), Skull Material

RESULTS

Volatile Substances

EMIT Screen

Skeletal muscle

Acetaminophen, Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepine Metabolites, Cocaine Metabolites, Methadone, Opiates, Oxymorphone, Phencyclidine, Salicylates, THC Metabolites, = Not Detected (12/16/2011)

Skull Material

Acetaminophen, Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepine Metabolites, Cocaine Metabolites, Methadone, Opiates, Oxymorphone, Phencyclidine, Salicylates, THC Metabolites, = Not Detected (12/16/2011)

Quantitative Drug Results

COCAINE AND METABOLITES**

Hair - Negative (2/17/2012)

Qualitative Drug Results

ACIDIC & NEUTRAL DRUGS

Skeletal muscle - Not Detected (12/20/2011)

ACIDIC & NEUTRAL DRUGS

material in skull - Not Detected (12/20/2011)

BASIC DRUGS

material in skull - Not Detected (12/23/2011)

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BASIC DRUGS

Skeletal muscle (Blood) - Not Detected (12/23/2011)

**Performed at NMS Labs

Michael Lehrer, PhD

Chief - Toxicology Laboratory

2/23/2012

Date

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