



SHERIFF-CORONER

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

STANLEY SNIFF, Sheriff-Coroner

M. SCOTT McCORMICK, M.D.
Forensic Pathologist

AUTOPSY PROTOCOL

NAME OF DECEDENT: HOPES, RASHAD (U120-13)

FILE NUMBER: 2013-05466

FINAL DIAGNOSES:

- I. Gunshot wound to head:
 - A. Penetration of skull.
 - B. Penetration of brain.
 - C. Bullet and jacket recovered.
- II. Blunt impact injuries to head:
 - A. Multiple abrasions.
 - B. Laceration of scalp.
 - C. Subgaleal hemorrhage.
- III. Abrasions of torso.
- IV. Abrasions and puncture wounds of lower extremities consistent with dog bites.

CAUSE OF DEATH: GUNSHOT WOUND TO HEAD

"I hereby certify that I, M. Scott McCormick, M.D., Forensic Pathologist, have performed an autopsy on the body of Unidentified Male U120-13, later identified as Rashad Hopes, on the 12th day of June 2013, commencing at 9:15 a.m., in the mortuary of the Office of the Riverside County Sheriff-Coroner. This autopsy is performed in the presence of L. Velin and Rick Cobb of the Riverside Police Department and Jared Haringsma and Dan Binyan of the Riverside County District Attorney's Office."

External Examination: The body is received in a white plastic body bag sealed with red evidence tag number 31255. The tag is broken at 9:15 a.m. at the beginning of the autopsy. Within the body bag the decedent is clad as described below and hands are covered with brown paper bags sealed at the wrists with tape. The body is supine with the hands handcuffed behind the back.

The body is that of an approximately 5' 7", 132 pound, well developed, well nourished, black man appearing the given age of 26 years. Rigor mortis is fully developed and symmetric. Lividity is obscured by skin pigmentation. The torso is cold from refrigeration.

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The scalp hair is brown and up to 1/2" in length. The irides are brown. The conjunctivae have no petechial hemorrhages. Facial hair consists of a 1/4" long mustache and 1/4" long beard. The teeth are natural and in good repair. The external genitalia are those of a circumcised adult man and both descended. Above the lateral aspect of the left eyebrow is a monochromatic black tattoo of what appears to be the number "2" and the letter "C" upside-down. On the lateral aspect of the left upper arm is a monochromatic black tattoo of the name "Jenall". On the lateral aspect of both sides of the neck are medium sized, vertically oriented, bar-shaped illegible tattoos. On the anterior aspect of the right forearm is a monochromatic black tattoo of a long quotation. On the anterior aspect of the right wrist is a monochromatic tattoo of the word "God". On the anterior aspect of the left wrist is a monochromatic black tattoo of the word "Child". On the posterior aspect of the left hand is a monochromatic black tattoo of two letters "RR" resembling the Rolls Royce symbol. On the posterior aspect of the left forearm is a monochromatic black tattoo of the name "Cynthia". On the anterior aspect of the left forearm is a tattoo of a gun and money clip and marijuana leaves. On the posterior aspect of the right forearm is a monochromatic black tattoo of the words "Loyal to the Game". In midline of the abdomen above and below the umbilicus is a medium sized, vertically oriented, somewhat irregular linear scar. On the right lower quadrant of the abdomen are two small, horizontally oriented, well healed linear scars.

CLOTHING: On the torso is a black t-shirt. On the legs are a pair of tan plaid boxer shorts and white shorts with a gray webbed belt. On the left foot is a white sock and a gray Nike sneaker. In the body bag is a matching white sock and gray sneaker. Some of the clothing has blood staining but no apparent gunshot wound defects. The clothing is collected and sealed in evidence containers.

THERAPY: On the torso are four electrocardiogram monitor pads.

INJURIES

GUNSHOT WOUND TO HEAD:

1. The entrance wound is located on the left posterior aspect of the scalp 4" below the top of the head and 1/2" left of the midline. The entrance wound consists of an 8 mm circular skin defect with a crescentic collar of abrasion from twelve o'clock to seven o'clock up to 4 mm wide at four o'clock. The adjacent skin has no soot, stippling or muzzle stamp.
2. The wound path passes through the skin and muscle of the posterior aspect of the scalp and perforates the left posterior aspect of the occipital bone of the skull producing a keyhole fracture with internal beveling at the posterior medial aspect of the defect and external beveling at the anterolateral end of the defect. From the anterolateral end of the defect is an approximately 1 cm fragment of bone from the outer table absent. Extending from this area of missing bone is a wound path through the skin and exiting the skin consistent with a partial exit.

3. The partial exit is located on the left posterior aspect of the scalp 3 1/2" below the top of the head and 2" left of the midline. The wound consists of a 30 x 25 mm stellate laceration with no persistent tissue defect and no abrasion collar. The adjacent skin has no soot, stippling or muzzle stamp.
4. The wound path continues from the defect in the skull through the left occipital lobe of the brain, through the left temporal lobe of the brain, moving laterally through the lobe apparently ricochets off of the inside of the left temporal bone with the jacket of the bullet coming to rest in the middle portion of the corpus callosum and the lead core coming to rest in the anterior aspect of the corpus callosum both in the midline.
5. Recovered from the corpus callosum is a fragment of copper jacketing and a markedly deformed piece of lead core. These pieces are consistent with a small caliber bullet. (Comment: A fragmentation of the bullet with partial exit of portions of the bullet through the same wound track as the bone fragment described above cannot be excluded.)
6. Associated findings include subgaleal hemorrhage around the entrance wound. Other associated findings including radiating fracture of the occipital bone, the left temporal bone and the left parietal bone. Bilateral partial orbital plate fractures are also present (Comment: The orbital plate fractures may be the result of pressure effect from the gunshot wound or possibly from more direct impact from the blunt impact injuries to the head as described below). Overlying the brain is a thin diffuse layer of subarachnoid hemorrhage without volumetric significance.
7. The direction of the wound path with respect to standard anatomic position prior to the ricochet off the inside of the skull is back to front, upward and right to left.

BLUNT IMPACT INJURIES TO HEAD:

1. On the right cheek is a small red and brown cutaneous abrasion measuring 1/2" in greatest dimension.
2. On the right side of the forehead above the lateral aspect of the right eyebrow is a 1" area of red and brown cutaneous abrasion.
3. On the bridge of the nose, upper lip, lower lip, left jawline, left cheek, left upper eyebrow and lateral to the left eyebrow and on the left side of the forehead are multiple small to medium sized red and brown cutaneous abrasions.
4. On the underside of the tip of the tongue is a 1/2" laceration consistent with bite-mark.

5. On the anterior aspect of the scalp near the hairline is a 3 1/2" horizontally oriented laceration with branching at the left lateral part of the laceration. The laceration is approximately 1/2" in depth down to the underlying bone with approximately 1" of undermining both anteriorly and posteriorly.
6. Beneath the laceration in the undermine portion of the laceration anteriorly is a 1/2" x 1/4" depressed fracture of the outer table of the frontal bone.
7. Associated with the laceration anteriorly is a diffuse area of thin subgaleal hemorrhage without volumetric significance.

OTHER INJURIES:

1. On the posterior aspect of the left shoulder is a small red and brown cutaneous abrasion.
2. On the lower aspect of the chest and the right side of the abdomen are several small to medium sized faint red and brown linear cutaneous abrasions.
3. On the posterior aspect of the left forearm just below the elbow are two small faint red cutaneous abrasions.
4. On the anterior aspect of the right lower leg is a 1/2" oval purple cutaneous contusion.
5. On the anterior aspect of the left lower leg is a 3/4" oval purple cutaneous contusion.
6. On the medial and lateral aspect of the right thigh, the medial and lateral aspect of the right knee and the anteromedial aspect of the left knee are multiple small and medium sized red and brown cutaneous abrasions with an irregular outline but with a paired somewhat curvilinear pattern of location and with three puncture wounds with 1 to 2 mm abrasion collar. The puncture wounds are limited primarily to the subcutaneous tissue with some extension into the superficial muscle of the leg but do not involve underlying bone and do not penetrate more than an inch in depth. The pattern and nature of these injuries are consistent with dog bites and appear to represent between five and six separate bites.

Internal Examination:

HEAD: The galea aponeurotica has hemorrhage as indicated. The vault and the base of the skull have fractures as indicated. No epidural or subdural blood accumulations are identified. The brain weighs 1420 grams. The cranial nerves have no nodules or malformations. The cerebral arteries are intact and patent. The leptomeninges have hemorrhage as indicated. The external and cut surfaces of the cerebral hemisphere, brainstem and cerebellum have injury as indicated.

NECK: The cervical spine, laryngeal cartilages, hyoid bone and strap muscles of the neck have no hemorrhages or fractures. The upper airways have no foreign material. The tongue has no nodules or contusions.

BODY CAVITIES: The pleural cavities, pericardial sac and the peritoneal cavities have no adhesions or fluid accumulations. The pneumothorax test is negative bilaterally. The organs are in their usual anatomic positions and have no unusual odors.

CARDIOVASCULAR: The aorta has atherosclerotic plaque without calcification or ulceration involving less than 20% of the luminal surface. The venae cavae are intact and patent. The pulmonary trunk and arteries have no thromboemboli. The great vessels and the chambers of the heart are normally filled with red liquid blood with occasional postmortem clots.

The heart weighs 250 grams. The epicardial surface is smooth and glistening. The endocardium is thin and transparent. The coronary arteries arise normally and have a right dominant distribution with less than 20% narrowing by atherosclerotic plaque. The valves are thin and pliant. The myocardial cut surface is red-tan without gross evidence of infarction. The chambers of the heart are not dilated or hypertrophied.

LUNGS: The right lung weighs 270 grams and the left lung weighs 220 grams. The pleural membranes are smooth and intact. The cut surfaces are dark red and aerated. The pulmonary arteries are intact and patent. The bronchi are lined by tan mucosa.

LIVER, GALLBLADDER AND PANCREAS: The liver weighs 1190 grams. The capsule is smooth and intact. The cut surfaces are red-brown without gross evidence of cirrhosis or steatosis. The gallbladder is remotely surgically absent. The pancreas has tan lobulated parenchyma.

HEMIC AND LYMPHATIC: The spleen weighs 110 grams. The capsule is smooth and intact. The cut surfaces are dark red and firm. The lymph nodes are not enlarged. The vertebral marrow is dark red. The palatine tonsils are not enlarged. The thymus has tan lobulated parenchyma and weighs 20 grams.

GENITOURINARY: The right kidney weighs 70 grams and the left kidney weighs 90 grams. The cortical surfaces are smooth. The cut surfaces are red-tan without cysts or nodules. The ureters have no dilatation. The urinary bladder contains 20 ml of pale yellow urine. The testes are descended bilaterally and have tan parenchyma which strings easily. The prostate gland has pale tan parenchyma without nodules or hypertrophy. The seminal vesicles are unremarkable.

ENDOCRINE: The pituitary, adrenal and thyroid glands have no nodules or hyperplasia.

DIGESTIVE: The esophagus, stomach and duodenum have no acute or chronic ulcers. The stomach contains 20 ml of thin tan liquid. The small and large intestines have no gross external lesions.

MUSCULOSKELETAL: The clavicles, sternum, spine, ribs and pelvis have no fractures. The musculature is well developed.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Photographs are obtained by Travis Conrad.

RADIOLOGY: Full body postmortem radiographs show no occult fractures or foreign bodies.


M. Scott McCormick, M.D.
Forensic Pathologist

9/12/13
Date

MSM/cg/msm

Riverside County Sheriff - Coroner Division
Coroner Investigation



MODE **Homicide** CASE # **201305466**
STATUS **Coroner Review** DEPUTY **Brenda Balsamo**

CASE INFO

REPORTED BY Sgt. Amador	AGENCY Riverside Police Department	DATE 06-11-13	TIME 2345
NEWS RELEASE	NAME RELEASABLE ****	ROLL-OUT? Yes	# OF PHOTOS ****
MEDIUM ****	SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES Coroner Review		

DECEDENT INFO

1 NAME (FIRST) Rashad	2 (MIDDLE) Jarrett	3 (LAST) Hopes
AKA	DOE TYPE/NUMBER Undetermined 120-13	PHONE
20 ADDRESS ****		21 CITY Corona
25 STATE CA	23 ZIP 92879	
6 SEX Male	14 RACE	4 DOB 08-15-1986
5 AGE 26 yrs	RELATED CASE NUMBERS N/A	
BODY BAG # 31255	TOE TAG 8604	10 SS# ****
HEIGHT	WEIGHT 132.0 lbs	HAIR
EYES	DRIVER'S LIC. # ****	
STATE CA	HOW IDENTIFIED	Prints-Cal-ID 06/12/ 13-R.B.

LEGAL NEXT OF KIN

NAME Cynthia Hopes	RELATIONSHIP Mother	MOTHER'S DOB/AG	DATE/TIME NOTIFIE 06-12-13 1200	NOTIFIED BY Family, confirmed by Cohen
ADDRESS		21 CITY Corona	25 STATE CA	23 ZIP 92879
PHONE ****	ALTERNATE PHONE #			

PLACE/DEATH OCCURRED

DATE 06-11-13	8 TIME 2321	DAY OF DEATH Tuesday	PRONOUNCED BY AMR Medic Brand Huynh
101 PLACE OF DEATH Southwest corner of parking lot		102 IP-ER/OP-DOA	FAC OTHER THAN HOSPITAL Other
105 FACILITY ADDRESS OR LOCATION WHERE FOUND 3476 Van Buren Blvd.			106 CITY Riverside

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

ADDITIONAL NARRATIVE ATTACHED YES NO

MEDICAL HISTORY

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Riverside County Sheriff - Coroner Division
Coroner Investigation

	MODE Homicide	CASE # 201305466
	STATUS Coroner Review	DEPUTY Brenda Balsamo

MEDICAL

TRANSPORTED FROM N/A	ADMITTED TO? N/A	DATE	TIME	M/R ORDERED No	MED REC #	BLOOD ORDERED
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CAUSE OF DEATH

107 CAUSE (A) Gunshot wound of Head	TIME INTERVAL seconds	109 BIOPSY PERFORMED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
(B)		110 AUTOPSY PERFORMED? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
(C)		AUTOPSY # A0642-13 SM EXAM #
(D)		INDIGENT #
112 OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO CAUSE GIVEN IN 107 None		
113 WAS OPERATION PERFORMED FOR ANY CONDITION IN ITEM 107 OR 112? IF "YES" LIST TYPE OF OPERATION & DATE. <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO DESCRIBE		
ATTENDING PHYSICIAN N/A	PHONE	DATE LAST ATTENDED
115 PHYSICIAN TO SIGN D.C.		CAUSE GIVEN BY Scott McCormick
ADDRESS		PHONE
		DATE 06-12-13 TIME 0915

INJURY

121 SPECIFY MODE Homicide	123 PLACE OF INJURY Southwest corner of parking lot	120 AT WK? No	121 DATE 06/11/2013	122 HOUR 2311
125 LOCATION (include Zip Code) 3476 Van Buren Blvd. Riverside, 92503				
124 DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED Shot during confrontation with Law Enforcement.				

PROPERTY

PROPERTY? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	PROP RLS'D? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
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LAW ENFORCEMENT

AGENCY Riverside Police Department	AGENT Det. R. Wheeler	REPORT NUMBER P13-083-040
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AUTOPSY

ORDERED BY DG	DATE 06-12-13	TOX ORDERED 06-12-13	TOX RECEIVED 07-02-13	AGENT(S) ***** TO ATTEND
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DISPO OF REMAINS

PRESENT LOCATION ****	MORGUE STATUS	VEHICLE TOWED
TRANSPORTED BY	NOTIFIED BY	DATE TIME ARRIVED
44 MORTUARY Simpson Family Mortuary		PHONE OF MORTUARY 323-752-5524
117 REVIEWED BY Marks 12-23-13 1016 <i>GRS #N3828 12/24/13</i>		

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MODE **Homicide**

CASE # **201305466**

STATUS **Coroner Review**

DEPUTY **Brenda Balsamo**

Coroner Investigation

06/22/2013

Initial Report of Death to Coroner:

On 06/11/2013, at 2345 hours, I received a call from Sergeant Amador of the Riverside Police Department (RPD) regarding an Officer involved shooting located at the Chevron gas station at the intersection of California State Route (SR) 91 and Van Buren Boulevard. An unidentified male (later identified and hereafter referred to as twenty-six year-old Rashad Hopes) had been pronounced dead on scene. I informed Sergeant Amador I would be en route to the scene. I contacted Coroner Sergeant D. Gray, ID #N3448, who later met me on scene.

Details:

I drove to the scene located at the Chevron gas station at 3476 Van Buren Boulevard in the city of Riverside, arriving at 0026 hours. I met for the briefing, which was conducted away from the scene. During the briefing, I was informed at 2259 hours, RPD dispatch received a call regarding a male with a gun. Officers responded and saw Mr. Hopes who ran to the southwest corner of the Chevron. Two officers followed, approaching from the front of the Chevron building (east of Mr. Hopes). The officers were able to see Mr. Hopes had a gun in his hand. Mr. Hopes began to raise the handgun and at 2311 hours, the officers fired their duty weapons. One officer had a .40 caliber handgun and the other had an ArmaLite Rifle-15 (AR15). Mr. Hopes collapsed to the ground and a Police canine was released. The canine made contact with Mr. Hopes' remains. Officers approached and moved Mr. Hopes from the dirt flower bed area to the parking lot asphalt, away from his handgun, and handcuffs were placed on him. Medics were immediately contacted to respond. Medics arrived on scene and at 2321 hours, American Medical Response (AMR ambulance) Medic B. Huynh pronounced Mr. Hopes dead. Officers also learned Mr. Hopes had been the passenger of a sedan that had just been involved in a minor traffic collision on SR 91. The driver of the sedan fled the scene and exited SR 91, onto Van Buren Boulevard. He then collided into the center median in front of the Chevron. Mr. Hopes exited the sedan and ran toward the Chevron parking lot where the reporting party saw him with a gun. Investigator R. Wheeler of RPD was to be the primary investigator. For further information refer to Riverside Police Department, report #P13-083-040.

Scene Description:

Upon completion of the briefing, a walk through of the scene was conducted. The scene was the southwest corner of the Chevron gas station parking lot. The front of the building (southeast corner of the building) had multiple shell casings located on the cement. The cement led to the southwest parking lot and a large dirt flower bed with a large tree and multiple bushes. Blood and a revolver handgun were on roots of a large tree that was near the curb of the parking lot. There was blood from where the revolver was to where Mr. Hopes was lying which was approximately 10 feet. Once the walk through was completed, I left the scene until RPD Forensics had completed collecting evidence around Mr. Hopes.

External Examination of Mr. Hopes:

I arrived back on scene around 0450 hours, and began an examination of Mr. Hopes' remains. Mr. Hopes is prone on the asphalt. His face was on it's right side. Both arms were behind his back with handcuffs in place on his wrists. Both legs were straight out. He was wearing a blue t-shirt, white shorts with a grey belt, tan boxer shorts, a pair of white socks and a pair of grey shoes. Rigor mortis was present in his jaw. No

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DEPUTY **Brenda Balsamo**

rigor mortis was present in his arms or legs. Slight lividity was present to his anterior side. He was cool to the touch. Mr. Hopes' right eye was red in color. His left eye had slight tache noire present. A large laceration was present to the top of Mr. Hopes' forehead (along his hairline). A large lump with an abrasion was present on the right side of his forehead. A circular defect was present to the back right side of his head. A small abrasion was on his right thumb. Abrasions and bite marks were present to Mr. Hopes' right thigh and knee (from the canine). Electrocardiogram monitor pads were present on Mr. Hopes' back and sides. Multiple tattoos were present on his arms. A remote scar was present down the center of his abdomen.

Documentation/Evidence:

I took ninety-six colored digital photographs of Mr. Hopes and the scene. At 0509 hours, I used a gunshot residue test kit on both of Mr. Hopes' hands. The kit was immediately given to RPD Forensics personnel while on scene. At 0514 hours, I took prints of Mr. Hopes' right thumb for identification purposes. At 0519 hours, I placed his right hand in a paper bag and secured it with tape. At 0520 hours, I placed his left hand in a paper bag and secured it with tape. At 0540 hours, I affixed Coroner's identification toe tag #8604, to him. At 0542 hours, I sealed the body bag with Coroner's seal 31255. I collected his personal property and inventoried it on Coroner's receipt #47820. The property was later secured at the Sheriff-Coroner Forensic Facility in Perris. The gun was collected by RPD Forensics.

Identification:

On 06/12/13, Mr. Hopes' prints were submitted to California-Identification (Cal-ID) for review. Later that day, Cal-ID sent confirmation of identification. Mr. Hopes was also identified by his California Identification Card # [REDACTED]. A booking photograph also showed Mr. Hopes' music notes tattoo behind his right ear which aided in confirming his identification.

Next of Kin:

Refer to Deputy Coroner K. Cohen's attached supplemental report for further information regarding notification.

Cause of Death:

On 06/12/13, Dr. M. McCormick, a pathologist with the Sheriff-Coroner's Office, performed an autopsy on Mr. Hopes. At that time the cause of death was pending Coroner Review. Refer to the supplemental report for further information.

Manner of Death:

Pending Coroner Review

Report prepared by:

Comstock, ID #N4546

Deputy Coroner

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Riverside County Sheriff - Coroner Division

Coroner Investigation



MODE **Homicide**

CASE # **2013 05466**

STATUS **Coroner Review**

DEPUTY **Brenda Balsamo**

Coroner Supplemental

11/12/2013

Next of Kin Notification:

On 06/12/2013, I drove to [REDACTED] in the city of Corona, the residence of Mr. Hopes' sister, Shawntel Alcorn. I arrived to the residence at 1200 hours and met with Miss. Alcorn. She informed me that she had been notified by other family members of the death. She said their mother Cynthia Hopes had been notified and was en route to her residence. I spoke with Ms. Hopes via telephone and confirmed the notification. I provided her with this office's phone number and address as well as the contact information for Detective Wheeler.

Report prepared by: Katie Cohen

Deputy Coroner, ID #N4820

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Public Records Act Request
ROZ 9/30/2014 9:21:20 AM Unauthorized Release Prohibited

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Riverside County Sheriff - Coroner Division

Coroner Investigation



MODE **Homicide**

CASE # **201305466**

STATUS **Coroner Review**

DEPUTY **Brenda Balsamo**

Coroner Supplemental

12/16/2013

Supplemental Information

On 12/12/2013, Riverside County Sheriff-Coroner Stanley Sniff conducted a Coroner Review in the matter of the death of Rashad Hopes. After the facts were presented, Sheriff-Coroner Sniff certified the death.

The cause of death was determined to be: Gunshot Wound of Head.

The mode of death was determined to be: Shot during confrontation with law enforcement.

The manner of death has been classified as homicide.

Report prepared by: Nancy Rissi

Administrative Deputy Coroner, #N4491

12/16/2013

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