



VERDICT AT CORONER'S INQUEST

File No.: 2007:0453:0087

An Inquest was held at Kelowna Law Courts, in the municipality of Kelowna

In the Province of British Columbia, on the following dates May 21 - 22, 2008

before Bruce Chamberlayne, Presiding Coroner,

into the death of STEIN Michael Lee 35 Male Female (Last Name, First Name) (Age)

and the following findings were made:

Date and Time of Death: August 16, 2007 Between 1118 and 1130 hours

Place of Death: Kelowna General Hospital Kelowna, BC (Location) (Municipality/Province)

Medical Cause of Death

(1) Immediate Cause of Death: a) Respiratory failure DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

Antecedent Cause if any: b) Myocardial infarction DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

Giving rise to the immediate cause (a) above, stating underlying cause last. c) Cardiac arrest following ingestion of cocaine

(2) Other Significant Conditions Contributing to Death: Ingestion of cocaine

Classification of Death: Accidental Homicide Natural Suicide Undetermined

The above verdict certified by the Jury on the 22nd day of May AD, 2008

BRUCE CHAMBERLAYNE

Presiding Coroner's Printed Name

Handwritten signature of Bruce Chamberlayne

Presiding Coroner's Signature





VERDICT AT CORONER'S INQUEST

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS A RESULT OF THE INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF

FILE No.: 2007:0453:0087

STEIN

SURNAME

Michael Lee

GIVEN NAMES

PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE INQUEST:

Presiding Coroner: Bruce Chamberlayne

Coroner Counsel: Steven Boorne

Court Reporting/Recording Agency: Vivian Kariya/Verbatim Words West Ltd

Participants/Counsel: Attorney General of Canada/Terry McCaffrey

The Sheriff took charge of the jury and recorded ten exhibits. Eleven witnesses were duly sworn in and testified.

PRESIDING CORONER'S COMMENTS:

The following is a brief summary of the circumstances of the death as set out in the evidence presented to the jury at the inquest. The following summary of the evidence as presented at the inquest is to assist the reader to more fully understand the Verdict and Recommendations of the jury. This summary not intended to be considered evidence nor is it intended in any way to replace the jury's verdict.

On August 7, 2007 at approximately 1030 hours, the Kelowna RCMP arrested Michael Lee Stein and a female pursuant to a drug investigation. Mr. Stein reported to the police that he had taken some 'crack' cocaine earlier in the day. Mr. Stein was hand-cuffed and transported in a patrol car to the Kelowna detachment. During the ten minute ride, the officer observed Mr. Stein duck down several times in the back seat. The officer stopped the vehicle and determined that Mr. Stein had ingested approximately 1/8 ounce (8-ball) of crack cocaine. Mr. Stein became agitated at the time. The officer made a radio call requesting that BC Ambulance attend the detachment to conduct a medical check. Specifics of the medical check were not communicated at that time. The ambulance was dispatched as a routine call without emergency lights and sirens. The officer did not determine that Mr. Stein was in medical distress. Mr. Stein arrived at the detachment at approximately 1057 hours. He underwent booking procedures and was escorted to the search room. Mr. Stein became very agitated in the search room and communicated several times to the officer that he had ingested 'crack' cocaine. His distress increased and he complained that he could not breathe and began to scream. The officer spoke to Mr. Stein and asked him to relax and remain calm. Mr. Stein became combative and had to be restrained prone on the floor. The officer had to apply pressure on his back to keep Mr. Stein under control. The officer reported that the applied pressure did not affect his breathing. The ambulance arrived at approximately 1103 hours. Leg irons were placed on Mr. Stein and he was assisted to the gurney to be examined by paramedics. Mr. Stein went into cardiac arrest a very short time after he was placed on the gurney. Resuscitation efforts began immediately and paramedics conducted cardiac protocols. Mr. Stein was transported to Kelowna General Hospital Emergency Department at approximately 1130 hours.

The Emergency Department medical staff provided standard resuscitation measures. Mr. Stein's blood pressure was stabilized, his breathing was assisted and he was transferred to the Intensive Care Unit. Mr. Stein's progress declined in ICU and he died on August 16, 2007. Post mortem and toxicology examinations were conducted. The pathologist did not observe significant trauma or injuries to the body. He reported that the cause of death was respiratory failure due to myocardial infarction as a result of cardiac arrest following ingestion of cocaine. The toxicologist examined antemortem blood samples and determined a cocaine level of 0.02 mg/L and a benzoylecgonine (metabolite) level of 5.80 mg/L. The toxicologist estimated that the ingested dose of 'crack' cocaine was in the range of 2 grams and reported that the findings were consistent with an oral overdose of cocaine.

The Jury deliberated on the evidence and did not offer any recommendations.



**BRITISH
COLUMBIA**

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Pursuant to Section 38 of the Coroner's Act, the following recommendations are forwarded to the Chief Coroner of the Province of British Columbia for distribution to the appropriate agency:

JURY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. No recommendations made.