



VERDICT AT CORONER'S INQUEST

File No.:2006:0364:1340

An Inquest was held at Chief Coroner's Courtroom, in the municipality of Burnaby

In the Province of British Columbia, on the following dates December 8 - 12 and 15-17th, 2008

before Vincent Stancato, Presiding Coroner,

Into the death of KING Daniel Antony, 37, Male, and the following findings were made:

Date and Time of Death: October 13, 2006 at 00:56 hours

Place of Death: Royal Columbian Hospital, New Westminster, BC

Medical Cause of Death

(1) Immediate Cause of Death: a) Multiple gunshot wounds of trunk DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

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

Giving rise to the immediate cause (a) above, stating underlying cause last. c)

(2) Other Significant Conditions Contributing to Death:

Classification of Death: Accidental, Homicide, Natural, Suicide, Undetermined

The above verdict certified by the Jury on the 17th day of December AD, 2008.

VINCENT M. STANCATO, Presiding Coroner's Printed Name

Handwritten signature of Vincent M. Stancato, Presiding Coroner's Signature



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

FILE NO.:2006:0364:1340

KING
SURNAME

DANIEL ANTONY
GIVEN NAMES

PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE INQUEST:

Presiding Coroner: Mr. Vincent M. Stancato

Inquest Counsel: Mr. Chris Godwin

Court Reporting/Recording Agency: Verbatim Words

Counsel/Participants: Mr. Cameron Ward, counsel for the King Family (Ms. Janice King & Ms. April Morrison)
Mr. Reece Harding, counsel for New Westminster Police Service
Ms. Helen Roberts, counsel for Ministry of Attorney General, Canada (RCMP)
Mr. Reginald Harris, counsel for Cst. Sukhwinder (Vinnie) Singh Dosanjh

The Sheriff took charge of the jury and recorded 34 exhibits as entered and 1 exhibit for identification. 23 witnesses were duly sworn in and testified.

PRESIDING CORONER'S SUMMARY:

The following is a brief summary of the circumstances of the death as presented to the jury at the inquest. The summary and my comments respecting the recommendations, if any, are only provided to assist the reader to more fully understand the Verdict and Recommendations of the jury. This summary is not intended to be considered evidence nor is it intended in any way to replace the jury's verdict.

On October 12, 2006, at approximately 2357 hours, an unknown male (and remaining unknown until after the incident, then subsequently identified as Mr. Daniel Antony King) was driving a black Acura Integra with one front seat passenger. They were stopped at a red light at the intersection of Lougheed Highway and Barnet Highway when a Coquitlam RCMP officer (Cst. Travis Todd), in a marked police vehicle, attempted to pull over the driver of the Acura for operating a vehicle with stolen license plates on it. Mr. King fled southbound in the oncoming (northbound) lanes on Lougheed Highway. Cst. Todd terminated the short pursuit due to dangerous driving by Mr. King.

Cst. Todd traveled in the general direction of the Acura and once again located it in the vicinity of the Cape Horn on-ramp entering eastbound onto Highway #1. The Acura was about to merge onto Highway #1 eastbound when it made a sharp u-turn and began traveling west on Highway #1 in the eastbound HOV lane. At this point, the RCMP helicopter (Air 1) attended the area to provide support such that a dangerous ground pursuit did not take place. Shortly thereafter, the Acura crossed back into the westbound lanes of Highway #1 and was followed by Air 1 through Coquitlam and Burnaby to the Mohawk Gas Station at the intersection of Canada Way and Edmonds Street in Burnaby.

Members of Burnaby RCMP and New Westminster Police Service (NWPS) were monitoring the police radio and attended the Mohawk Gas Station immediately to provide ground support. The Acura came to a stop underneath a roof providing rain cover for patrons on the east side of the gas attendant kiosk. Air 1 orbited around the gas station to maintain a visual of the vehicle. Within approximately 20-30 seconds four police vehicles attend the scene. The first two police vehicles (an unmarked NWPS Chevrolet Tahoe and a marked RCMP Cruiser) which



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were occupied by lone officers "boxed in" the black Acura to prevent it from leaving. The Tahoe parked right in front of the Acura in a perpendicular fashion and the RCMP police cruiser parked directly behind the Acura with its front end up against the rear end of the Acura. Mr. King attempted to escape by ramming both police vehicles. His attempts were unsuccessful.

Within seconds, another NWPS unmarked vehicle (occupied by two police officers) arrived at the scene and parked beside the marked RCMP cruiser. Four police officers, Cpl. Christian Roy (RCMP), Cst. Roger Remple (NWPS), Cst. Sukhwinder (Vinnie) Dosanjh (NWPS) and Cst. Jackie Suchodolski (NWPS), exited their respective vehicles and surrounded the Acura. A fifth police officer (Cst. John Grantham, NWPS) attended at this time and exited his vehicle to assist. Mr. King produced an imitation pistol and he was subsequently shot five times (twice by Cpl. Roy and three times by Cst. Dosanjh). Mr. King sustained two gunshot wounds to the chest, one gunshot wound to the abdomen and two gunshot wounds to the left arm.

When the scene was controlled Mr. King was pulled from the vehicle. He was conscious and able to speak, but his breathing was labored. Paramedics attended the scene and transported Mr. King to Royal Columbian Hospital. Efforts were made to save his life by the emergency doctors but these were unsuccessful and he was pronounced dead at 0056 hours.

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:

TO: Minister of Attorney General, Canada
Minister of Solicitor General, BC – Police Services Division
RCMP E-Division, Commanding Officer
New Westminster Police Service, Chief

We recommend the following:

- 1. We recommend that video and audio equipment be installed in patrol cars, both marked and unmarked.

Coroner's Comments: The jury viewed video footage from the Air 1 (RCMP) helicopter and from the Stop & Shop Convenient Store. The footage from Air 1 was clear; however, it was taken from a distance with the use of infrared technology which has inherent limitations. The helicopter's view was also obstructed by a roof and it had to orbit the gas station for safety reasons which made it impossible to capture the entire sequence of events. The Stop & Shop video footage was filmed on an outdated video recording system which was of poor quality and limited clarity.



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2. We recommend that transponders be installed in patrol vehicles, both marked and unmarked, to provide dispatch with their location.

Coroner's Comments: The jury heard evidence and reviewed exhibits (dispatch transcripts) which highlighted discrepancies regarding the timing and location of responding vehicles. The confusion was further exacerbated by the fact that three different police detachments (Coquitlam, Burnaby and New Westminster) were involved in the event. At the same time, officers from the detachments were tuned in to Channel 16 (a shared emergency channel) in order to assist Air 1. By doing so, some officers were not able to listen in to directions from their own detachments nor were they able to identify their locations to their respective detachments.

3. We recommend that police officers responding to a call must make every effort to "radio in" and report on their location or ability to respond in order to enhance control of a situation.

Coroner's Comments: Self explanatory.

4. We recommend that officers involved in a lethal force situation be held to a specified time frame for providing a statement.

Coroner's Comments: The jury heard that Cpl. Christian Roy and Cst. Sukhwinder (Vinnie) Dosanjh provided verbal statements shortly after the incident, but that their formal written statements were provided through their lawyers several days after the incident. The jury heard from several police members that the best time to obtain a statement from a witness is as quickly as possible following the event. This will limit the risk that the person's recollection is compromised.

5. We recommend that both RCMP and municipal police forces create a program implementing "emergency response training" that be mandatory for police members. Training is to be shared, using mutual resources, and the same basis for training.

Coroner's Comments: The jury heard from paramedics as well as from Dr. Glazer (Emergency Room Physician) that CPR is not to be conducted in situations where an individual is breathing. They also testified that the best intervention for an individual who has sustained gunshot wounds is to apply pressure to the wounds to limit blood loss. The jury heard that upon extraction from the vehicle, Mr. King was breathing and suffering from obvious gunshot wounds. The jury heard that police members did not conduct CPR because Mr. King was breathing and talking at the time. Cst. Grantham testified that he did commence limited first aid by using paper towels to apply pressure to the wounds until paramedics arrived.