



VERDICT AT CORONER'S INQUEST

File Nos.:2007:0168:0139/40/41/42/43

An Inquest was held at Victoria Law Courts, in the municipality of Victoria in the Province of British Columbia, on the following dates April 28 - May 7, 2008; December 14-18, 2009 before Jeff Dolan, Presiding Coroner, into the death of CHUN Kum Lea 59 Male Female and the following findings were made:

Date and Time of Death: September 4, 2007, approximately 0306 hours

Place of Death: 310 King George Terrace, Victoria, BC (Location) (Municipality/Province)

Medical Cause of Death

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

Antecedent Cause if any: b) Multiple chest stab wounds 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 18th day of December AD, 2009.

JEFF DOLAN

Presiding Coroner's Printed Name

Handwritten signature of Jeff Dolan

Presiding Coroner's Signature



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An Inquest was held at Victoria Law Courts, in the municipality of Victoria in the Province of British Columbia, on the following dates April 28 - May 7, 2008; December 14-18, 2009 before Jeff Dolan, Presiding Coroner, into the death of PARK Moon Kyu 66 Male Female and the following findings were made:

Date and Time of Death: September 4, 2007, approximately 0306 hours

Place of Death: 310 King George Terrace, Victoria, BC (Location) (Municipality/Province)

Medical Cause of Death

- (1) Immediate Cause of Death: a) Exsanguination DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF Antecedent Cause if any: b) Multiple stab wounds to chest 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

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An Inquest was held at Victoria Law Courts, in the municipality of Victoria in the Province of British Columbia, on the following dates April 28 - May 7, 2008; December 14-18, 2009 before Jeff Dolan, Presiding Coroner, into the death of LEE Christian Thomas Jin Young 5 Male Female (Age) and the following findings were made:

Date and Time of Death: September 4, 2007, approximately 0306 hours

Place of Death: 310 King George Terrace, Victoria, BC (Location) (Municipality/Province)

Medical Cause of Death

- (1) Immediate Cause of Death: a) Exsanguination DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF Antecedent Cause if any: b) Multiple left chest stab wounds 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 18th day of December AD, 2009.

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An Inquest was held at Victoria Law Courts, in the municipality of Victoria in the Province of British Columbia, on the following dates April 28 - May 7, 2008; December 14-18, 2009 before Jeff Dolan, Presiding Coroner, into the death of PARK Yong Sun 33 Male Female and the following findings were made:

Date and Time of Death: September 4, 2007, approximately 0306 hours

Place of Death: 310 King George Terrace, Victoria, BC (Location) (Municipality/Province)

Medical Cause of Death

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

Antecedent Cause if any: b) Multiple stab wounds 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 18th day of December AD, 2009.

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An Inquest was held at Victoria Law Courts, in the municipality of Victoria in the Province of British Columbia, on the following dates April 28 - May 7, 2008; December 14-18, 2009 before Jeff Dolan, Presiding Coroner, into the death of LEE Hyun Joon 38 Male Female (Age) and the following findings were made:

Date and Time of Death: September 4, 2007, between 0308 and 0310 hours

Place of Death: 310 King George Terrace, Victoria, BC (Location) (Municipality/Province)

Medical Cause of Death

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

Antecedent Cause if any: b) Stab wound to heart

Giving rise to the immediate cause (a) above, stating underlying cause last. c) DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

(2) Other Significant Conditions Contributing to Death:

Classification of Death: Accidental Homicide Natural Suicide Undetermined

The above verdict certified by the Jury on the 18th day of December AD, 2009.

JEFF DOLAN Presiding Coroner's Printed Name

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# VERDICT AT CORONER'S INQUEST

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

File No.: 2007:168:0139/40/41/42/43

CHUN  
PARK  
LEE  
PARK  
LEE

SURNAME

Kum Lea  
Moon Kyu  
Christian Thomas Jin Young  
Yong Sun  
Hyun Joon

GIVEN NAMES

### **PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE INQUEST:**

Presiding Coroner: Jeff Dolan

Inquest Counsel: John Orr

Court Reporting/Recording Agency: Verbatim Words West Ltd.

Participants/Counsel: Saanich Police Department/ Devon Windsor-Doyle & Michael Hargreaves  
Victoria Police Department/ Reginald Harris  
Criminal Justice Branch of the Ministry of the Attorney General for BC/  
Richard Peck & Kathleen Bradley  
Ending Violence Association of BC/ Diane Turner  
Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General, Ministry of Children & Family  
Development, BC Ambulance Service/ Angela Davies & Richard Meyer

The Sheriff took charge of the jury and recorded forty five (45) exhibits. Thirty five (35) witnesses were duly sworn in/affirmed and testified.

### **PRESIDING CORONER'S COMMENTS:**

*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 the morning of July 31, 2007 a Land Rover SUV driven by Hyun Joon (Peter) Lee swerved off a Victoria BC street and struck a telephone pole. The wife of Mr. Lee, Yong Sun (Sunny) Park, was seated unrestrained in the back seat of the SUV and sustained injuries in the collision. The incident was initially investigated by the Victoria Police Department (VPD) as a single motor vehicle accident resulting in injuries. While Ms. Park was being treated in hospital she alleged that the incident was intentionally caused by Mr. Lee. The investigation was at that point assumed by the VPD Major Crime Unit (MCU) and Mr. Lee was arrested.

When interviewed by the police, Ms. Park provided a history of escalating domestic violence in her relationship with Mr. Lee. Ms. Park stated that the motor vehicle incident was intentionally caused after she informed Mr. Lee that she wanted a divorce. It was alleged that Mr. Lee had previously threatened to kill her and himself if their relationship was ended. There was also fear that Mr. Lee would harm, with the potential to kill, their son Christian and Ms. Park's parents. Police provided Ms. Park with victim assistance and transition house information; however, she was adamant that she wished to be with her family in her Oak Bay residence.



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Mr. Lee was held in police custody until the morning of August 2, 2007. A Report to Crown Counsel was prepared by VPD recommending charges of aggravated assault and dangerous operation of a motor vehicle causing bodily harm. Investigators personally attended the Crown Counsel office on August 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the case.

The charges were approved and Mr. Lee was released from custody with the consent of Crown Counsel on \$5000 bail with conditions including;

- Report to the bail supervisor on a regular basis; whom he was to notify of a residential address and not to change that address without written permission of the supervisor;
- No direct or indirect communication with Sunny Park;
- Not to attend his family's Oak Bay, BC residence;
- Not to be in possession of knives; not to be in possession of firearms or other weapons as listed on the recognizance

There were no conditions relating to Christian or Ms. Park's parents due to the lack of evidence to suggest they were at risk.

Following his August 2<sup>nd</sup> release, Mr. Lee was of 'no fixed address' until August 15<sup>th</sup> when he provided his bail supervisor with the Lower Mainland address of a family member. On that date the recognizance of bail was revised to reflect the fixed address. As well the condition regarding communication with Sunny Park was revised to allow for contact to be made through legal counsel. Copies of the bail orders were provided to Ms. Park who confirmed that she had a safety plan in place and felt safe at home after changing the locks and the alarm code.

Ms. Park was instructed to contact police and Crown or the bail supervisor to investigate any suspected breach of conditions. There were a number of incidents where Mr. Lee was reported to have breached the conditions of his bail; however, no charges were laid.

At 0306 hours, September 4, 2007 the VPD Operational Communications Centre (OCC) received a 911 call from the Oak Bay residence of Sunny Park. OCC services for the community of Oak Bay are contracted to the Saanich Police Department (SPD); however the 911 call was rerouted to the VPD OCC due to a technical error.

Despite a language barrier, the 911 operator recognized the urgent need for assistance at the residence and immediately transferred the call information to the SPD OCC. The call was dispatched to an Oak Bay officer who was in the area of the residence at that time. The officer proceeded to the residence, which was not 'flagged' as an address of interest on the police computer aided dispatch system (CAD). The SPD OCC provided attending officers with the history of the residence and its occupants queried from the Police Records Information Management Environment (PRIME).



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Oak Bay Police officers attended the residence, followed by officers from SPD and VPD. Shortly after police attended, two deceased persons were discovered inside and there was evidence to suggest that someone was barricaded inside one of the rooms. The two deceased were later identified as the parents of Sunny Park; Kum Lea Chun and Moon Kyu Park. The Greater Victoria Area police emergency response Team was dispatched to the residence and ultimately discovered a total of five deceased inside, including Ms. Park, Mr. Lee and their son Christian inside the barricaded room.

Investigations by the SPD and VPD confirmed that, just prior to 0306 hours on the morning of September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Mr. Lee gained access to the family residence by breaking a ground floor window and bypassing the security system. Using a knife, Peter Lee attacked and killed Kum Lea Chun and Moon Kyu Park, then Sunny Park and his son Christian before taking his own life.





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*Pursuant to Section 38 of the Coroners 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: Honourable Kash Heed  
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
PO Box 9053 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

1. Continue unification efforts of the various police departments.

*Coroner's Comments:*

*The Jury heard evidence that four (4) of the police services in the Capital Regional District were involved in the events on and between July 31, 2007 and September 4, 2007; Victoria City Police, Saanich Police, Oak Bay Police and West Shore RCMP. Extensive inter-agency communication and cooperation was required to investigate the July 31, 2007 motor vehicle incident in Victoria and to respond to the September 4, 2007 homicide-suicide in Oak Bay.*

*At the time of the inquest, there was no multi-jurisdictional domestic violence unit in the Capital Regional District.*

2. Before release of high risk accused on bail, properly screened and appropriate sureties must be provided.

*Coroner's Comments:*

*The jury heard evidence that Mr. Lee was released on a surety of \$5000 on August 2, 2007 with a number of conditions. While he was out on bail there were numerous reports that he had breached the conditions of his release. No breach charges were laid between August 2 and September 4, 2007.*

3. All police departments work across jurisdictional boundaries as one unit.

*Coroner's Comments:*

*The Jury heard evidence that four (4) of the police services in the Capital Regional District were involved in the events on and between July 31, 2007 and September 4, 2007; Victoria City Police, Saanich Police, Oak Bay Police and West Shore RCMP. Extensive inter-agency communication and cooperation was required to investigate the July 31, 2007 motor vehicle incident in Victoria and to respond to the September 4, 2007 homicide-suicide in Oak Bay.*



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*At the time of the inquest, there was no multi-jurisdictional domestic violence unit in the Capital Regional District.*

To: Honourable Michael de Jong  
Attorney General  
PO Box 9044 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

- 4. All victims and abusers should be provided with universally available advocacy services. Such services to be initiated upon first contact.

*Coroner's Comments:*

*The Jury heard evidence that there are a number of domestic violence programs in British Columbia which focus on the safety of the victim and the accountability of the perpetrator.*

*Saanich Police provided Ms. Park with victim assistance and transition house information on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007. Victim assistance information directed at Christian and Ms. Park's parents was not provided. Due to privacy laws, the personal information of a victim cannot be shared with service providers without consent.*

*On the advice of his family lawyer, Mr. Lee contacted the Victoria Family Violence Prevented Society. An intake was initiated; however, Mr. Lee never met with Society representatives.*

- 5. Risk assessment be made at the front end of process before bail conditions set.

*Coroner's Comments:*

*The jury heard evidence that a revision of the Criminal Code of Canada would be required for an accused to be held for the purpose of a risk assessment prior to a bail hearing; possibly allowing for detention or controlled release. Currently the onus is on the Crown to have a charged individual detained. Psychological or other assessments can only be conducted prior to a bail hearing with the consent of the accused.*



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To: Honourable Kash Heed  
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
PO Box 9053 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

To: Honourable Michael de Jong  
Attorney General  
PO Box 9044 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

6. Special domestic violence units be set up regionally and coordinated with all stakeholders.

*Coroner's Comments:*

*The jury heard evidence that the Langley domestic violence pilot project (Langley Project) ran from December 2008 to July 2009. Overseen by a Domestic Resource Crown Counsel and a senior member of the RCMP, the Langley Project developed best practice guidelines for investigating and prosecuting domestic violence cases. The project was focused on victim safety and offender accountability by working with partners in the justice system. At the time of the inquest, the Criminal Justice Branch of the Ministry of the Attorney General was assessing the effectiveness of the program measured by the outcome of the domestic violence investigations conducted during the pilot project.*

*A proposal for a Capital Regional Domestic Violence Unit has been created by the Victoria Police Department. Working with the necessary agencies in the community, the unit would conduct investigations, proactively address victim concerns, develop safety plans, and ensure offender accountability.*

7. "No fixed address" designation not be allowed on bail orders unless accused agrees to GPS monitoring on high risk cases.

*Coroner's Comments:*

*The Jury heard evidence one of the conditions of Mr. Lee's August 2 release required that he report to the bail supervisor on a regular basis; whom he was to notify of a residential address and not to change that address without written permission of the supervisor. Mr. Lee was of 'no fixed address' until he provided his bail supervisor the lower mainland address of a family member on August 15<sup>th</sup>. It is not uncommon for an accused to be released with conditions that he not return to his family home. This is an accepted practice of Community Corrections and the bail supervisor did not confirm the new address provided by Mr. Lee.*

*With respect to GPS/electronic monitoring, the Jury heard evidence that this is currently a post-sentencing option requiring a telephone 'land' line.*



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- 8. All updated "K" file information be shared across all jurisdictional lines immediately and with all agencies.

Coroner's Comments:

The jury heard evidence that all of the police services in British Columbia are connected electronically via the Police Records Information Management Environment (PRIME). Police and Crown Counsel cases involving domestic violence are denoted with the letter 'K' in the file number. When a file is revised the 'K' may not always appear in the revised document number accessible to all agencies involved.

- 9. Bail release conditions be developed in conjunction with bail supervisors to ensure they are enforceable.

Coroner's Comments

The Jury heard evidence that B.C. Community Corrections has the responsibility of supervising all provincially sentenced offenders who are placed in the community on bail, probation or conditional sentence orders, and peace bonds. There are limitations to the ability of bail supervisors with respect to managing clients in the community.

To: Honourable Gordon Campbell
Premier, Government of British Columbia
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E1

- 10. Ongoing multimedia community based educational advertising program surrounding domestic violence be expanded and enhanced.

Coroner's Comments:

The jury heard evidence that, despite being a high priority, domestic violence does not receive the same public awareness media attention as other crimes such as impaired driving and gang violence.

- 11. The government provides global funding to accommodate associate costs of these recommendations.

Coroner's Comments

The jury heard evidence that Crown Counsel and the municipal police agencies involved do not currently have the resources to be dedicated specifically to domestic violence.



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To: Honourable Margaret MacDiarmid  
Minister of Education and Minister Responsible for Early Learning and Literacy  
PO Box 9044 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

12. Family relationships and domestic violence education program be instituted for all students from kindergarten to grade 12

*Coroner's Comments:*

*The jury heard evidence that behaviours exhibited later in life are often programmed at a very young age. All young men and women need to be informed that domestic violence is a crime, that victims must be kept safe and offenders must be held accountable.*

To: Honourable Kash Heed  
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
PO Box 9053 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

To: Honourable Michael de Jong  
Attorney General  
PO Box 9044 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

To: Honourable Mary Polak  
Minister of Children and Family Development  
PO Box 9770 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9S5

13. Develop a single domestic violence unit across all provincial jurisdictional lines and include all agencies and services

*Coroner's Comments:*

*The jury heard evidence of the Langley Project as well as a number of initiatives currently being led by police, Crown and the judiciary across the province. Such programs incorporate the resources of a number of agencies in the community to improve the investigation and prosecution of domestic violence. Incidents such as those described in this inquest often cross jurisdictional line, creating challenges for police and other agencies involved. At the time of the inquest, there was no multi-jurisdictional domestic violence unit in the Capital Regional District.*



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*A proposal for a Capital Regional Domestic Violence Unit has been created by the Victoria Police Department. Working with the necessary agencies in the community, the unit would conduct investigations, proactively address victim concerns, develop safety plans, and ensure offender accountability.*

- 14. SARA or BSAFER be used to train all involved service providers to a common standard in all criminal justice regions in the province.

*Coroner's Comments:*

*The Jury heard evidence regarding the threat assessment tools SARA: Spousal Assault Risk Assessment and BSAFER: Brief Spousal Abuse Form for Evaluating Risk. SARA, which identifies twenty (20) specific domestic violence risk factors, is applied by probation officers, by Correctional Service of Canada staff, and by police officers who work in specialized domestic violence units in B.C. BSAFER, which identifies ten (10) risk factors, is favored by police officers in the field. The BC Association of Chiefs of Police has recommended that the tools be used in every case of domestic violence. SARA and BSAFER are useful to police, Crown and bail supervisors conducting ongoing risk assessments of individual as they move through the justice system. To date only a select number have received SARA and/or BSAFER training.*