



VERDICT AT CORONER'S INQUEST

File No. 2010-0586-0061

An Inquest was held at Kelowna Court House , in the municipality of Kelowna

in the Province of British Columbia, on the following dates August 13-15, 2012

before Norm Leibel , Presiding Coroner,

into the death of Zimmer, Brandt Jason 40 Male Female
(Last Name, First Name) (Age)

and the following findings were made:

Date and Time of Death: August 15, 2010 at 15:04 hours

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

Medical Cause of Death

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

Antecedent Cause if any: b) Cocaine, Morphine Overdose
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: Excited Delirium

Classification of Death: Accidental Homicide Natural Suicide Undetermined

The above verdict certified by the Jury on the 15th day of August AD, 2012 .

Norm Leibel
Presiding Coroner's Printed Name

Presiding Coroner's Signature



VERDICT AT CORONER'S INQUEST

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

File No. 2010-0586-0061

ZIMMER

SURNAME

Brandt Jason

GIVEN NAMES

PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE INQUEST:

Presiding Coroner: Norm Leibel

Coroner Counsel: Chris Godwin

Court Reporting/Recording Agency: Joann Watson – Verbatim Words West Ltd.

Participants/Counsel: None

The Sheriff took charge of the jury and recorded four exhibits. Nineteen witnesses were duly sworn in 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.

The jury heard evidence that on August 15, 2010 at approximately 1400 hours, Brandt Jason Zimmer appeared at the Grand Prix Entertainment Center located at 911- Stremel Road, Kelowna, B.C. clad in undershorts only. He initially was carrying a fairly large stick which he threw at a customer before entering the entertainment center where he jumped on top of vending machines in an apparent attempt to gain entry to the ceiling through the ceiling tiles. His activities and demeanor caused significant disruption and safety concerns to visitors, families and staff. The manager called 9-1-1 to report Mr. Zimmer's activities and requested assistance of the Police. Shortly after, Mr. Zimmer returned to the outside parking lot and sustained self-initiated non-fatal injury through contact with the property fence, parking lot, parking curbs and bushes. His activities had caused damage to the inside of the center as well as vehicles in the parking lot. Several civilians guarded over Mr. Zimmer pending arrival of the Police. Mr. Zimmer was described as incoherent, high on drugs, foaming at the mouth, sweating and appeared to be experiencing some form of psychotic event.

When the 9-1-1 call details were dispatched to the patrol officers they quickly suspected an excited delirium situation and immediately requested the assistance of the ambulance. On Police arrival, Mr. Zimmer was found lying in the parking lot, exhausted and believed to be in some form of excited delirium and or cocaine psychosis. The initial Police Officer on scene recognized Mr. Zimmer from a similar circumstance several weeks prior in which he was hospitalized. Mr. Zimmer was arrested, hand-cuffed, leg strapped and placed in a sitting position pending arrival of the ambulance without incident. Upon arrival the ambulance attendant conducted a quick assessment and, with police assistance, placed Mr. Zimmer on a stretcher and prepared for immediate transport to the Kelowna General Hospital in the ambulance. Evidence of civilian witnesses consisting of staff and vacationers, described the Police and Ambulance response to be professional. En-route to hospital Mr. Zimmer was conscious, confused, verbal and in some form of distress. Hospital Emergency was notified of their pending arrival. Shortly after arrival at hospital, Mr. Zimmer went into cardiac arrest and in spite of emergency care medical treatment was pronounced deceased at 1504 hrs.



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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: British Columbia Ambulance Service

1. It is recommended that training in the recognition of and medical best practices response to patients experiencing an agitated delirium or drug psychosis episode be provided to all operational ambulance staff.

Coroner's Comments: The jury heard evidence that attending Police Officers responding to a situation involving a person potentially experiencing an agitated delirium episode consider the situation may involve a medical situation and request the assistance of the ambulance service as soon as possible to provide medical treatment. On the other hand, the ambulance attendant with currently some five years experience gave evidence that at the time this death situation was her first exposure to a potential excited delirium/cocaine psychosis patient and to date has not had related training. The witness indicated such training would be beneficial.

To: Commanding Officer, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), "E" Division

2. It is recommended that the on-line training component of the Provincial Crisis Intervention and De-escalation (CID) Training be successfully completed by all RCMP involved in operational duties by June 30, 2013.

Coroner's Comments: The jury heard evidence that effective January 30, 2012, the BC Ministry of Justice Police Services Division has developed a police training course entitled BC Crisis Intervention and De-escalation course (CID) for all Police in the Province of British Columbia. This course is intended to assist the Police to use crisis intervention communication techniques to effectively de-escalate crises including cases involving mental illness as well as circumstances as detailed in this case. The course consists of an on line portion and a classroom face to face session. While all the police in the target audience must complete this full CID training by January 30, 2015, the BC CID course has been part of the JIBC Police Academy Recruit training since January 2012 and is rapidly being completed by City and Municipal Police Departments throughout the Province. The jury also heard evidence that for the RCMP at the Depot Basic Training, the subject of Excited Delirium while introduced is not discussed in much detail and that this CID course, due to the logistics associated with having RCMP members throughout the Province, will be completed during their normal three year block training at their academy in Chilliwack. The exception is those members currently trained in the use of the Taser have received this training. In lieu of the potential three year delay for the remaining members in completing this course, it was felt the on-line portion of the course would be beneficial.