



### VERDICT AT CORONERS INQUEST

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS A RESULT OF THE CORONER'S INQUEST PURSUANT TO SECTION 38 OF THE CORONERS ACT, [SBC 2007] C 15, INTO THE DEATH OF

**JACOB**

SURNAME

**Ryan Allen Walter**

GIVEN NAMES

An Inquest was held at The Burnaby Coroners Court , in the municipality of Burnaby

in the Province of British Columbia, on the following dates July 21,22,23, 2014

before: Margaret Janzen , Presiding Coroner.

into the death of JACOB Ryan Allen Walter 45  Male  Female  
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name) (Age)

The following findings were made:

Date and Time of Death: January 31, 2013 02:30 AM

Place of Death: Vancouver General Hospital Vancouver, B.C.  
(Location) (Municipality/Province)

Medical Cause of Death:

(1) Immediate Cause of Death: a) Gunshot Wounds to Anterior Torso

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 23rd day of July AD, 2014

Margaret Janzen  
Presiding Coroner's Printed Name

Presiding Coroner's Signature



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**PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE INQUEST:**

Presiding Coroner:	Margaret Janzen
Inquest Counsel:	Rodrick H. MacKenzie
Court Reporting/Recording Agency:	Verbatim Words West Ltd.
Participants/Counsel:	Attorney General of Canada/Paul Singh Government of Canada and RCMP/David Kwan Chief Gibson Jacob and Vivian Jacob/John Rich

The Sheriff took charge of the jury and recorded 5 exhibits. Fifteen witnesses were duly sworn 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 is not intended to be considered evidence nor is it intended in any way to replace the jury's verdict.*

On January 31, 2013, at approximately 1:05 AM Burnaby RCMP received a call from a female who stated that a male identified as Ryan Allen Walter Jacob had threatened her with a knife that he had in a duffle bag. She was safe in an apartment now and he was in the parking garage. She also advised them that Mr. Jacob was on federal day parole but was 'on the run'. She further stated that he was intoxicated. A number of RCMP members responded to the location. They were advised by their dispatcher that there was a Canada-wide warrant out for Mr. Jacob's arrest.

The first RCMP members to arrive spoke to the female caller in the lobby of the apartment. While they were talking to her two other uniformed officers in separate cars found a male matching the description of Mr. Jacob walking westbound on Hastings St. near MacDonald Ave. One of the officers put on the vehicle's emergency equipment, exited his vehicle and yelled at Mr. Jacob to get onto the ground. Mr. Jacob turned and looked over his shoulder but did not stop walking. The other officer had arrived on the scene by this time. He also exited his car. At that point Mr. Jacobs had stopped and began reaching into his backpack. Both officers took their guns out and pointed them at Mr. Jacob, instructing him to drop the bag and get down but he did not respond. He pulled out two large knives with eight inch blades, dropped the backpack and began to advance on the first officer. He appeared to be angry, was breathing hard and stared straight ahead. The officer began to walk backwards, still pointing his gun at him and issuing commands but Mr. Jacob continued to advance towards him without saying anything, the knives in his fists. The officer told Mr. Jacob to drop the knives or he was going to shoot him. Mr. Jacob began to charge towards the first officer who shot him three times when he was about five to six feet away.



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Police dispatch was notified that there were shots fired with one person down and that the ambulance was required. BC Ambulance Services arrived shortly thereafter. Mr. Jacob was lying on his back in the street. He was breathing when they arrived but soon went in to cardiorespiratory arrest. CPR was initiated and he was transferred to the Vancouver General Hospital but he could not be resuscitated.

An autopsy was conducted which revealed that Mr. Jacob had been shot three times, once in the right upper chest, once in the right lower chest and once in the abdomen with the bullet travelling downwards and exiting Mr. Jacob's thigh. All gunshots entered from the front. Toxicology analysis showed an ethyl alcohol level of 0.20% consistent with a heavy level of intoxication. No prescription medications were found.

The jury heard evidence that Mr. Jacob had been on day parole and was living at a Community Residential Facility in Vancouver until January 20, 2013, at 0012 hours when he failed to return in time for his midnight curfew. Prior to that he had been working at a job where he was doing well. He had been prescribed the antidepressant/antianxiety medication bupropion and that seemed to be stabilizing his mood.



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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: BC Emergency Health Services

1. Advanced Life Saving (ALS) Units: the recommendation of the jury is that the Provincial Health Ministry, in consultation with Provincial Health Authority investigate the addition of more ALS units to the coverage area.

**Presiding Coroner Comment:** *The jury heard evidence that there were only two ALS units in the coverage area and that more units would improve coverage and potentially save lives.*

To: RCMP E Division

2. Communications: the training of Burnaby RCMP members should include specific instruction on the working of their communication equipment, specifically concentrating on the matter of queuing during emergency situations.

**Presiding Coroner Comment:** *The jury heard evidence that the RCMP member who shot Mr. Jacob pushed the call button on his radio a number of times that night during his communication with their dispatcher. He was unaware that pushing the call button repeatedly on the radio would drop the call to the bottom of the response queue. This was not the case in the previous jurisdiction in which he worked.*