KENT E. HARSHBARGER, M.D., J.D., M.B.A.
CORONER
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO

POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION
OF THE BODY OF

Emily Noble
Case # - 20-4941
Delaware County

I. Mummified and partially skeletonized remains with evidence of perimortem trauma involving the hyoid bone, ossified thyroid cartilage, right and left nasal bones and the left maxilla, and with a ligature around the neck (please refer to Anthropology report for further information).

OPINION

It is our opinion that the cause of death of Emily Noble is:
Multiple injuries of the head and neck (see Comment).

Comment:

According to the Anthropology report, the anthropology evaluation of the bones identified "perimortem trauma ... on the skeletal elements involving the hyoid bone, ossified thyroid cartilage, right and left nasal bones and the left maxilla". A ligature consists of a black plastic USB cord surrounds the bony neck structures. Therefore, the "Perimortem trauma is consistent with a traumatic event involving the neck and face at or around the time of death."

Anna D. Castiglione Richmond, M.D., Forensic Pathologist
Deputy Coroner, Montgomery County, Ohio

1/22/2021
Date

Lee D. Lehman, Ph.D., M.D., Forensic Pathologist
Chief Deputy Coroner, Montgomery County, Ohio

1/22/21
Date

The skeletal remains initially identified as "Jane Doe", and later identified as Emily Noble by the Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI), are received at the Montgomery County Coroner's Office on September 17, 2020, to Anna D. Castiglione Richmond, M.D., under the supervision of Lee Lehman, Ph.D., M.D.

REMAINS RECEIVED:

The remains are received on September 17, 2020 and consist of the skeletal remains of a human, with a black, plastic USB cord around the neck.

The remains were subsequently transferred to the Injury Biometrics Research Center, The Ohio State University. The Anthropology examination is conducted by anthropologists Angela L. Hardin, M.A. and Amanda Agnew, Ph. D. from the Injury Biomechanical Research Center at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. (See separate anthropology analysis report.)

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

The remains consist of the skeletonized remains with minimal mummified tissue present, weighing 18 pounds. The face is skeletonized, with absent facial soft tissue. Brown, wavy hair is attached to the mummified skin of the calvarium, measuring approximately 28 inches. The teeth are natural and in good repair, with some teeth absent.

CLOTHING:

The body is received clad in a black shirt, a tank top, pants, and two purple-black-turquoise tennis shoes.

PROPERY:

Accompanying valuables include a white metal necklace with a purple pendant and an E- cigarette.

Also accompanying the body is a black, plastic USB cord measuring 20 inches in length (in aggregate) and 1/4 inch in diameter. The cord is received in multiple pieces, having previously been cut at the scene. The cord is "U"- shaped and is identified around the decedent's neck.

Please see separate anthropology report for further details.

EVIDENCE OF INJURY:

According to the anthropology report, "Perimortem trauma (i.e., near the time of death) was observed on the following skeletal elements: hyoid, ossified thyroid cartilage, right and left nasal bones, and left maxilla. Macro photographs were taken of the fractures and further analyses and micro photographs of the trauma were conducted using an Olympus SZ61 stereoscope, equipped with a Lumenera Infinity 1 camera, and Lumenera Infinity Analyze software. The fractures on all of the previously mentioned elements exhibit characteristics of perimortem trauma, including no indication of healing present/observed, evidence of plastic deformation (indicating the bone was not dry when the trauma occurred), lack of discoloration between fracture margins and bone surface, jagged, but clean, fracture margins, and bone tearing (i.e., separation of the periosteal and endosteal bone surfaces) .... The hyoid bone exhibits perimortem fractures on both the left and right greater horns.... The posterior portion of the right greater horn was not present for analysis. The fracture locations on the greater horns of the hyoid are consistent with the fracture locations on the ossified thyroid cartilage. The ossified thyroid cartilage exhibits perimortem fractures on both the left and right superior horns.... Plastic deformation of the left superior horn was observed and fracture margins demonstrated jagged, but clean fracture margins. The left and right nasal bones and left and right maxillae demonstrate both perimortem and antemortem trauma.... The antemortem trauma is discussed in further detail in the following section of this report. Plastic deformation is evidenced through the displacement of the nasal bones (both left and right), the left maxilla (at the nasal aperture), and the anterior nasal spine. Antemortem healed fractures are present on the left and right nasal bones inferiorly (at the nasal aperture) and on the left maxilla at the lateral portion of the nasal aperture .... Conclusions: The remains designated CC20-4941, IBRC 20-004, are consistent with a 59.6–67.2 in, 27.3– 49.1 year-old female of European ancestry. Perimortem trauma is consistent with a traumatic event involving the neck and face at or around the time of death. Minor DJD and osteophytic lipping are consistent with a middle-aged adult individual. The periostitis of the left femur and osteolytic lesions of the right scapula could represent a systemic condition leading to these areas of bony reaction."

Please see separate anthropology report for further details.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION:

Non-identifiable mummified and autolyzed internal organs are with the skeletal remains. Please see separate forensic anthropology report for further detail.

SPECIAL STUDIES:

Please see separate Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation Laboratory report for identification information.

Toxicologic examination could not be performed since no adequate specimen was available for submission.

MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION:

Fragments of mummified soft tissue with diffuse autolysis, and bacterial organisms, fungal organisms, and plant- like particles.

ACR/LL
1/14/2021

Montgomery County Coroner's Office
361 West Third Street, Dayton, Ohio 45402
Kent E. Harshbarger, M.D., J.D., M.B.A., Coroner

LABORATORY REPORT

TO: Dr. Anna Richmond

Montgomery County Coroner's Office

MCCO Case Number: **20-4941**

Decedent: Noble (Tentative), Emily

Case opened: 9/18/20

Case closed: 9/21/20

Toxicology Case Number: 20-008769

This case has been submitted without any specimens. No toxicology will be performed on this case.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Walker-Valle
Forensic Toxicology Technician