

**OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER
DISTRICT NINE
2350 E. Michigan Street
Orlando, Florida 32806-4939**

REPORT OF AUTOPSY

DECEDENT: LEROY VALENTIN FERNANDEZ

CASE NUMBER: ME 2016-000944

MANNER OF DEATH: Homicide

IDENTIFIED BY: Photo ID

AGE: 25 years

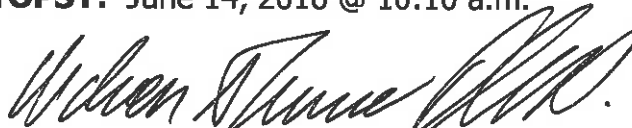
SEX: Male

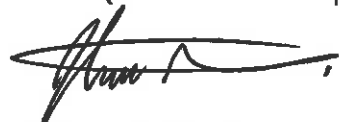
RACE: White (Hispanic)

DATE OF DEATH: June 12, 2016

DATE/TIME OF AUTOPSY: June 14, 2016 @ 10:10 a.m.

PERFORMED BY:


Wilson A. Broussard, Jr., MD, Associate Medical Examiner
(District Twelve providing cross coverage)

 , MD 6/14/16

REVIEWED BY:

Joshua D. Stephany, MD, Chief Medical Examiner

CAUSE OF DEATH:

Gunshot wounds of the chest and abdomen

AUTOPSY FINDINGS

- I. Multiple gunshot wounds
 - A. Perforating gunshot wound track of the posterior right upper shoulder, causing no significant injury other than soft tissue
 - B. Gunshot wound #2 entering posterior right upper arm, causing extensive fracture and snowstorm fragmentation of projectile in right upper humerus-humeral head
 - C. Gunshot wound #3 entering right back, causing lung laceration, right hemothorax, and subcutaneous projectile recovered

continued...

- D. Gunshot wound #4 entering right posterior flank, injuring vasculature adjacent to the right kidney, macerating right psoas muscle, and adjacent soft tissue and 4th lumbar vertebral fractures (projectile recovered in adjacent fatty soft tissue)
 - E. Gunshot wound #5 is a superficial perforating gunshot wound of the left buttock
 - F. Gunshot wound #6 is a perforating gunshot wound of the posterior left calf with soft tissue injury only
- II. Other significant natural disease processes or abnormalities:
- A. None, other than very early decompositional changes

TOXICOLOGY ANALYSIS: See laboratory report.

CONCLUSION: In consideration of the circumstances surrounding the death, and after examination of the body, it is my opinion that the death of Leroy Valentin Fernandez, a 25 year old man, is due to gunshot wounds of the chest and abdomen.

The manner of death is homicide.

**POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION
OF THE BODY OF LEROY VALENTIN FERNANDEZ**

A postmortem examination of the body of a man identified as Leroy Valentin Fernandez is performed pursuant to Florida Statute 406.11 by Wilson A. Broussard, Jr., MD, Associate Medical Examiner (District Twelve providing cross coverage) at the Orange County Medical Examiner facility, Orlando, Florida on June 14, 2016, at 10:10 a.m.

IDENTIFICATION: The body of Leroy Valentin Fernandez is identified by FDLE Special Agent Walsh via comparison to the photograph on his Florida driver's license #V453-520-90-336-0. The identification is made on June 12, 2016, at the Orange County Medical Examiner facility.

CLOTHING AND VALUABLES: The body is received clad in a pair of tan work boots, two black socks, a black belt, black shorts, and red cotton boxer briefs. A yellow metal rosary is around the neck. A long-sleeved denim button down shirt and two yellow metal earrings with clear stones are also present.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body is that of a 74-1/2 inch, 256 pound, well-nourished, modestly obese white Hispanic male. Rigor mortis is completely passed and livor mortis is both fixed on the anterior aspects of the body and shifted lividity is noted on the posterior aspects of the body. Early decompositional changes are noted, including changes of marbling around the facial and neck and upper chest region, early abdominal bloating, visceral putrefactive change, and some early postmortem gas formation in the scrotum. One tattoo is noted, that of a heart with a music note on the left side of the neck behind the left ear. A tattoo in colored ink of a bowtie is on the ventral left wrist.

There is a 1/4 inch full crop of dark hair, fully distributed. The eyes are brown. The pupils are equal and there is corneal clouding is noted. The conjunctivae are congested. The face is clean-shaven. The mouth contains natural dentition in a good state of dental repair. The lips, frenula, gums, and tongue are normal. The neck, breasts, chest, abdomen and back are symmetric. The abdomen is protuberant.

The upper and lower extremities are symmetric and without identifying features other than what will be described.

The genitalia are atraumatic and those of an uncircumcised adult male. The testicles are palpated in the scrotum bilaterally.

EVIDENCE OF INJURY

Six (6) gunshot wound tracks of the body are identified. Three (3) tracks are through and through and three (3) tracks are penetrating. Two penetrating tracks cause the lethal wounds of the chest and abdomen (tracks #3 and #4). The individual gunshot wound tracks are labeled and photographed as #1 through #6, including the respective entrances and exits on the through and through tracks. No soot or stippling is associated with any of the wounds.

Gunshot wound "#1":

Gunshot wound #1 is a perforating gunshot superficial wound of the right upper shoulder/base of neck area. The entrance wound is located 21 cm below the top of the head and 9.5 cm to the right of midline. It has an irregular marginal abrasion up to 0.6 cm both laterally and medially. The defect is somewhat oval, measuring 1.5 cm x 1.0 cm. The track runs through soft tissue and exits the base of the neck somewhat more medial. The exit wound is located 22 cm below the top of the head and 4 cm to the right of midline. The defect is somewhat slit-like and measures 2 cm x 0.5 cm. Associated with the wound is soft tissue damage only. Therefore, the overall pathway of gunshot wound #1 is right to left, and very slightly downward. A small copper-colored jacket fragment is recovered from the exit wound.

Gunshot wound "#2":

Gunshot wound #2 is a penetrating gunshot wound of the posterior right upper arm. The entrance wound is located 11 cm below the top of the shoulder and 2.5 cm just to the right of the axillary crease posteriorly. The defect is a 0.5 cm defect with a slight inferior marginal abrasion. The wound track traverses slightly superiorly, hitting the right humeral head and neck area, causing extensive complex fracturing and complete snowstorm fragmenting of the projectile. No recoverable projectile fragments are present.

Associated with gunshot wound #2 is extensive fracture and soft tissue damage of the proximal right humerus, along with associated extensive soft tissue maceration and medium caliber vascular compromise.

Therefore, the overall pathway of gunshot wound #2 is back to front, slightly upward, and having little or no significant left-right deviation.

Gunshot wound "#3":

Gunshot wound #3 is a penetrating gunshot wound of the chest. The entrance wound is on the posterior right mid-upper back. The wound itself is located 26 cm below the top of the shoulder and 12.5 cm to the right of midline. The defect is 0.5 cm and round with a 0.3 cm right and inferior marginal abrasion. The wound tracks superiorly through the back musculature, fractures the posterior aspects of ribs 5, 6 and 7, causing perforation and some bony projectile fragmentation into the posterior lung lobe with associated lung laceration. The track continues behind the thoracic spine through musculature and into the soft tissue of the left upper shoulder posteriorly, where a subcutaneous deformed jacketed projectile with a pointed end is recovered.

Associated with the gunshot wound is a right hemothorax along with the rib fractures. Up to 350 ml of blood is within the right chest cavity. Associated right lower lung lobe tear and pulmonary contusion are noted. The right lung is collapsed.

Therefore, the overall pathway of gunshot wound #3 is right to left, upward, and having very slight back to front deviation.

Gunshot wound "#4":

Gunshot wound #4 is a penetrating gunshot wound of the posterior lateral right flank. The wound itself is located 57 cm below the top of the shoulder and 19 cm to the right of midline. The defect is round and measures 0.5 cm and has a somewhat eccentric 1 to 2 mm marginal abrasion. Associated contusion surrounds the entrance wound up to 2.5 cm. The wound track traverses the soft tissue of the flank, going somewhat upward and anterior, lacerating major vasculature at the hilum of the right kidney, obliterating the right psoas muscle and fragmenting. Snowstorm pattern projectile pieces are noted on x-ray. One deformed major projectile piece is recovered in the omentum in the posterior and inferior aspects of fatty tissue somewhat near the distal aspect of the

stomach in macerated fatty tissue. This is recovered right of midline in the general area of the previously-described injury. Fracture is noted of the lumbar spine at the lumbar four vertebrae laterally and somewhat on the posterior aspects with fracturing of the lateral spinous processes at that point.

Associated with the gunshot wound is extensive soft tissue maceration of the right psoas muscle, extensive retroperitoneal hemorrhage around the right kidney, vascular lacerations at the hilum of the right kidney, fractures of the 4th lumbar vertebra and an associated 1 liter hemoperitoneum.

Therefore, the overall pathway of gunshot #4 is slightly back to front, slightly upward, and right to left.

Gunshot wound "#5":

Gunshot wound #5 is a perforating gunshot wound of the left buttock. The entrance wound is 4 cm above the left gluteal crease and 4 cm to the left of midline. The defect measures 0.6 cm x 0.5 cm and has an eccentric right-sided marginal abrasion. The exit wound is located 15 cm to the right of midline at the exact same horizontal plane of the entrance wound. The defect is a somewhat gaping slit-like lesion measuring 4.0 cm x 1.5 cm.

Associated with gunshot wound #5 is soft tissue maceration only. No major vascular compromise is present.

Therefore, the overall pathway of gunshot wound #5 is right to left, slightly downward, and having no significant front to back deviation.

Gunshot wound "#6":

Gunshot wound #6 is a perforating gunshot wound of the posterior left mid-calf region of the lower leg. The wound enters the posterior mid-calf at the mid-axial plane of the leg, 35.5 cm above the left heel. The entrance defect is somewhat irregular measuring 3.5 cm x 2.5 cm. The wound tracks through the posterior soft tissue of the leg, causing no major vascular or bony compromise. The exit wound is also located 35.5 cm above the left heel and is 6 cm to the left of the entrance wound. The wound itself measures 3.5 cm x 2.0 cm. No projectile or projectile fragments are present. Only soft tissue damage is present.

Therefore, the overall pathway of gunshot wound #6 is right to left, having little or no front-back or up-down deviation.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

BODY CAVITIES: See "Evidence of Injury." Otherwise, all body organs are present in normal anatomical position.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: The heart weighs 400 grams. The pericardial surfaces are smooth, glistening and intact; the pericardial sac contains a physiologic amount of fluid. The coronary arteries arise normally, follow the usual distribution, and are widely patent, without atherosclerosis or thrombosis. The chambers and valves exhibit the usual size-position relationships and are unremarkable; the atrial and ventricular septa are intact. The myocardium is red-brown and firm, without focal abnormalities. The aorta and its major branches arise normally, follow the usual courses, and are widely patent, without atherosclerosis. The vena cava and its tributaries return to the heart in the usual distribution and are free of thrombi.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM: See "Evidence of Injury." Otherwise, the right and left lungs weigh 390 grams and 400 grams, respectively. The upper airway is clear of debris and foreign material; the mucosa is yellow-tan and smooth. The pleural surfaces are smooth, glistening and intact. The pulmonary parenchyma exudes slight to moderate amounts of blood and frothy fluid and is without focal lesions other than previously-described (contusion and gunshot wound-associated tear). The pulmonary vasculature is unremarkable.

HEPATOBIILIARY SYSTEM: The liver weighs 1500 grams and has a smooth intact capsule other than a small tear inferiorly without associated fragment or significant parenchymal pulpification. This lesion is gunshot wound-associated and is at the extreme left hepatic lobe and is in association with gunshot wound #4, previously-described. The gallbladder contains approximately 20 milliliters of dark green, slightly mucoid bile; the mucosa is velvety and unremarkable. The extrahepatic biliary tree is patent, without evidence of calculi.

ENDOCRINE SYSTEM: The pituitary, thyroid and adrenal glands are unremarkable. The pancreas has the usual yellow-tan, lobulated appearance and the ducts are clear.

DIGESTIVE SYSTEM: The esophagus is lined by a gray-white, smooth mucosa. The gastric mucosa is arranged in the usual rugal folds and the lumen contains 20 milliliters of thick brown-tan mucal fluid without identifiable food fragments, pills or unusual odor. The small and large intestines are unremarkable. The appendix is present.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM: See "Evidence of Injury" for description of trauma adjacent to the right kidney. Otherwise, the right kidney weighs 190 grams and the left kidney weighs 180 grams. The renal capsules are smooth, thin and semitransparent, and strip with ease from the underlying smooth, red-brown, firm, cortical surfaces. The cortices are sharply delineated from the medullary pyramids, which are red-purple to tan and unremarkable. The calyces, pelves and ureters are unremarkable. The urinary bladder contains approximately 100 milliliters of clear yellow urine; the mucosa is gray-tan and smooth.

The testicles disclose no contusions. The prostate gland and seminal vesicles are unremarkable.

RETICULOENDOTHELIAL SYSTEM: The spleen weighs 120 grams and has a smooth intact capsule covering a deep red-purple, moderately firm parenchyma; the lymphoid follicles are unremarkable. The regional lymph nodes appear normal. The exposed bone marrow is red-purple and homogeneous, without focal abnormalities.

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM: See "Evidence of Injury." Otherwise, the bony framework, supporting musculature, and soft tissues are not unusual.

NECK: Examination of the soft tissues of the neck, including strap muscles, thyroid gland, and large vessels, reveals no abnormalities. The hyoid bone and larynx are intact.

HEAD AND CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM: The brain weighs 1375 grams. The dura mater and falx cerebri are intact. The leptomeninges are thin and delicate. The cerebral hemispheres are symmetrical. The structures at the base of the brain, including the cranial nerves and blood vessels, are intact and free of abnormalities. Coronal sections through the cerebral hemispheres reveal no

VALENTIN FERNANDEZ, LEROY
ME 2016-000944
PAGE 9

lesions within the cortex, subcortical white matter, or deep parenchyma of either hemisphere. The ventricles are normal in caliber. Sections through the brainstem and cerebellum reveal no abnormalities.

WAB/alm

Patient: VALENTIN FERNANDEZ, LEROY
Age: 25 Sex: M
Client Patient ID: 9-16-944
Account#: VX83017
Physician: BROUSSARD, WILSON
Client: DISTRICT 9 MEDICAL EXAMINER MISC
TOXICOLOGY

Specimen Collected :06/14/2016

Lab Order No: 661501218

Reg Date: 06/15/16

Test Name	Result	Units	Cutoff/Reporting Limits
-----------	--------	-------	-------------------------

VOLATILE PANEL - VOLP

SPECIMEN TYPE

ABDOMINAL BLOOD

ETHANOL	0.036	g/dL	0.010
ACETONE	NONE DETECTED	mg/dL	7.5
METHANOL	NONE DETECTED	mg/dL	15.0
ISOPROPANOL	NONE DETECTED	mg/dL	15.0

Analysis by Gas Chromatography (GC) Headspace Injection
BLOOD DRUG SCREEN - BDSME

SPECIMEN TYPE

ABDOMINAL BLOOD

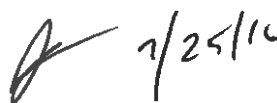
GC/MS

CAFFEINE

LC/MS/MS

CAFFEINE, CAFFEINE METABOLITE
BLOOD IMMUNOASSAY SCREEN

AMPHETAMINES		mg/L	0.100
Unable to report due to interfering substance(s) present in the specimen			
BARBITURATES	NEGATIVE	mg/L	0.100
BENZODIAZEPINES	NEGATIVE	mg/L	0.050
BUPRENORPHINE	NEGATIVE	mg/L	0.001
CANNABINOIDS	NEGATIVE	mg/L	0.050
COCAINE METABOLITE	NEGATIVE	mg/L	0.100
FENTANYL	NEGATIVE	mg/L	0.001
OPIATES	NEGATIVE	mg/L	0.050
SALICYLATES	NEGATIVE	mg/L	50.0



Patient: VALENTIN FERNANDEZ, LEROY
Age: 25 Sex: M
Client Patient ID: 9-16-944
Account#: VX83017
Physician: BROUSSARD, WILSON
Client: DISTRICT 9 MEDICAL EXAMINER MISC
TOXICOLOGY

Specimen Collected :06/14/2016

Lab Order No: 662300902

Reg Date: 06/15/16

Test Name
Result
Units
Cutoff/Reporting Limits
VOLATILE PANEL, VITREOUS - VOLPV
SPECIMEN TYPE
VITREOUS

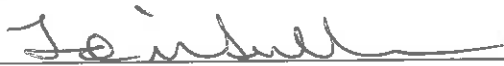
ETHANOL	0.023	g/dL	0.010
ACETONE	NONE DETECTED	mg/dL	7.5
METHANOL	NONE DETECTED	mg/dL	15.0
ISOPROPANOL	NONE DETECTED	mg/dL	15.0

Analysis by Gas Chromatography (GC) Headspace Injection

7/25/16

Specimens were intact upon receipt. Chain of custody, specimen security and integrity has been maintained. Testing has been performed as requested

Reviewed by:



Date:

7/20/16

FINAL REPORT - THIS COMPLETES REPORTING ON THIS CASE

TOXICOLOGY REPORT

VALENTIN FERNANDEZ, LEROY

ME16-00944

ME Case Number: _____ Valentin Fernandez,
Leroy

25 Years - M 6/12/2016

