

**COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE  
AUTOPSY REPORT**

**ME NO.:** 18-0705

**CASE TITLE:** MIXED ALCOHOL AND OXYCODONE TOXICITY  
**DECEASED:** Brandon Webster      **SEX:** M      **AGE:** 48  
**DATE AND HOUR OF DEATH:** Found 07-05-18; 11:51 a.m.  
**DATE AND HOUR OF AUTOPSY:** 07-09-18; 8:30 a.m.

**FINAL DIAGNOSES:**

48-year-old man with reported history of opioid use found unresponsive in the basement of his residence; pronounced dead at the scene by responding emergency medical services.

- I. Mixed alcohol and oxycodone toxicity (see also 'Toxicology,' below)
  - A. Oronasal foam cone
  - B. Pulmonary edema
  - C. Cerebral edema
  - D. Urinary retention
  
- II. No significant injuries identified
  
- III. No significant natural diseases identified
  
- IV. Toxicology
  - A. Blood (femoral) volatiles: ethanol 0.09 g/dL
  - B. Urine drug screen: immunoassay positive for acetaminophen and oxycodone; mass spectrometry positive for oxycodone
  - C. Blood (femoral) opiate quantitation: oxycodone 0.40 mg/L; other opiates not detected

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### **EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:**

The body is that of a normally developed, adequately nourished appearing, 5 foot 10-inch long, 205-pound male whose appearance is consistent with the reported age of 48 years. Lividity is posterior, dependent, and fixed in place. Rigor mortis is present in the extremities, relenting with moderate pressure. The temperature is that of the refrigeration unit.

The scalp is covered with medium length, brown hair in a normal distribution. The irides are brown, and the pupils are round and equal in diameter. There are no bulbar or palpebral conjunctival petechiae. The external auditory canals are free of blood. The ears are unremarkable. The nares are patent, and the lips are atraumatic. The nose, maxillae, and mandible are palpably stable. The teeth appear native and in good repair. Frothy white fluid emanates from the mouth and nares.

The neck is straight, and the trachea is midline. The chest is symmetric. The abdomen is flat. The genitalia are those of a normal adult male. The testes are descended and free of masses. Pubic hair is present in a normal distribution. The back, buttocks, and anus are unremarkable.

The upper and lower extremities are symmetric and free of clubbing, edema, or absence of digits. The nails of the hands are short and neatly trimmed. The nails of the toes are dirty.

### **CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EFFECTS:**

The following clothing items are examined separate from the body at the start of postmortem examination:

- Size medium black and gray plaid pattern men's underwear
- Size 36 x 32 black denim jeans
- A blue cloth belt with white trim and a silver color buckle, threaded through the loops of the jeans
- A size large dark gray T-shirt
- A single ankle length black sock

### **MEDICAL INTERVENTION:**

- Nasal trumpet, right nostril
- Pacer/defibrillator patches, right upper and left lateral chest

### **INTERNAL EXAMINATION:**

**HEAD:** The soft tissues of the scalp are free of injury. The calvarium is intact, as is the dura mater beneath it. Clear cerebrospinal fluid surrounds the 1660 g brain, which has slightly widened and flattened gyri and narrowed sulci. Coronal sections demonstrate sharp demarcation between white and gray matter, without hemorrhage or contusive injury. The ventricles are of normal size. The basal ganglia, brainstem, cerebellum, and arterial systems are free of injury or other abnormalities. There are no skull fractures. The atlanto-occipital joint is stable.

**NECK:** The anterior strap muscles of the neck are homogeneous and red-brown, without hemorrhage. The thyroid cartilage and hyoid are intact. The larynx is lined by intact white mucosa. The thyroid is symmetric and red-brown, without cystic or nodular change. The tongue is free of bite marks, hemorrhage, or other injuries.

**BODY CAVITIES:** The ribs, sternum, and vertebral bodies are visibly and palpably intact. No excess fluid is in the pleural, pericardial, or peritoneal cavities. The organs occupy their usual anatomic positions.

**RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:** The right and left lungs weigh 1040 and 950 g, respectively. The external surfaces are smooth and deep red- purple. The pulmonary parenchyma is diffusely congested and edematous. No mass lesions or areas of consolidation are present. The pulmonary vascular tree is free of thromboemboli. The tracheobronchial tree is filled with foamy edema fluid.

**CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:** The 405 g heart is contained in an intact pericardial sac. The epicardial surface is smooth, with minimal fat investment. The coronary arteries are present in a normal distribution, with a left-dominant pattern. Cross sections of the vessels show no atherosclerotic stenoses and no occlusions. The myocardium is homogeneous, red-brown, and firm. The valve leaflets are thin and mobile. The walls of the left and right ventricles are 1.0 and 0.5 cm thick, respectively. The endocardium is smooth and glistening. The aorta gives rise to three intact and patent arch vessels. The renal and mesenteric vessels are unremarkable.

**LIVER AND BILIARY SYSTEM:** The 1495 liver has an intact, smooth capsule and a sharp anterior border. The parenchyma is tan- brown and congested, with the usual lobular architecture. No mass lesions or other abnormalities are seen. The gallbladder contains a minute amount of green-black bile and no stones. The mucosal surface is green and velvety. The extrahepatic biliary tree is patent.

**SPLEEN:** The 285 g spleen has a smooth, intact, red-purple capsule. The parenchyma is maroon and congested.

**PANCREAS:** The pancreas is firm and yellow-tan, with the usual lobular architecture. No mass lesions or other abnormalities are seen.

**ADRENALS:** The right and left adrenal glands are symmetric, with bright yellow cortices and gray medullae. No masses or areas of hemorrhage are identified.

**GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:** The right and left kidneys weigh 165 and 150 g, respectively. The external surfaces are intact and smooth. The cut surfaces are red-tan and congested, with uniformly thick cortices and sharp corticomedullary junctions. The pelves are unremarkable and the ureters are normal in course and caliber. White bladder mucosa overlies an intact bladder wall. The bladder contains approximately 250 cc of yellow urine. The prostate is normal in size, with lobular, yellow-tan parenchyma. The seminal vesicles are unremarkable. The testes are free of mass lesions, contusions, or other abnormalities.

**GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT:** The esophagus is intact and lined by smooth, gray-white mucosa. The stomach contains approximately 200 cc of thick, gray-green pasty material with numerous fragments of multicolored food-like particulate matter. The gastric wall is intact. The duodenum, loops of small bowel, and colon are unremarkable. The appendix is present.

#### **ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES:**

- Documentary photographs are taken.
- Specimens retained for toxicologic testing: vitreous fluid, femoral blood, liver, urine, and gastric contents.
- Representative tissue biopsies are retained in formalin for block only preparation.
- The dissected organs are returned to the body.

#### **MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION:**

Tissues are submitted for block processing only. No microscopic slides are requested.