

CORONER'S INVESTIGATION

State of California, County of San Bernardino
Brian McCormick, Coroner

In the Matter of Investigation Upon the Body of

Deceased: Brittany Lynn Rethorn-Riggs

Coroner's Case Number: 93-5469CM

BE IT KNOWN, that the undersigned, duly elected, qualified and acting Coroner of San Bernardino County, California, held an investigation upon the body of Brittany Lynn Rethorn-Riggs, deceased at or near Montclair in San Bernardino County, California, on the 10th day of October 1993. That at said investigation the Coroner finds, that the deceased was a native of California and a resident of Montclair, California. Age: 3. Height: 43 inches. Weight: About 45 lbs. Hair: Brown. Eyes: Brown. Complexion Fair. Date of Death: 10th day of October 1993.

Cause of Death: Asphyxia, minutes, due to smothering, minutes.

Homicide: Intentional smothering with some evidence of strangulation by assailant(s).

Time: October 10, 1993 - Found 0911

Place: At home - 9393 Exeter Street, Montclair, California

Died: October 10, 1993 - 1004 hours
Doctors Hospital of Montclair
5000 San Bernardino Street
Montclair, California

Information was received from Doctors Hospital emergency room, via San Bernardino County Communications Center, on Sunday, October 10, 1993, at approximately 1036 hours, reporting the death of the above-listed subject at Doctors Hospital-Montclair emergency room, where she was pronounced on October 10, 1993, at 1004 hours, by Dr. Sinausky, where the decedent had been brought in subsequently, transported by Montclair Police Department Sergeant V. Leone from a residence at 9393 Exeter Street, city of Montclair, on October 10, 1993, arriving at Montclair Doctors Hospital at 0935 hours.

When I arrived at the hospital I was contacted by Officer Williams of the Montclair Police Department who directed my attention to the decedent who was situated supine on a hospital gurney with EKG leads, an IV in the left antecubital fossa and an endotracheal

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tube in the mouth. There were traces of blood in the left naris, some slight petechial hemorrhage in the left eye and some trauma inside the top lip and frenulum. Rigor was slight and easily broken. Post-mortem lividity was faint and consistent with the position of the body at the time of my examination. There was some slight mottling. A "blue light" showed some fluorescence in the pubic area, also some "milky" substance in the mouth (small amount). No other trauma was observed at this time. The decedent was nude, the clothing cut away by emergency room personnel. According to the emergency room doctor, the body was "still warm" on admission to the emergency room, and no vitals were present at the time of admission. Two photographs were taken.

Officer Williams advised the decedent had been found by Montclair Police Department in the closet of a "roommate" male of the parents at the residence with a woman's fabric (fake leather) "tie type" belt loosely around the neck and a dark green garbage bag over her head. She was picked up by Montclair Police Department and taken to Doctors Hospital in a Montclair Police Department unit, admitted in asystole, according to Dr. Sinausky. The roommate in whose room the decedent was found stated the decedent had last been seen drinking orange juice. The parents couldn't find the child and called Montclair Police Department. Officer Williams advised the decedent had been born at Santa Terricita Hospital in Duarte and had a continued history of ear problems and sinus infections and had "tubes" placed in both ears.

I transported the decedent to the San Bernardino County Coroner's office, where an autopsy was ordered to be performed on October 11, 1993, by Dr. Frank Sheridan. When the cause of death was determined, it was entered on a Certificate of Death and certified by this office. The remains were then released to Rose Hills Mortuary for interment at Rose Hills Memorial Park on October 16, 1993, at the request of the family.

No property was handled in this case. The decedent was identified by parents Darin Riggs and Jennifer Rethorn, address 9393 Exeter Street, Montclair, California, telephone #988-1976.

For additional information regarding this incident see Montclair Police Department report #93-6318.

At the time of the autopsy the cause of death was pended due to the request of Montclair Police Department so not to hinder their investigation. This request was made to Deputy Coroner-Inspector "Bud" Harter on October 13, 1993, at 1505 hours. This was complied with, and the death certificate was later amended.

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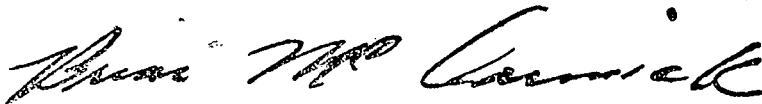
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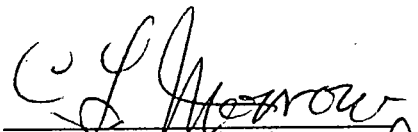
I do hereby certify that I do well and truly believe the above and foregoing to be correct.

BRIAN McCORMICK
Coroner of San Bernardino County

C. L. Morrow
Deputy Coroner

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brian McCormick", written over a horizontal line.

Coroner

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. L. Morrow", written over a horizontal line.

Deputy Coroner

CLM:mh