

SOUTHWESTERN
 INSTITUTE OF FORENSIC SCIENCES
 5230 Medical Center Drive
 Dallas, Texas 75235

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 DALLAS COUNTY
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Case No. 2180-10-1632TJD

Name: Peters, Jayne Parsley

Age: 55 Race: White Sex: Female

Date of Death: 13 JUL 2010 (Found) Date of Examination: 14 JUL 2010
 Time of Death: Found 7:30 pm Time of Examination: 7:45 am

Pronounced at: 759 Greenway Drive
 Coppell, Dallas County, Texas

AUTOPSY REPORT:

ORGAN WEIGHTS:

Brain	1420 g	R. Lung	210 g	R. Kidney	110 g
Heart	255 g	L. Lung	280 g	L. Kidney	120 g
Liver	910 g	Spleen	100 g		

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

The body is identified by tags. Photographs, fingerprints, palmprints and a radiograph of the head are taken. When the body is first viewed, the hands are covered with paper bags.

The body is received wearing a white T-shirt, gray pajama bottoms, black print panties, and with two blankets which are retained. No personal effects or jewelry are present.

The body is that of a normally developed white female which appears consistent with the recorded age of 55 years. When nude, the body measures 63 inches (160.0 cm) in length and weighs 118 pounds (53.5 kg). There is good preservation in the absence of embalming. Rigidity is full. Lividity is patchy on the left side of the chest and abdomen and blanching. The body is cool subsequent to refrigeration.

The scalp hair is straight, blonde, and long. The irides appear hazel and there are no petechiae of the bulbar or palpebral surfaces of the conjunctivae. The ears, nose, and lips are unremarkable. The mouth has natural dentition in good condition. The neck is without masses and the trachea is midline. The chest and breasts are symmetrical. The back is unremarkable. The abdomen is flat. The extremities are symmetrical. The external genitalia, perineum, and anus are unremarkable.

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IDENTIFYING MARKS AND SCARS:

None.

EVIDENCE OF TREATMENT:

Two fentanyl patches, each 100 mcg strength, are on the left and right sides of the back.

EVIDENCE OF INJURY:**GUNSHOT WOUND OF THE HEAD:**

Entrance: A stellate gunshot wound of entrance is on the mid-forehead. On re-approximation of the skin edges, a round, 3/8 inch in diameter gunshot wound entrance is identified 3-1/2 inches below the top of the head and 1/2 inch right of midline. The stellate lacerations measure up to 2 inches in length. Dense soot is identified on the underlying frontal bone from 9 to 3 o'clock. No stippling is present.

Injuries: After perforating the skin of the forehead, the bullet sequentially perforates the frontal bone, the base of the skull including the ethmoid and right orbital plate (with extensive comminuted fracturing), the inferior aspect of the right frontal lobe, the inferior aspect of the right temporal lobe the right petrous ridge, the right lobe of the cerebellum, and exits the posterior midline occiput.

Exit: A stellate, 2 x 1/2 inch exit defect is on the midline posterior head, 6 inches below the top of the head and on the posterior midline. There is no marginal abrasion, soot, or stippling.

Direction: The direction of the bullet is front to back, downward, and slightly right to left.

Associated injuries: A thin subdural hemorrhage overlies the right base of the brain. Patchy subarachnoid hemorrhage overlies the right and left base of the brain. The parenchyma of the wound track is pulped.

OTHER INJURIES:

A red abrasion is on the dorsal left foot. A red abrasion is on the posterior right hand.

These injuries, having been once described, will not be repeated.

EVIDENCE SUBMITTED:

The following items are collected, sealed within appropriately labeled containers, and submitted to the Criminal Investigation Laboratory:

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- A blood standard
- A gunshot residue kit of the hands
- Clothing and bags from hands.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION:

BODY CAVITIES: The thoracic and abdominal organs are in their normal anatomic positions. The body cavities contain no adhesions or abnormal collections of fluid.

HEAD: See Evidence of Injury. The spinal cord, as viewed from the cranial cavity, is unremarkable.

NECK: The soft tissues and prevertebral fascia are unremarkable. The hyoid bone and laryngeal cartilages are intact. The lumen of the larynx is not obstructed.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM: The intimal surface of the abdominal aorta is free of significant atherosclerosis. The aorta and its major branches and the great veins are normally distributed and unremarkable. The pulmonary arteries contain no thromboemboli. The pericardium, epicardium, and endocardium are smooth, glistening, and unremarkable. The endocardium is free of mural thrombi. The foramen ovale is closed. The coronary arterial system is free of significant atherosclerosis. The atrial and ventricular septa are intact. The cardiac valves are unremarkable. The myocardium is dark red-brown and firm, without focal abnormalities.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM: The upper airway is not obstructed. The laryngeal mucosa is smooth and unremarkable, without petechiae. The pleural surfaces are smooth and glistening. The major bronchi are unremarkable. Sectioning of the lungs discloses a light pink, minimally congested parenchyma.

HEPATOBIILIARY SYSTEM: The liver is covered by a smooth, glistening capsule. The parenchyma is dark red-brown and moderately congested. The gallbladder contains approximately 20 mL of dark green bile, with no calculi.

GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM: The esophageal mucosa is gray, smooth, and unremarkable. The stomach contains approximately 10 mL of brown fluid. There are no tablets or capsules. The gastric mucosa has normal rugal folds, and there are no ulcers. The small and large intestines are unremarkable externally. The appendix is present. The pancreas is unremarkable externally and upon sectioning.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM: The capsules of both kidneys strip with ease to reveal smooth and slightly lobulated surfaces. The cortices are of normal thickness, with well-demarcated corticomedullary junctions. The calyces, pelves, and ureters are unremarkable. The urinary bladder contains approximately 10 mL of clear yellow urine. The mucosa is gray, smooth, and unremarkable. The uterus, fallopian tubes, and ovaries are unremarkable externally and on sectioning.

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ENDOCRINE SYSTEM: The thyroid and adrenal glands are unremarkable externally and upon sectioning.

LYMPHORETICULAR SYSTEM: The spleen is covered by a smooth, blue-gray, intact capsule. The parenchyma is dark red. The cervical, hilar, and peritoneal lymph nodes are not enlarged.

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM: The clavicles, ribs, sternum, pelvis, and vertebral column have no fractures. The diaphragm is intact.



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FINDINGS:

1. Contact gunshot wound of the head:
 - a. Entrance: mid-forehead.
 - b. Injuries: perforation of skull and brain.
 - c. Exit: midline posterior head.
 - d. Direction: front to back, downward, and slightly right to left.
 - e. Range of fire: contact with dense soot on the frontal bone underlying the entrance wound.
2. See related case 2181-10.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the autopsy and history available to me, it is my opinion that Jayne Parsley Peters, a 55-year-old white female, died as the result of a contact gunshot wound of the head. Investigative and autopsy findings are consistent with this being a deliberate and self-inflicted act.

MANNER OF DEATH: Suicide.


Tracy W. Dyer, M.D.
Medical Examiner

TOXICOLOGY:

Postmortem Blood:

- Alcohols and Acetone - negative.
- Cannabinoid Screen - negative.
- Drug Screen - negative.

Vitreous: Alcohols and Acetone - negative.

Protocol typed by Erma Robinson