



**MARICOPA COUNTY  
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER  
701 W. Jefferson St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007**

**MEDICAL EXAMINER REPORT**

**DECEDENT:** Daniel Leetin Shaver

**CASE:** 16-00491

**DATE OF EXAMINATION:** 01/22/2016

**TIME:** 0800 Hours

**PERSONS PRESENT AT EXAMINATION:**

Mesa Police Department: Detective Michael Rayburn, #14211

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**CAUSE OF DEATH:  
MULTIPLE GUNSHOT WOUNDS**

**MANNER OF DEATH:  
HOMICIDE**

**HOW INJURY OCCURRED:  
SHOT BY ANOTHER**

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3/16/16  
Date Signed

Mark Shelly DO  
MARK SHELLY, DO  
MEDICAL EXAMINER

**FINDINGS**

- I. Multiple gunshot wounds:
  - A. Entrances: Posterior neck, upper back, left chest, right thigh, and left cheek (graze wound).
  - B. Injured: Heart, left lung, 1st and 2nd cervical vertebrae, and left 3rd rib, as well as multiple areas of soft tissue.
  - C. Exits: Right side of chest and right thigh.
  - D. Recovered: Two metal cores from the underside of the sternum.
  - E. Associated Injuries: Multiple areas of hemorrhage including left hemothorax (500 mL).
- II. Toxicology: Ethyl alcohol is measured in the vitreous and pleural blood at 0.29 g% and 0.27 g%, respectively.

**SUMMARY AND OPINION**

Based on the autopsy findings and investigative history as available to me, it is my opinion that Daniel Leetin Shaver, a 26-year-old male, died as a result of multiple gunshot wounds. Per report and investigation, the decedent was shot multiple times with a rifle by a local police officer responding to reports of an individual with a weapon in a local hotel. Autopsy examination demonstrated four entrance gunshot wounds (upper back, posterior neck, left chest, and right thigh), one graze-type gunshot wound (left cheek), and multiple irregular exit wounds. Significant sites of injury included the heart and left lung, with a large amount of bleeding into the left chest cavity. Two metal cores were recovered during autopsy. Postmortem radiographs revealed numerous metal fragments too small for recovery. There was no evidence of close range fire for any of the entrance wounds. Toxicology testing was positive for elevated amounts of ethanol.

The manner of death is homicide.

*As with all death investigations, opinions expressed herein are amenable to change should new, reliable, and pertinent information come to light.*

*The Maricopa County Medical Examiner's Office is required by statute (A.R.S. § 11-594(A) (2) and (4)) to certify the cause and manner of death following completion of the death investigation of each case over which it assumes jurisdiction, and to promptly execute a death certificate, on a form provided by the state registrar of vital statistics, indicating the cause and manner of death. The form provided by the state registrar of vital statistics includes five manners of death: homicide, suicide, accident, natural, and undetermined. The determination of manner of death is a forensic determination by the pathologist predicated upon the totality of all then-known forensic evidence and other circumstances surrounding the cause of death; it is not a legal determination of criminal or civil responsibility of any person(s) for the death.*

**POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION****EXTERNAL EXAMINATION**

The body is received in a zippered body pouch secured by evidence seal #0531324.

**CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

The body is clad in the items of clothing as detailed in the property inventory list.

**EVIDENCE OF MEDICAL INTERVENTION**

- EKG leads.

**EVIDENCE OF TRAUMA**

Gunshot Wound of the Back: On the upper left side of the back there is a 3/16 inch entrance gunshot wound located 11 inches below the top of the head and 4-1/2 inches left of the posterior midline. There is no soot deposition or gunpowder stippling around the wound. There is injury to subcutaneous tissue, the posterior left 3<sup>rd</sup> rib, upper lobe of the left lung, pericardium, and superior aspect of the left ventricle of the heart. No exit wound is identified. A cylindrical portion of projectile is recovered from the underside of the chest plate, on the left side of the sternum. The wound path is directed back to front, left to right, and downwards. Associated injuries include left hemothorax (500 mL).

Gunshot Wound of the Neck: On the posterior aspect of the neck there is a 3/16 inch entrance gunshot wound with up to a 3/16 inch superior marginal abrasion, located 7 inches below the top of the head and 1-1/2 inches right of the posterior midline. There is no soot deposition or gunpowder stippling around the wound. There is injury to subcutaneous tissue, the right side of the 1st and 2nd cervical vertebra, the musculature on the right side of the neck, the right lobe of the thyroid, and soft tissue of the neck and upper chest. Multiple likely exit wounds are identified on the right side of the chest, including a cluster of irregular wounds measuring 1-1/2 x 1 inch and centered 12-1/2 inches below the top of the head and 2-1/2 inches right of the anterior midline. These wounds range in size from 3/16 to 1/4 inch. On the lateral aspect of the right chest there is another likely exit wound which measures 3/16 inch and is located 15 inches below the top of the head and 5 inches right of the anterior midline. The wound path is directed back to front, downwards, and left to right. Associated injuries include hemorrhage along the wound path.

Gunshot Wound of the Face: On the left cheek there is a vertically oriented graze-type gunshot wound which measures 2-3/16 x 3/8 inch and is centered 7 inches below the top of the head and 2-1/4 inches left of the anterior midline. There is no soot deposition or gunpowder stippling around the wound. There is injury to skin and subcutaneous

tissue only. No bullets or bullet fragments are recovered. The wound path appears to be directed downwards.

Gunshot Wound of the Chest: On the left side of the upper chest there is a 4 x 2-1/2 inch atypical entrance gunshot wound centered 15 inches below the top of the head and 4-1/2 inches left of the anterior midline. There is an up to 1/8 inch marginal abrasion on the superior edges of the wound. There is no soot deposition or gunpowder stippling around the wound. There is injury to the subcutaneous tissue and soft tissue of the chest. No exit wound is identified. A cylindrical portion of projectile is recovered from the underside of the chest plate adjacent to the sternum. The wound path is directed left to right and downwards. Associated injuries include hemorrhage along the wound path.

Gunshot Wound of the Right Lower Extremity: On the anterior-medial distal right thigh there is a 1/4 inch entrance gunshot wound located 22 inches above the bottom of the heel and 2-1/5 inches left of the anterior midline of the thigh. There is no soot deposition or gunpowder stippling around the wound. There is injury to subcutaneous and soft tissue only. On the medial aspect of the distal right thigh and proximal right leg there are three irregular exit gunshot wounds which range in size from 1/4 inch up to 5-1/4 x 3-1/2 inches. The wounds are centered between 16 and 21 inches above the bottom of the heel and 4 inches left of the anterior midline of the right lower extremity. No bullets or bullet fragments are recovered. The wound path appears to be directed right to left and front to back. Associated injuries include hemorrhage along the wound path.

Numerous minute metal fragments are identified on postmortem radiographs, but these are too small for recovery. The two cylindrical portions of projectile in the chest are the only two metal fragments recovered.

## **SCARS, TATTOOS AND OTHER IDENTIFYING BODY FEATURES**

None identified.

## **GENERAL EXTERNAL EXAMINATION**

The unembalmed body is that of a male, 69 inches in length and weighing 208 pounds. Rigor mortis is present, and livor mortis is fixed both anterior and posterior. The scalp hair is brown. The irides appear hazel. There are no lesions of the sclerae or conjunctivae. Facial hair is present in a beard and mustache pattern. Dentition is fair both upper and lower. The trachea is in the midline. The thorax is well developed and symmetrical. The abdomen is soft, with no palpable intra-abdominal masses. The external genitalia are those of a normal male. The extremities are well developed and symmetrical with no significant edema or deformity. The fingernails are intact. The soles of the feet are unremarkable. General appearance is compatible with the reported age of 26 years.

**INTERNAL EXAMINATION**

See Evidence of trauma. The body is opened by a standard Y-shaped thoracoabdominal incision. All viscera occupy their appropriate anatomic relationships. Subcutaneous adipose tissue ranges up to 3.5 cm in thickness over the abdominal wall. Serous surfaces are smooth and glistening throughout.

**CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM**

See Evidence of trauma. The 350-gram heart occupies its usual mediastinal site. The uninjured portions of the epicardial surfaces are smooth and glistening. All major vessels arise in their appropriate anatomic relationships. The coronary arteries arise normally with no significant atherosclerotic stenosis. The uninjured portions of myocardium are firm, red-brown without areas of hemorrhage, softening or gross scarring. No abnormal communications exist between the cardiac chambers. The cardiac valves have thin, pliable leaflets. The valve circumferences are appropriate to the caliber of the cardiac chambers. The valve cusps and surfaces are free of fusion or vegetations.

The aorta is of normal caliber with all major arterial branches arising in their appropriate anatomic relationship. Elasticity is normal. The intimal surfaces are smooth without aneurysm formation or dissection. No systemic venous abnormalities or thrombi are present.

**RESPIRATORY SYSTEM**

See Evidence of trauma. The right and left lungs weigh 325 grams and 275 grams, respectively. The upper and lower airways are patent and of normal caliber. The left lung has no non-traumatic abnormalities; the following descriptions apply to the right lung and uninjured portions of the left lung. The pleural surfaces are smooth and glistening. The parenchyma is well expanded, light pink to dark red-purple, exuding moderate amounts of blood and frothy fluid. There are no areas of induration, consolidation, hemorrhage or gross scarring. The pulmonary vessels are patent and of normal caliber.

**DIGESTIVE/HEPATOBIILIARY SYSTEM**

The oropharynx is grossly normal and unobstructed. The esophagus is of normal caliber with a smooth, white mucosal lining. The gastroesophageal junction is well defined. The stomach has intact mucosal surfaces and the lumen contains approximately 100 mL of brown fluid with partially digested food. No areas of ulceration, erosion, or hemorrhage or scarring are present. The small and large intestines are unremarkable. The appendix is present. The lobular tan pancreas is firm, without areas of fat necrosis, gross hemorrhage or space-occupying lesions. The pancreatic ducts are patent and of normal caliber.

The 1800-gram liver has a smooth intact capsule, covering red-brown parenchyma. No localized masses, lesions or areas of hemorrhage are evident on external or cut surfaces. The intrahepatic and extrahepatic ducts are patent and of normal caliber. The gallbladder contains viscid bile. The gallbladder mucosa is grossly normal.

### **GENITOURINARY SYSTEM**

The kidneys each weigh 125 grams. They are grossly similar. The capsules strip with ease from the smooth, red-brown cortical surfaces. The cortices are sharply delineated from the medullary pyramids. The calyces, pelves and ureters are unremarkable. The renal vessels are patent and of normal caliber.

The urinary bladder contains approximately 300 mL of clear yellow urine. The mucosal surfaces are flat and pink-tan. The prostate and seminal vesicles are unremarkable.

### **HEMATOPOIETIC SYSTEM**

The 150-gram spleen occupies its usual anatomic site, with an intact, smooth and glistening capsule covering dark purple, moderately firm parenchyma. Regional lymph nodes have their usual distribution and appearance.

### **ENDOCRINE SYSTEM**

See Evidence of trauma. The adrenal glands are grossly not remarkable. The thyroid gland has no non-traumatic abnormalities.

### **NECK**

See Evidence of trauma. The hyoid bone and thyroid cartilage are intact.

### **MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM**

See Evidence of trauma. No non-traumatic abnormalities are identified. The bony framework, supporting musculature and soft tissues are otherwise unremarkable.

### **NERVOUS SYSTEM**

The scalp is reflected in the usual fashion. There are no contusions, lacerations, or abrasions. There is no skull fracture. The 1600-gram brain is covered by thin, clear, delicate leptomeninges. The dura mater and falx cerebri are intact. There is good preservation of cerebral symmetry without flattening of gyri or widening of sulci. Convolutional patterns remain intact. External landmarks are readily identified. There is no evidence of herniation or either diffuse or localized swelling. The cerebral vessels are intact with no evidence of aneurysm or thrombosis. Atherosclerotic changes are absent. Multiple coronal sections of cerebrum, cerebellum, and brainstem reveal no localized hemorrhages, masses, or lesions. The ventricular system is symmetrical, non-

dilated and filled with clear fluid. The basal ganglia are grossly normal. The atlanto-occipital articulation is grossly normal.

### **EVIDENCE**

The following are collected and released to Detective Rayburn from the Mesa Police Department: Blood blot card, projectiles from the underside of the sternum, clothing, fingernail clippings and clippers, and right and left handbags.

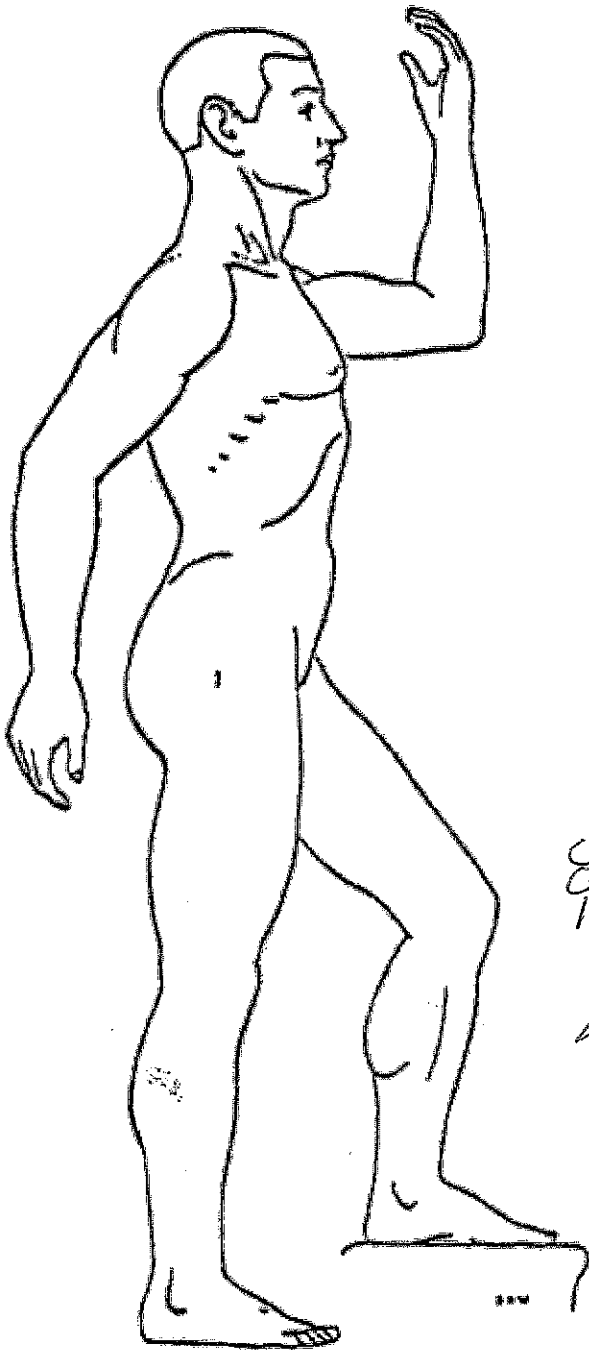
### **TOXICOLOGY SPECIMENS**

Samples of the following are collected and submitted for toxicological testing: left pleural blood, vitreous fluid, bile, gastric contents, urine and liver (see Toxicology Report).

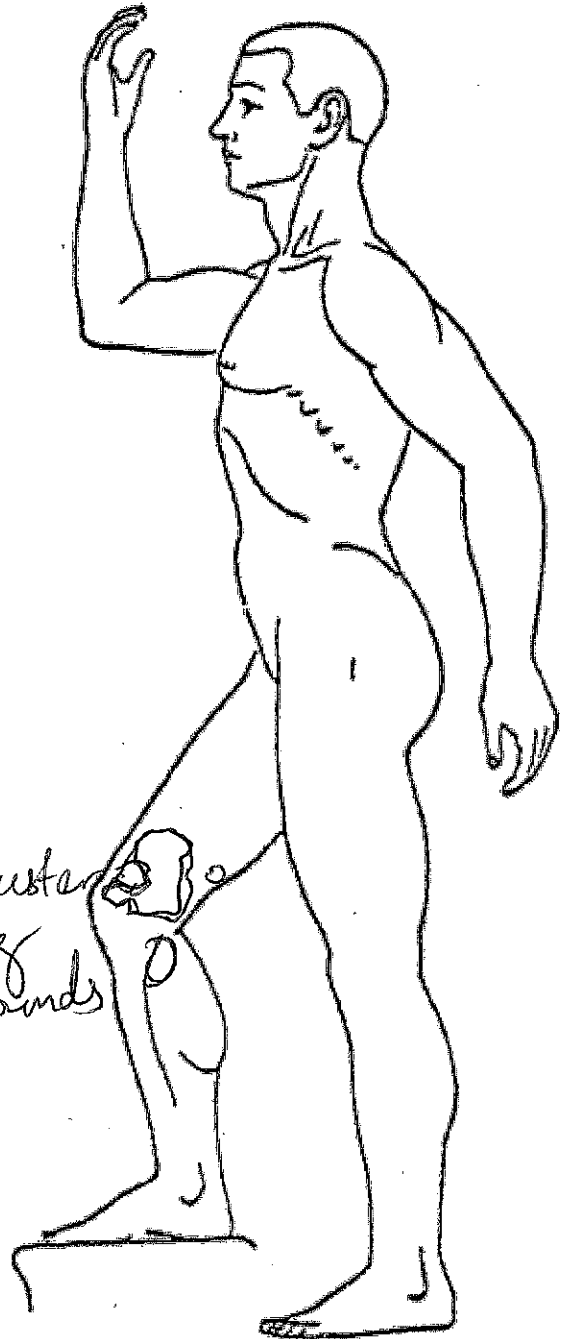
MES/lfb

D: 1/22/2016

T: 2/2/2016



RT



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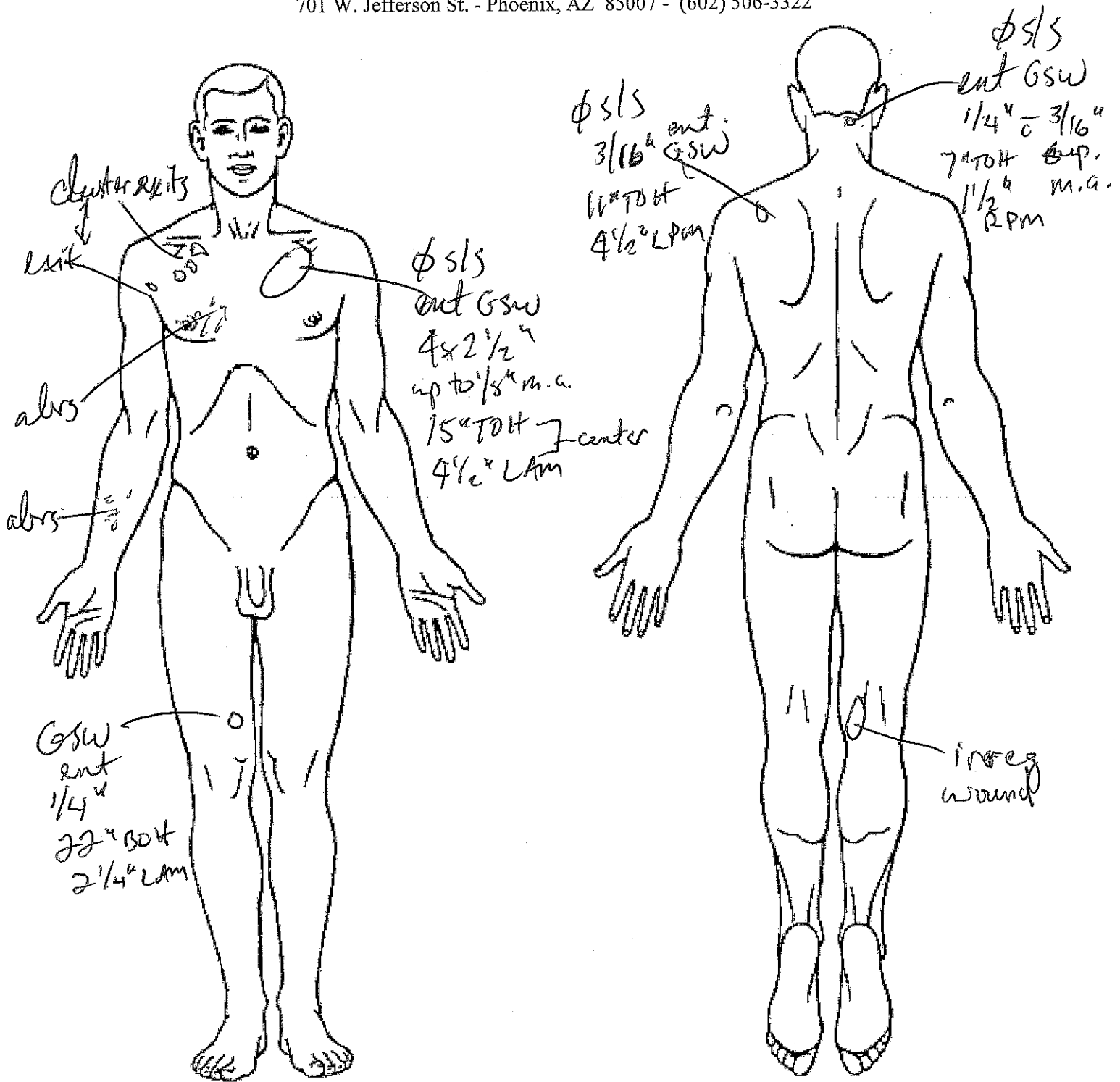
cluster  
center  
16-21"  
BoH  
49 LAM  
cluster  
may  
wounds

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SHAVER, DANIEL LEETIN

MESA PD



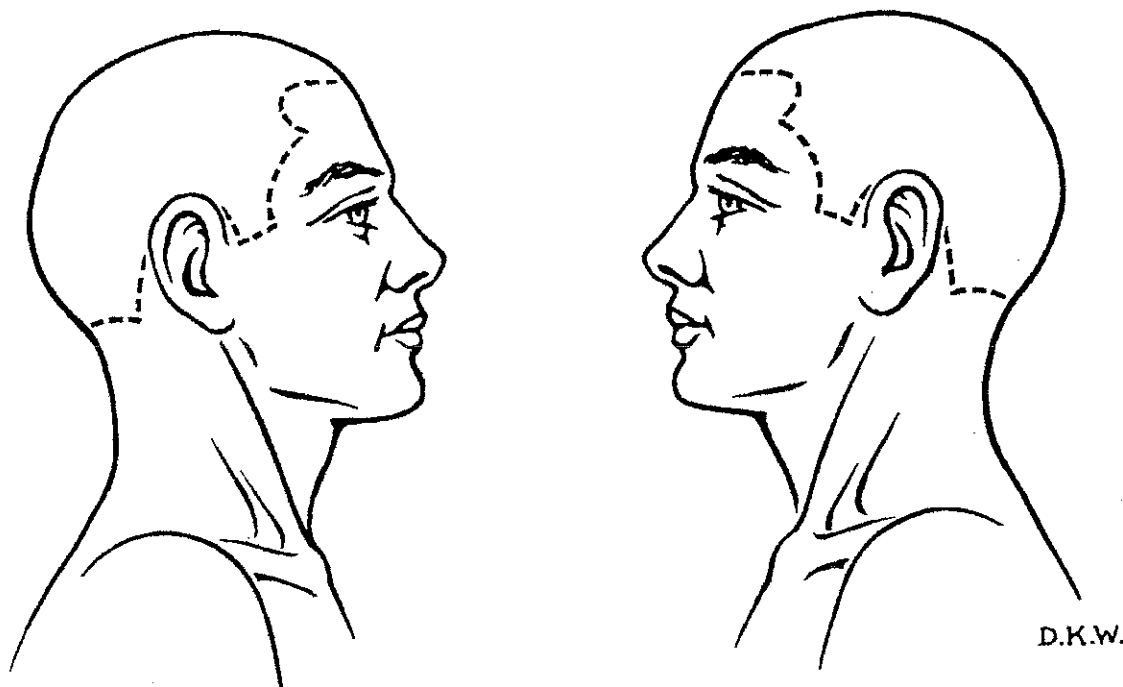
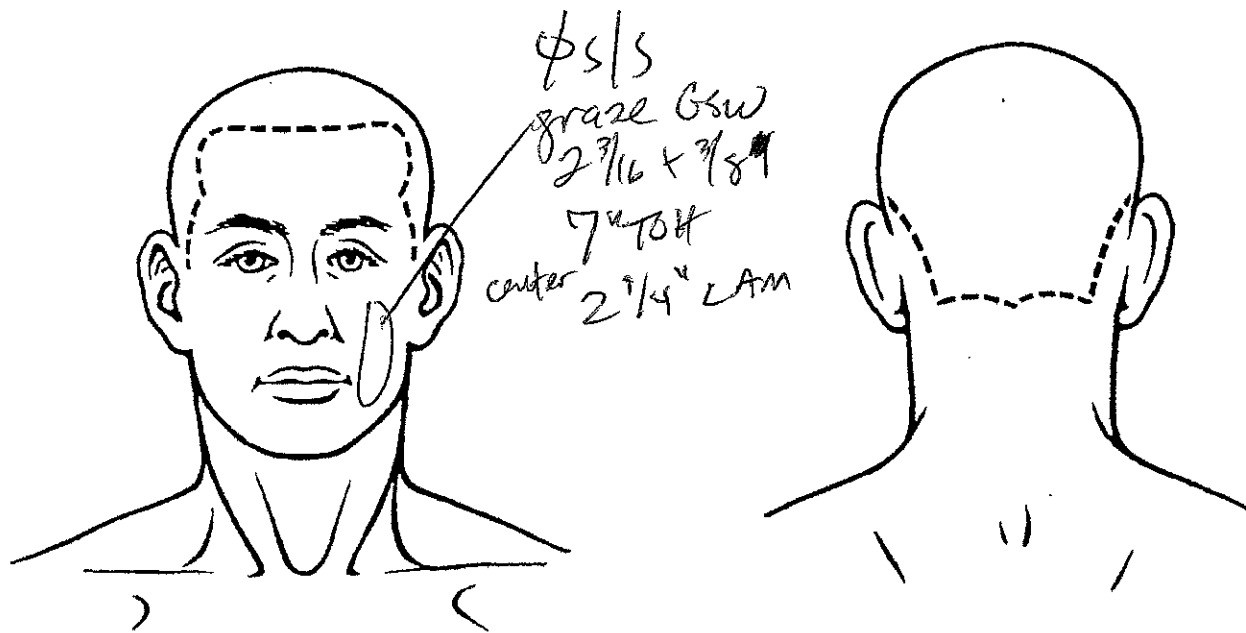
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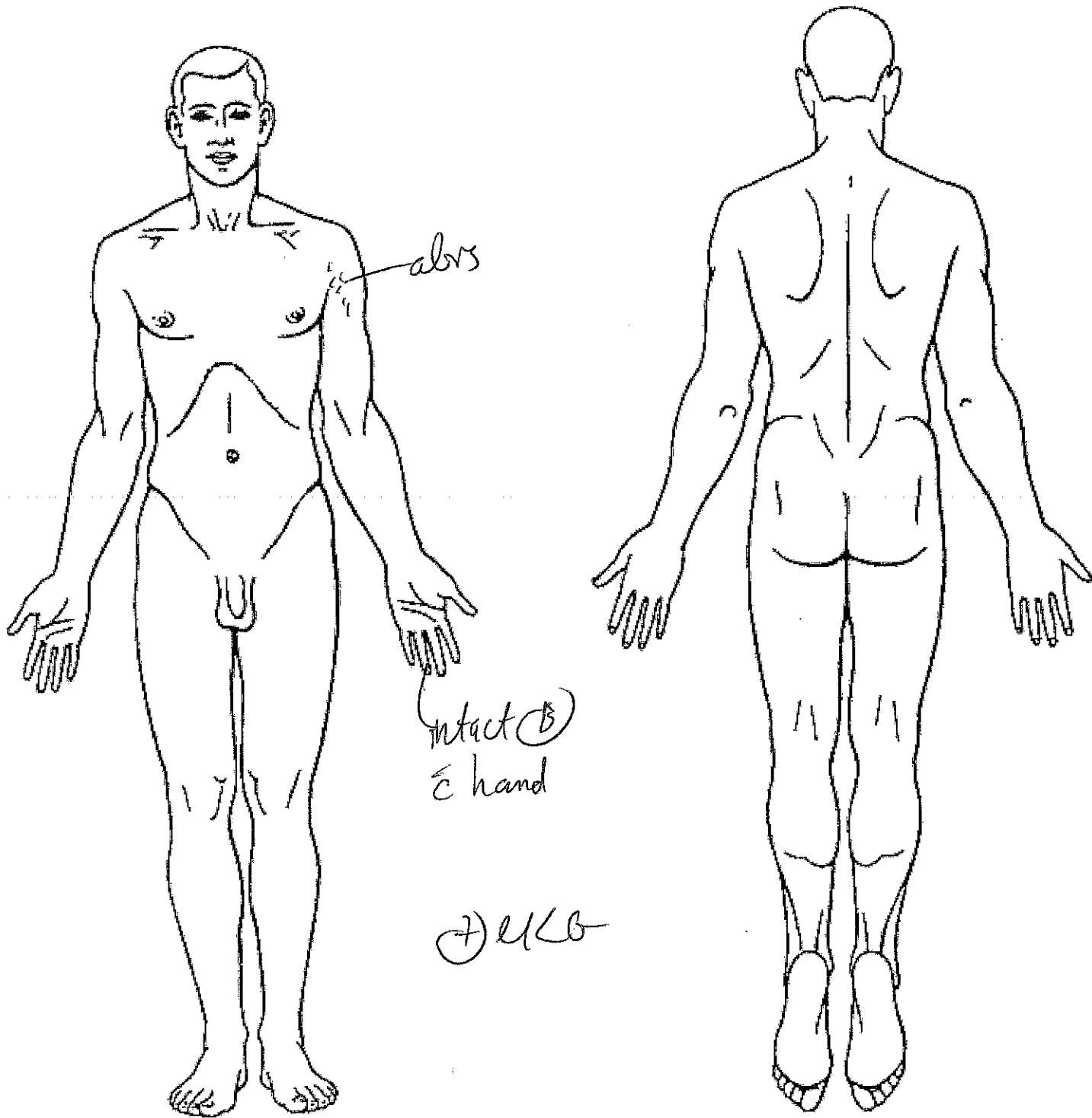
Hair Color:	Eye Color:
Teeth:	Beard (Y/N)
Weight:	Mustache (Y/N)
Height:	Clothing:
Rigor:	
Livor:	Seal No.:

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 SHAVER, DANIEL LEETIN  
 MESA PD

Hair Color: <u>Bmn</u>	Eye Color: <u>Haz</u>
Teeth: <u>intact</u>	Beard: <u>(Y/N)</u>
Weight: <u>208</u>	Mustache: <u>(Y/N)</u>
Height: <u>69</u>	Clothing: <u>Just</u>
Rigor: <u>(+)</u>	Seal No.:
Livor: <u>A/P/E</u>	

*fair*



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701 W. Jefferson Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

TOXICOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORT

DECEDENT: DANIEL LEETIN SHAVER

CASE: 16-00491

DATE OF EXAM: 01/22/2016

MEDICAL EXAMINER: MARK SHELLY, DO

Specimens Collected: BLOT/FILTER PAPER, LEFT CHEST PLEURAL BLOOD,  
URINE, BILE, GASTRIC, VITREOUS, LIVER, GROSS TISSUE

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**RESULTS\*:**

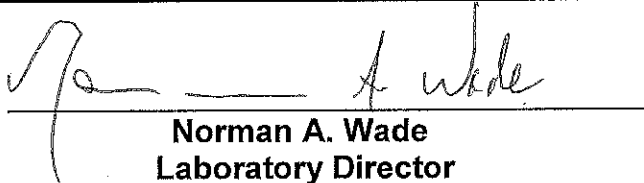
Vitreous: Positive for  
Ethyl alcohol 0.29 g%  
None detected for methanol, isopropanol and acetone

Left Chest Blood: Positive for  
Ethyl alcohol 0.27 g%  
None detected for methanol, isopropanol, acetone, amphetamine,  
methamphetamine, phencyclidine, cocaine, benzoylcegonine,  
methadone, morphine, codeine, oxycodone/oxymorphone,  
benzodiazepines, barbiturates, fentanyl, antihistamines,  
phenothiazines, antidepressants, and other basic drugs

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\*If results are not listed for any specimen(s), that/those specimen(s) is/are deemed to be on "HOLD"

2-19-16  
Date Signed

  
Norman A. Wade  
Laboratory Director

Jurisdictional Agency: MESA PD

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