

YMCA Michigan Youth in Government



**2016-17
Model Judiciary Program
Evidence Packet**

Exhibit A
Knife Located on Scene



Ingham County Coroner's Office



Classification	Manner of Death Suicide	Apparent Causation Asphyxiation			Coroner Prescott Applegate
	Procedure Autopsy		Start Time 10:45 AM	End Time 12:30 PM	Date of Death 1-17-16
Deceased Personal Data	First Name Chance		Last Name Cooper		Middle Name James
	Age 26		Date of Birth 11-22-1989		Place of Birth St. Joseph, MI
	Height 5'9"	Weight 159 lbs.	Hair Black	Eye Green	Distinguishing Marks Tribal tattoo, right shoulder
Findings	Cause of Death Trauma to the the throat resulting in lack of air flow. The deceased was found suspended from a tree and this supports the theory of suicide.				
	Markings Bruising and abrasions on the skin indicate rope was the method used to prevent air flow. This is consistent with the discovery of the body. Defensive markings on the hands and knuckles indicate a struggle. No DNA was present for testing.				
Additional Notes	Crime scene photos, and cause of death indicate suicide. Body of the deceased arrived with a second body, a young female, Candace. Autopsy of the second body revealed no corresponding marks to account for the defensive injuries on Chance.				

Dr. Prescott Applegate M.D.

Date

Ingham County Coroner's Office



Classification	Manner of Death Homicide	Apparent Causation Jugular Laceration			Coroner Prescott Applegate
	Procedure Autopsy		Start Time 8:31 AM	End Time 9:47 PM	Date of Death 1-17-16
Deceased Personal Data	First Name Candace		Last Name McDouglas		Middle Name Lee
	Age 12		Date of Birth 04-25-2004		Place of Birth Jackson, MI
	Height 4'5"	Weight 89 lbs.	Hair Brown	Eye Blue	Distinguishing Marks None
Findings	Cause of Death Two lateral lacerations to the throat; angle indicates the attack was from behind. There were an additional 23 stab wounds to the torso, which point of entry suggests were from the front of the victim. Lack of cellular reconstruction suggests these were post mortum.				
	Markings The angle of the knife entry indicates that the attacker began their attack from behind, but shifted the victim to be in front. No defensive wounds were found on the victim.				
Additional Notes	A toxicology screening indicated trace amounts of Flunitrazepam in the stomach contents of the victim. This is suggestive of sexual assault. No evidence of sexual assault was visible on the victim's body.				

Dr. Prescott Applegate M.D.

Date



Ingham County Police Department Desk Officer Report

General Information	Name GERALD COOPER		Age 46		Date 5-17-2007	
	Address 127 N MAIN ST SIENNA HEIGHTS			Time 4:06 PM	Reporting Officer DAVID PEPPER	
Complaint	Allegation DOMESTIC ASSAULT					
	Suspect CHANCE COOPER		Relation SON		Date of Offense 5-17-2007	Location RESIDENCE
	Height 5'9"	Weight 145 LBS	Hair BLACK	Eye GREEN	Distinguishing Marks NONE	
Details	<p>GERALD COOPER CAME INTO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT AN ASSAULT THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE AGAINST HIM AT ROUGHLY 3:15 PM ON 5-17-2007. MR. COOPER REPORTED THAT AN ARGUMENT HAD BROKEN OUT BETWEEN HIMSELF AND HIS SON WHEN HIS SON ARRIVED HOME FROM SCHOOL. MR. COOPER WAS HESITANT TO ELABORATE ANY FURTHER ON THE NATURE OF THEIR ARGUMENT.</p> <p>MR. COOPER SHOWED SIGNS OF HAVING BEEN ATTACKED. HE HAD A CUT ON HIS LOWER LIP AS WELL AS A CONTUSION ON HIS RIGHT EYE. MR. COOPER ALSO HAD SMALL BRUISES ON THE KNUCKLES OF HIS RIGHT HAND. WHEN PRESSED FOR INFORMATION, MR. COOPER STATED THAT THE BRUISES ON HIS HAND WERE OLD AND APPEARED ANXIOUS TO COVER THEM UP.</p> <p>WHEN ASKED IF HE HAD RETALIATED AT ALL DURING THE ATTACK, MR. COOPER BECAME IRRITATED. HE EXPRESSED NO FURTHER INTERST IN PURSUING THE CHARGES AND DECLINED TO COMMENT FURTHER.</p>					

Exhibit E

Report of Psychological Assessment

Confidential Material

SUBJECT NAME: CHANCE JAMES COOPER
DATE OF BIRTH: 11-22-1989
CHRONOLOGICAL AGE: 19 years, 3 months
ASSESSMENT DATE: 3-17-2009
REPORT DATE: 3-22-2009

IDENTIFYING DATA AND REASON FOR REFERRAL

Subject is a 19 year and 3 month old caucasian adult male, who was referred for psychological assessment to determine his cognitive and emotional status. Chance has a history of problems with paranoia and anger in the work place. Assessment was recommended after observation and arrest due to a drug related charge. Contributing factors include a history of truancy and violence during school.

TEST TYPES USED IN ASSESSMENT

Hare Psychopathy Checklist
Newcastle Personality Assessor (NPA)
Revised NEO Personality Inventory
DASS (Psychology)
Beck Depression Inventory

ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Test results indicate that Chance suffers from disorders resulting in chronic depression as well as paranoia. This depressive disorder, known as Psychotic Depression, manifests itself with the typical symptoms of depression (sadness, low self worth, irritability, etc.) but also can include things such as hallucinations, or in Chance's case, paranoia. Chance's behavior and substance abuse as a form of self medication is typical for anyone experiencing this and other depressive disorders. Conversations with Chance reveal that he has not "felt right" from a young age but was unsure what to do to fix the problems he was experiencing. Causation is most likely a chemical imbalance in the brain preventing the uptake of serotonin. This assessor believes that Chance does not have a very severe case of Psychotic Depression, though treatment will be required to maintain a healthy life style. This type of condition is easily treatable and this assessor feels with proper medication, Chance should have no problems becoming a mature and well adjusted community member.

Exhibit F

Photo to be provided of two sets of footprints approaching a tree, with one set leading away.

The Sienna Heights Chronicle

January 20, 2016

Local Police Wrap up Investigation

By Bart Cross

In one of the fastest investigations in the history of Ingham County, investigators said yesterday that they have found the reason why a local young man killed a 10 year old girl he was babysitting, and then took his own life. An autopsy performed yesterday in Ingham County confirmed that the incident was a murder-suicide. Sergeant Charlie Allen, with the Sienna Heights Police Department, said that Candace Taylor died after Chance Cooper slashed the girl's neck with a kitchen knife, and stabbed her multiple times. The knife was found near the girl, who was lying on her mother's bed, in the first floor bedroom.



Mr. Cooper then used a rope to hang himself from a tree about 150 yards behind the girl's home, where he had been living. The investigation revealed a history of mental health problems and a domestic violence charge for Mr. Cooper. Sergeant Allen said an autopsy did not show obvious signs of physical or sexual abuse on the girl's body.

A rescue call was placed to the Sienna Heights police on January 18. The girl who was sleeping on the second floor told police she slept soundly through the night and did not hear or see anything.

Sergeant Allen said that Mr. Cooper, who had been working at the same fast food restaurant as the girl's mother, Taylor McDouglas, had been babysitting the girls for about the last six weeks. In exchange, he was staying at the family's home. Mr. Cooper and Ms. McDouglas were not dating, she said. Sergeant Allen expressed sympathy for the girl's family, and commented on the importance of treating mental illnesses.

When asked how the investigation had been concluded so quickly officials declined to give a comment.