

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
 OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER
 850 R.S. Gass Blvd., Nashville TN 37216-2640
 (615) 743-1800
 REPORT OF INVESTIGATION BY COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER

MEC 2008-0658

State Number: 08-79-0619

DECEDENT: CeMario Dotson

RACE: Black SEX: Male AGE: 4 Years
 HOME ADDRESS: 722 Lester Street ; Memphis, TN

MARITAL STATUS:

OCCUPATION: DATE OF BIRTH: 06/09/2003

TYPE OF DEATH: Apparent Natural/Unattended Motor Vehicle Cremation: N
 Casualty Other
 Homicide/Suspected Homicide Suddenly when in apparent health
 In Prison Suicide

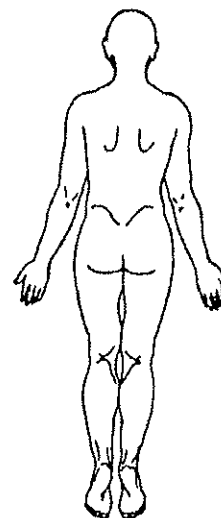
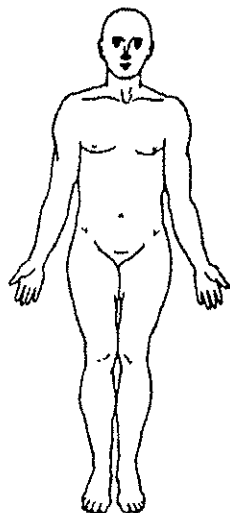
COMMENT: Homicide victim-GSW (victim #6 of 6)

AGENCY INVESTIGATOR AND COMPLAINT #: City Police Dept. 0803001328ME

DESCRIPTION OF BODY: Clothed Unclothed Partly Clothed Circumcised?

Eyes: Hair: Mustache: Beard:
 Weight: (Lbs.) Length: (In.) Body Temp:
 Rigor? Livor Color: Full Fixed?

Marks & Wounds



Probable Cause of Death	Manner of Death	Disposition Of Case
Blunt and sharp force injuries	<input type="checkbox"/> Accident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homicide <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide Cremation Approved: N	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural <input type="checkbox"/> Could Not Be Determined <input type="checkbox"/> Pending Investigation Medical Examiner Jurisdiction: Accepted Autopsy Ordered: Autopsy Toxicology: Y Responsible for Death Certificate: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Examiner <input type="checkbox"/> Other Physician Funeral Home: M.J. Edwards F.H., White Chapel

I hereby declare that after receiving notice of death described herein, I took charge of the body and made inquiries regarding the cause of death in accordance with Section 38-7-101-117 Tennessee Code Annotated and that the information contained herein regarding such death is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

June 24, 2008
 Date

Shelby
 County of Appointment

Signature of County Medical Examiner

	Last Seen Alive	Injury or Illness	Death	Discovery	Medical Examiner Notified	View of Body	Police Notified
Date		Unknown	03/04/2008	03/03/2008	03/03/2008	03/04/2008	03/03/2008
Time		Unknown	01:37 AM	06:08 PM	11:14 PM	08:30 AM	05:51 PM

	Location	City or County	Type of Premises (hospital, hotel, highway, etc.)
Injury or onset of illness	722 Lester Street	Memphis, TN	House
Death	722 Lester Street	Memphis	House
Viewing of body by Medical Examiner	1060 Madison Ave	Memphis	M. E. Office

MEDICAL ATTENTION AND HOSPITAL, INSTITUTIONAL CARE OR HOME HEALTH CARE

Name of Physician or Institution	Address	Diagnoses	Dates
			-

(35) CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH

	Name	Address
Found Dead By	Memphis Police Officers (car #542D)	
Last Seen Alive By		
Witness to Injury or Illness		
Witness to Death	Inv Lewis Crider	1060 Madison Avenue (Regional Forensic Center); Memphis, TN 38104
Next of Kin	Ida Anderson (Grandmother)	

(36) NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING DEATH

Reportedly this 5 y.o. B/M was found in a residence located at 722 Lester Street with five other individuals who had apparently been killed by others. The victim was discovered by Memphis Police Officers while performing a welfare check at the residence. Memphis Police were contacted by friends of the victims' when they had not been heard from in several days. Memphis Police Homicide Lt Toney Armstrong contacted Investigator Crider who accepted jurisdiction for the Medical Examiner's Office and responded to the scene with Investigator Acerra and Dr. Chancellor. After a brief examination Investigator Crider pronounced the victim deceased at 2354 hours. The decedent and the scene were photographed by Investigator Acerra. The decedent had several open wounds on his person. The decedent's body was transported to the Regional Forensic Center by MTRS for further examination, positive identification and disposition to the funeral home.
 Lewis Crider, Investigator
 03/04/08

Office of the Shelby County Medical Examiner
Regional Forensic Center
1060 Madison Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee 38104-2106
Telephone (901) 544-7200 Fax (901) 544-7211

REPORT OF AUTOPSY EXAMINATION

CASE NUMBER: 2008-0658

DECEDENT: CeMario Dotson

AGE: 4 Years

RACE: Black

SEX: Male

Authorized by: Karen E. Chancellor, M.D.

Received from: Shelby County

Date of Autopsy Examination: March 4, 2008

Time: 1500 hours

Body Identified by: DNA analysis

Persons present at autopsy: Ms. LaQuita Woods

PATHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS

- I. Blunt trauma to the head:
 - A. Lacerations and contusion.
 - B. Multiple linear, depressed fractures involving the calvarium and basilar skull.
 - C. Deep scalp hemorrhage.
 - D. Multiple contusions to brain and subarachnoid hemorrhage.
- II. Incisions to head, neck and right hand.
- III. Stab wound to chest:
 - A. Incision to left lung.
 - B. Perforation to diaphragm, stomach and spleen.
 - C. Incision to liver.
 - D. Hemoperitoneum and food particles present in the abdomen.
- IV. Contusion and abrasions to left upper extremity.

CAUSE OF DEATH:


Blunt and sharp force injuries

The facts stated herein are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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Case Number: 2008-0658

Decedent: CeMario Dotson

 6/24/2008
Miguel A. Laboy, M.D., Pathologist Date

CLOTHING:

The body is received clothed in brown, white and blue striped shirt, a blue under shirt, white boxer underwear with Spider-Man designs, blue jeans, and a pair of white socks.

The hands are enclosed in with paper bags. Dry blood stain is present on the front and back of the shirt. An oblique defect with sharp edges lies in the front left shirt. No defects are present on the back of the shirts. Dry blood stain is present on the upper front portion of the underwear and jeans. A rubber band lies around the hair. The clothing is collected and released to Sergeant T. Mullins of Memphis Police Department.

THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTION:

None.

IDENTIFYING FEATURES:

The body is that of a well-developed, well-nourished, black male child who measures 42 ½ inches in length, weighs 41.5 pounds, and appears consistent with the stated age of 4 years. The scalp is covered with black curly hair (dreadlocks like), measuring 5 inches in length. The irides are brown. The teeth are natural and in good condition. The head circumference is 21 inches (53 cm). The chest circumference is 21 inches (53 cm). The abdominal circumference is 18 ½ inches (47 cm). The crown to rump is 23 inches (58.5 cm). The foot length is 6 ¼ inches (16 cm). The penis is circumcised. The testes are descended. Multiple scars lie in the anterior legs. A small hiperpigmented area consistent with a birthmark lies in the right midback.

EXTERNAL POSTMORTEM CHANGES:

Rigor mortis is absent. Livor mortis is not seen against darkly pigmented skin. Green discoloration lies over the abdomen. The corneas are slightly cloudy. Skin slippage is present in both ears. "Tache noire" is present in the left sclera.

SPECIFIC EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

Blunt and sharp force injuries are present in the body and these will be described in greater detail subsequently.

The head reveals no additional findings. The left conjunctiva reveals no petechiae. A few petechiae are present in the inferior right sclera and inferior right eyelid. The right ear canal reveals no abnormal fluids accumulation.

The neck and right upper extremity reveal no additional findings. A ¼ inch in diameter wart lies in the anterior left hand.

The chest and back reveal no additional findings.

The abdomen, external genitalia and anus are atraumatic.

The lower extremities reveal no evidence of trauma.

X-RAY EXAMINATION:

Radiographs including the head, chest, and abdomen reveal no radio opaque densities.

BLUNT TRAUMA:

A ¼ inch in diameter abrasion lies in the lateral left neck, slightly inferior to the incision. A 1/8 inch in diameter abrasion lies in the anterior right hand. A ¾ inch in length, oblique abrasion lies in the lateral distal left arm. An incision to the abrasion reveals hemorrhage to the subcutaneous adipose soft tissue. A ½ inch in diameter abrasion lies in the anterior lateral proximal left forearm. A ¾ x 3/8 inch contusion lies in the anterior proximal left forearm. An incision to the contusion in the left forearm reveals hemorrhage to the subcutaneous adipose tissue.

Blunt trauma to head:

A 3/8 x 3/16 inch partial thickness laceration lies in the posterior left parietal scalp. Three oblique parallel arranged linear abrasions, measuring 1 ¼ x 5/16 inch in aggregate with a 1/8 inch separation between each, lie above the partial thickness laceration. Two abrasions, ¼ inch in diameter and 1 x ¼ inch, lie in the posterior left occipital scalp, slightly inferior to the laceration. Depressed fractures are palpated in the superior and posterior head. Multiple abrasions, ¾ inch in aggregate, lie in the right forehead. A ¾ x ¼ inch abrasion lies in the lateral right face, slightly lateral to the right eyebrow. Dry blood is present on the left side of the face coming from the left ear and the nares. A 5 x 3 inch red contusion lies in the left forehead.

Hemorrhage lies throughout the entire deep scalp. Multiple linear fractures are present throughout the calvarium extending from the posterior left parietal-occipital bone (with fragmentation). Multiple basilar linear skull fractures are present extending from left parietal bone. There is no epidural or subdural hemorrhage. The 1247 gram brain reveals subarachnoid hemorrhage with contusions involving the following lobes; superior right and left parietal, lateral

right temporal, left occipital and base of the temporal lobes. The brain is swollen. Serial coronal sections of the brain reveal hemorrhage in the gray matter, at the contusions. The arteries at the base of the brain are pliable and patent.

SHARP FORCE INJURIES:

A $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in length, horizontal incision lies in the left temporal scalp, slightly superior to the left ear.

A $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length, superficial horizontal incision lies in the anterior superior right neck. A $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, horizontal incision lies in the anterior superior neck, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in depth. The incision exposes the thyroid cartilage and left anterior strap muscle without incisions to the major vessels. The incision reveals hemorrhage to the soft tissue.

A $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in length, oblique incision lies in the anteromedial distal right ring finger.

Stab wound to chest:

A $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in length entrance stab wound lies in the left chest $29\frac{1}{2}$ inches superior to the left heel, $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches left of the anterior midline and $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches inferior to the right nipple. Crepitus is present around the entry defect. The stab wound is oriented from 1 to 7 o'clock with both edges pointed. No guard abrasion is present.

The wound tract passes from front to back, slightly left to right and slightly downward. It perforates the left chest cavity. It exits at the left back 29 inches superior to the left heel and $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches left to the posterior midline. The $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter defect is oriented from 11 to 5 o'clock with both edges pointed. The distance between the entry and exit stab wound before the cavity was open is $4\frac{1}{4}$ inch in length.

It perforates the left chest cavity at the intercostal space between the anterior lateral left ribs 5th and 6th, incises the inferior aspect of the upper lobe of the left lung and the inferior aspect of the lower lobe, perforates the diaphragm, perforates the stomach, incises the lateral aspect of the left lobe of the liver, perforates the spleen and exits the left chest cavity with incision to the lower edge of the 10th posterior left rib. The rib is collected and retained. A segment of stomach is herniated into the left chest cavity throughout the defect in the diaphragm. No blood is present in the left chest cavity. There is a scant amount of partially digested food and blood in the abdominal cavity.

OTHER INTERNAL EXAMINATION:

Neck:

A layer by layer anterior neck dissection reveals minimal hemorrhage involving the strap muscle at the incision previously described. There is no evidence of trauma to the hyoid bone, the laryngeal cartilage or the cervical vertebral column. The trachea shows clear mucus. No obstructions or trauma are identified. The thyroid gland has a pink parenchyma, without nodules.

Thymus:

The 42 gram thymus reveals a pale tan parenchyma.

Chest & Abdomen:

The linings of the pericardial and right pleural spaces are smooth, and these body cavities do not reveal blood or excess fluid.

Cardiovascular System:

The 75 gram heart has a smooth epicardial surface. The coronary arteries arise normally and follow a normal distribution. The coronary arteries are patent. The cardiac chamber size and wall thicknesses are within normal limits. The atrial and ventricular septa are intact. The ventricular myocardium is uniformly pale brown, without infarcts or trauma. The valve cusps and leaflets are thin and mobile, without abnormalities. The aorta and the inferior vena cava are patent.

Respiratory Tract:

The 109 gram right lung and 86 gram left lung are spongy with injuries previously described to the left lung. The tracheobronchial tree and the pulmonary vessels are patent.

Gastrointestinal Tract:

The tongue, esophagus, stomach, and small and large intestines are free of masses or evidence of obstruction. The appendix is unremarkable. The stomach contains 61 grams of partially digested food that appears to be vegetable with tan particles. The stomach reveals perforations previously described. The gastric and duodenal mucosae are free of ulcers or erosions.

Liver & Gallbladder:

The 475 gram liver has a smooth capsule and pale brown parenchyma, with injury previously described. The portal vein, hepatic artery and hepatic veins are

patent. The gallbladder contains approximately 2 cc of green bile, and no gallstones. The extrahepatic bile ducts are patent.

Spleen:

The 36 gram spleen has a smooth capsule and pale purple parenchyma, with injury previously described.

Pancreas:

The pancreas has a lobulated tan parenchyma, without evidence of trauma.

Adrenal Glands:

The adrenal glands have thin yellow cortices and gray medullae, without hemorrhage.

Urinary Tract:

The 41 gram right kidney and 39 gram left kidney have smooth capsules that strip with ease. The parenchyma is pale brown and unremarkable. The calyces, pelves, and ureters are patent and non-dilated. The urinary bladder has a normal configuration and contains no urine. The bladder mucosa is unremarkable.

Reproductive System:

The prostate gland has a rubbery tan-white parenchyma, without nodules. The seminal vesicles are unremarkable. The testes have a tan parenchyma without evidence of trauma.

Musculoskeletal System:

The musculature is normally developed. The bony consistency is normal. The spine and pelvic bones are free of fracture.

OTHER PROCEDURES:

1. Specimens retained for toxicology.
2. Portions of tissue retained in 10% formalin.
3. Autopsy photographs.

4. GSR kit, fingernail clippings, pulled hair from head and sex assault kit are obtained and retained for law enforcement released to Sergeant T. Mullins of Memphis Police Department on March 7, 2008.

SUMMARY AND INTERPRETATION:

This child was reportedly found in a residency with 5 other individuals who apparently had been killed by other(s). (See companion cases 2008-0653, 2008-0654, 2008-0655, 2008-0656, and 2008-0657)

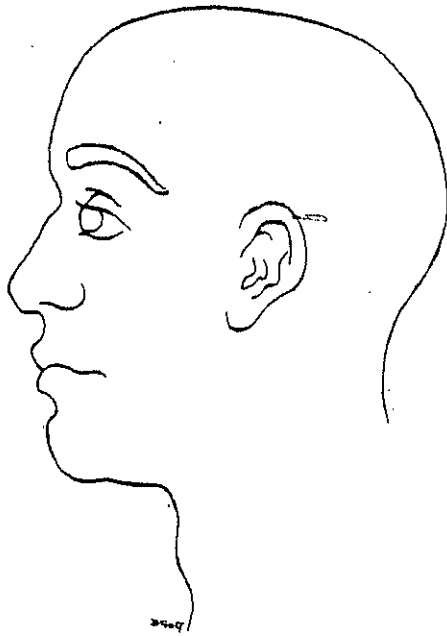
At postmortem examination, there is evidence of blunt and sharp force injuries involving the following: trauma to head with laceration, incisions, contusions, linear depressed fractures to skull and contusions to brain. There is a stab wound to the chest and contusions and abrasions to the left upper extremity. Internal examination reveals perforations to the diaphragm, stomach, spleen, incision to the left lung and liver. There is an incision to the left rib. The abdomen reveals scant amount of blood and food particles.

In my opinion, this death resulted from blunt and sharp force injuries. The manner of death is homicide.

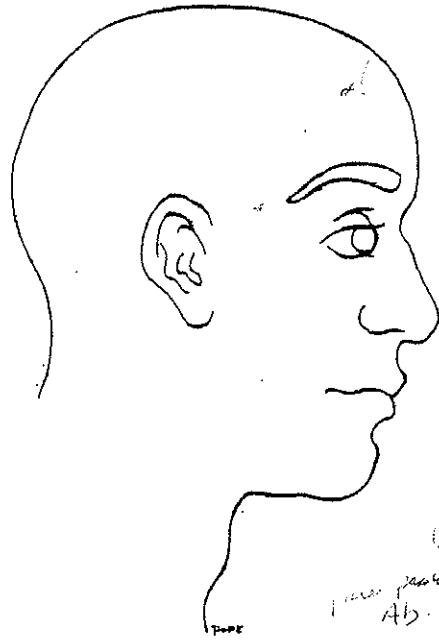
MAL/mp

VIEWS OF THE HEAD

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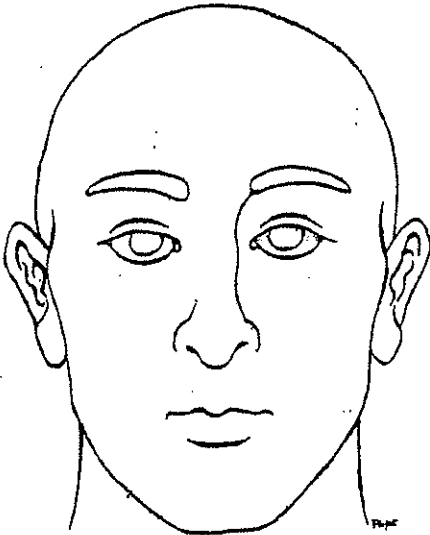


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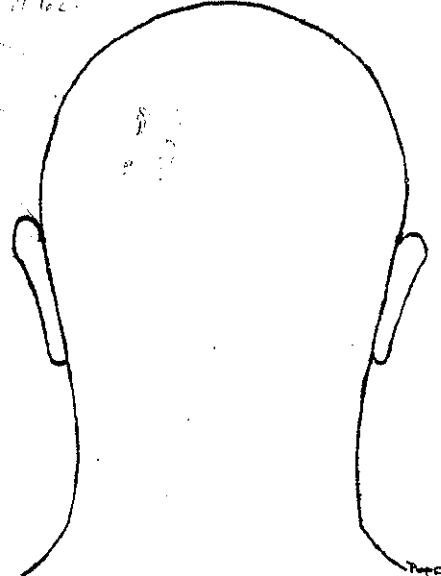
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Handwritten notes: 1/27/07 1126
approximate
1/27/07 1126
1/27/07 1126

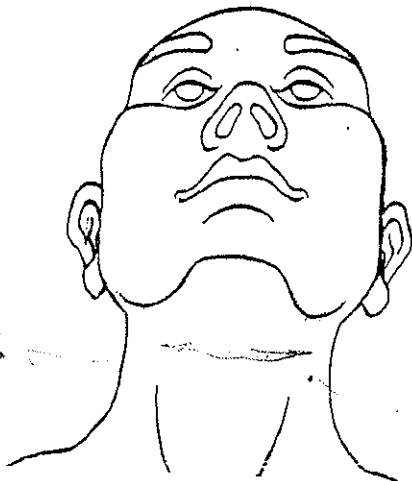


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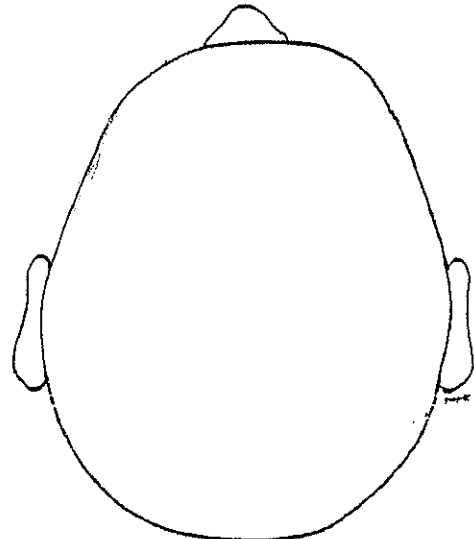


Handwritten notes: 1/27/07 1126
formed head
palpable front



Handwritten notes: 1/27/07 1126

Handwritten notes: 1/27/07 1126
1/27/07 1126
1/27/07 1126



MEC#2008-0658
Unk. B/M
03/04/2008

AEGIS

SCIENCES CORPORATION

345 Hill Avenue Nashville, TN 37210
Ph: (615) 255-2400 Fax: (615)255-3030 Web: www.aegislabs.com

Client: 3733 - Forensic Medical - Memphis
Report To: Dr. Laboy
Forensic Medical - Memphis
1060 Madison Ave
Memphis, TN 38104

Case ID: 2008-0658 *CeMario Dotson*
Laboratory ID: 4371208
Collected: 03/04/08 00:00
Received: 03/11/08 11:38
Completed: 03/14/08 14:57
Reported: 03/17/08 12:04

Reason: Post-mortem
Specimen Type: Heart Blood

Test(s) Ordered: 40610 - ME Targeted Toxicology Profile

<u>Drug Class</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Quantitation</u>	<u>Reporting Threshold</u>
Alcohol - Volatiles	NEGATIVE		
Acetaminophen	NONE DETECTED		10 mg/dL
Amphetamines	NONE DETECTED		10 mcg/mL
Barbiturates	NONE DETECTED		50 ng/mL
Benzodiazepines	NONE DETECTED		1.1 ng/mL
Cannabinoids (Marijuana)	NONE DETECTED		25 ng/mL
Cocaine Metabolite	NONE DETECTED		1 ng/mL
Opiates	NONE DETECTED		10 ng/mL
Methadone	NONE DETECTED		100 ng/mL
Meperidine	NONE DETECTED		50 ng/mL
Propoxyphene	NONE DETECTED		100 ng/mL
Fentanyl Analogues	NONE DETECTED		100 ng/mL
Meprobamate	NONE DETECTED		1 ng/mL
Salicylate	NONE DETECTED		200 ng/mL
Tricyclic Antidepressants	NONE DETECTED		50 mcg/mL
			50 ng/mL

I certify that the specimen identified by this accession number has been handled and analyzed in accordance with all applicable requirements.

Certified by:
Date:

Paige Long

PAIGE LONG

END OF REPORT

MAR 19 2008

MAR 21 2008

BY: *K. Jones*

MAL 4/4/08

AEGIS

SCIENCES CORPORATION
345 Hill Avenue Nashville, TN 37210
Ph: (615) 255-2400 Fax: (615)255-3030 Web: www.aegislabs.com

Client:	3733 - Forensic Medical - Memphis	Case ID:	2008-0658
Report To:	Dr. Laboy	Laboratory ID:	4371209
	Forensic Medical - Memphis	Collected:	03/04/08 00:00
	1060 Madison Ave	Received:	03/11/08 11:38
	Memphis, TN 38104	Completed:	03/11/08 11:39
Reason:	Post-mortem	Reported:	03/17/08 12:04
Specimen Type:	Liver		

Test(s) Ordered: 49999 - Sample Received

<u>Drug Class</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Quantitation</u>	<u>Reporting Threshold</u>
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Testing not requested or indicated.

Testing not requested or indicated.

I certify that the specimen identified by this accession number has been handled and analyzed in accordance with all applicable requirements.

Certified by: 

PAIGE LONG

END OF REPORT

MAR 19 2008