

Lack of Investigation by Dr. Plunkett, Dakota County Coroner

SCOTT/DAKOTA/CHISAGO COUNTY CORONER
Investigative Report

Case No. DC86-327
Morgue No. _____
S. S. No. _____

Jurisdiction Yes _____
No XX

Call Rec'd By Plunkett Date December 10, 1986 Time 10 AM

Reported by Ken Reichstadt, Dakota County Social Services

Investigator Notified Plunkett Time 10 am

Deceased JANE DOROTHY DUCHENE DOB 5/21/18 Age 58 Sex F Race C

Address Wedgewood Health Care Center, 2060 Upper 55th St E., IGH, MN 550
(street address, city, village, town, state) Phone 451-1881

Place of Death Same as above
(street address, city, village, town, state)

Death Occurred 11/19/86 or Fd. _____ Time of Death 4:10 am or Fd. _____
(date) (time)

In presence of/Found by Nursing Home Staff
(specify) (name, address, relationship)

Identified by Same as above
(fingerprints, x-ray, dental records, name, address, phone)

Next of Kin Mary Jane Duchene, Finsensvej 36 D, 1th Flat 28, Fredricksburg, 200
(full name) (address) (phone) Copenhagen, Denmark

Relationship Daughter Notified by N.H. Staff Time Unknown

Residence left in care of N.H. Staff Valuables — Brought in N.A. Released N.A.

Doctors/Hospitals Victor Corbett, M.D.
(name, address, phone #)

Death Weapon N.A. Bullets _____
(type - e.g. revolver, pistol, rifle, knife, spear, etc.) (if fire, specify caliber)

Incident N.A. At Work _____ Location _____
(date, time, date) (street, city, village, township, county, state)

Synopsis Natural death of a woman with a right pleural/parenchymal adenocarcinoma.
(state, truck, driver, passenger, fall, etc.)

CAUSE OF DEATH (Classification: Natural, Accidents, Homicide, Suicide, Undetermined)

20A: _____ 20C: _____
20B: _____ 20D: _____

Toxicology # NONE Tax. requested NONE

Autopsy — Yes X No _____ External Exam only _____ By Plunkett (private) Date 11-22-86

X-rays NONE Letter to family _____
(specify - skull, spine, etc.)

Scene Visit — Yes _____ Time _____; No XX Time Released N.A. Photos Scene NO Morgue NO

Police Dept. NONE Officers NONE

Mortuary Southern/West Phone # 451-1551 Notified re: D.C. by N.A.

Address _____

EXHIBIT C

EXHIBIT C 20-28

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I received a call from Ken Reichstadt regarding the death of Jane Dorothy Duchene. Reichstadt stated that Mrs. Duchene's daughter, Mary Jane Duchene, is alledging inappropriate care for her mother while she was at the nursing home. She is concerned that the care may have contributed to her death, and Reichstadt asked if I would review the nursing home records. I explained to him that I have ~~already done~~ a "private" autopsy on Mrs. Duchene at the daughter's request, but did not feel that this was a conflict of interest since the next of kin were now alledging abuse. I agreed to review the records. A copy of the autopsy, my return letter to Mr. Reichstadt and pertinent Wedgewood Health Care Center records will be kept with this investigative report.

JP

July 8, 1988: I received a call from Barry Reed, who is now representing Mr. Duchene, this morning and on Wednesday, July 6, 1988. I agreed to re-review the records during the July 6 conversation re: withholding insulin as a contributing cause of death. On July 7, 1988 I received a copy of letter sent to the West Funeral Home (enclosed). I told Mr. Reed this meaning that I considered the letter harassment & would have nothing further to add to their case except by subpoena and for retention.

W.D. Plunkett

August 3, 1988: I received a call from Dave Benke, Minnesota Department of Health / Anthony Guinice (123-579), who has apparently received a complaint re: embalming prior to the autopsy. I discussed the case with him

EXHIBIT 4

W.D. Plunkett

March 23, 1994: See attached letter to Mrs. Mary 39

EXHIBIT D