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Date of Autopsy: February 25, 2007  
Case #: 07-022-NC  
Nye County Event #: 07-0700

### AUTOPSY REPORT

PATHOLOGIC EXAMINATION ON THE BODY

OF

**HOWARD JAMES JOSEPH YOUNGQUEST II**  
(November 27, 1948 – February 24, 2007 at 2302 hours)

### DIAGNOSES

1. Hepatic Steatosis, fatty liver.
2. Pulmonary congestion and edema.
3. Cardiomegaly, 406 grams.
4. Edematous epiglottis without occlusion
5. Chronic alcoholism, clinically.

### OPINION

**CAUSE OF DEATH:** The death of this 58-year-old male, Howard Youngquest, is due to fatty liver due to chronic alcoholism.

**MANNER OF DEATH:** Natural

*Rexene Worrell M.D.*

Rexene Worrell, MD  
Medical Examiner/Deputy Coroner  
Nye County Sheriff's Department

RW/gmc/jmm

**Original Report**  
Signed 4/3/07



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**AUTOPSY:** The autopsy is performed by Rexene Worrell, MD, Medical Examiner, Deputy Coroner, Nye County Sheriff's Department, at 1000 hours, February 25, 2007. The autopsy is performed at Pahrump Family Mortuary. Present at the autopsy is Ryan Mayo, Technician.

**EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:**

The body is received clothed in a maroon polo shirt, brown belt, blue jeans, white women's panties and gray wool socks. Also received is a set of keys on a keychain with a small knife, a metal toothpick and nailclippers. These are attached to his belt by a metal clip. No other personal items are received with the body.

The body is that of an adult White male weighing approximately 160 pounds, measuring 5 feet 10 inches and appearing between the age of 50 and 60 years.

The refrigerated body is cold to touch. There is no evidence of rigor mortis. Postmortem lividity is well developed over the anterior dependent portions of the body consistent with the position in which the body was found.

The hair is short and gray-brown with a receding hairline, nearly a male balding pattern. The eyes are open. The irides are blue. The corneas are cloudy. The sclerae and conjunctivae are markedly congested. The skeleton of the nose is intact. The earlobes show slight creasing. Hair is present in the auricular canals. The face is unshaven. The tongue is clenched between the teeth. A bloody decomposition fluid exudes from the mouth. The lips show drying artifact. The teeth are natural and in poor repair. The trachea is midline. The skin of the neck is intact. The cervical spine is freely movable.

The chest is symmetric. Hair is present over the chest and abdomen. The costal margins are prominent. The abdomen is flat. The external genitalia are those of a normal adult male, circumcised. The scrotum shows drying artifact. There is no trauma noted about the external genitalia.

The back and buttocks are without special note.

The upper extremities are symmetric. The fingernails are short and dirty. Skin slippage is present on both upper extremities.

The lower extremities are symmetric. Hair is present over the lower extremities. The soles of the feet are clean. The toenails are short, thickened, yellow discolored and dirty.



**EVIDENCE OF EXTERNAL INJURY:**

1. On the back of the right wrist, there is a healing abrasion, less than 0.1 inch.
2. On the back of the left wrist, there is a healing abrasion, 0.1 x 0.1 inch.
3. On the medial aspect of the right lower leg, there is a healing abrasion, 0.2 x 0.1 inch.

There are no other injuries noted to the body.

**INTERNAL EXAMINATION:**

**BODY CAVITIES:** The body is entered by a Y-shaped incision. The head is entered by an intermastoid incision. The ribs and soft tissues of the chest appear normal. There are no masses, fractures or hemorrhages. All the organs are present in their usual anatomic positions and maintain their usual anatomic relationships. The expected amount of serous fluid is present in pericardial, parietal and peritoneal cavities. The peritoneal surfaces of the body cavities are smooth, glistening and without adhesions. There are no abnormal fluid collections or unusual color changes.

**NECK ORGANS:** The tongue shows no external injury and on serial sectioning is unremarkable. The epiglottis is markedly enlarged and edematous extending to the piriform recess. The tissue about the true vocal cords is also edematous; however this does not occlude the upper airways.

The suprahyoid and infrahyoid muscles of the neck show no evidence of antemortem hemorrhage. The hyoid bone is intact. The synchondroses of the hyoid bone are fused and intact. The greater horns of the hyoid bone show no hemorrhage or fracture.

The thyroid cartilage is dissected. The superior horns show no evidence of fracture or hemorrhage.

The cricoid cartilage is intact and without areas of hemorrhage. The cricothyroid membrane shows no evidence of hemorrhage.

**RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:** The right lung weighs 503 grams. The left lung weighs 565 grams. The pleural surfaces are translucent, glistening and smooth. The laryngeal mucosa is tan and smooth. There are no foreign objects in the upper or lower airways. The trachea and bronchi are red stained due to decomposition. The lungs are pink-tan throughout and well aerated. On cut section the pulmonary parenchyma is without special note except for slight congestion in the posterior aspects. No thromboemboli are present in the pulmonary arteries. Anthracotic pigment is scantily present throughout all lobes.



**CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:** The heart weighs 406 grams. The aorta is normally developed and gives rise to the expected vessels. The venae cavae are unremarkable. The pericardial sac lining is smooth and glistening. The epicardial surface is smooth and unremarkable. The coronary arteries pursue their usual anatomic course and show no atherosclerotic changes. On opening the heart, the valves of the heart and great vessels are without special note. The aortic valve measures 8.2 centimeters; mitral valve, 12.2; pulmonary valve, 9.2 centimeters; atrioventricular valve, 13.8 centimeters. On cut section the myocardium shows no pathologic change. The left ventricular wall measures 1.2 centimeters; the right ventricular wall measures 0.3 centimeters. The proximal and distal aorta shows no atherosclerotic changes.

**HEPATOBIILIARY SYSTEM:** The liver weighs 2267 grams and has the normal lobulations. The liver is yellow with a smooth surface and sharp margins. On cut section, the hepatic parenchyma is markedly yellow. No lesions or masses are noted. The gallbladder and biliary tract pursue their usual anatomic course, and show no pathology change. The gallbladder contains 80 cc of dark green bile. No stones are identified within the lumen or ducts.

**HEMOLYMPHATIC SYSTEM:** The spleen weighs 82 grams. The spleen is gray with a wrinkled capsule. On cut section, the splenic parenchyma is markedly pale and is otherwise unremarkable. No lymphadenopathy is noted.

**GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM:** The esophagus is without special note. The stomach contains 60 cc of dark green liquid material. The gastric mucosa shows flattened rugal folds with prominent vasculature markings. The duodenum, small and large intestines are without special note. Stool is present throughout the entire intestinal system. The appendix is present and without special note.

**GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:** The right kidney weighs 138 grams. The left kidney weighs 152 grams. The kidneys are pale tan with smooth surfaces. The capsules strip with ease. On cut section, the renal parenchyma is markedly pale. The corticomedullary junction is sharply demarcated. The renal pelves, ureters and urinary bladder are without special note. The urinary bladder contains 300 cc of clear yellow urine.

**ENDOCRINE SYSTEM:** The pituitary gland is the expected size and shape and is without special note. The adrenal glands are unremarkable. The thyroid gland appears as expected. On cut section the thyroid parenchyma has the normal beefy red appearance. No nodules or lesions are noted. The pancreas is firm, tan and has the expected lobular cut surface. No lesions are identified.

**MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM:** The musculature of the body is normally developed for the decedent's age and is otherwise without special note. The skeleton system is intact to total body palpation.

**CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM:** The scalp displays no laceration or hematomas. On reflecting the scalp, there is no subgaleal hemorrhage. The skull is intact. On entering the cranial cavity, there is no evidence of hemorrhage; specifically, there are no subdural or epidural hematomas. The leptomeninges are clouded but not purulent. The dura is soft and pliable and shows no recent or remote hemorrhage. The brain weighs 1439 grams. Serial sections of the brain show no pathologic change. Fluid blood is noted in the dural sinuses. The inferior aspect of the frontal lobe extending to the right and left of midline shows a 6.0 x 4.5 centimeter slightly depressed yellow softened area consistent with remote injury. The vessels at the base of the brain are without special note. Internal palpation of the neck is without hypermobility or dislocation.

**DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE:**

1. Samples of vitreous humor and blood are retained for toxicology.
2. A DNA card is retained for documentation.
3. Fingerprints are taken and turned over to the representative of the Nye County Sheriff's Department.
4. Tissue sections are retained for histology.
5. Digital images are retained for documentation.