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OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER OF HARRIS COUNTY  
JOSEPH A. JACHIMCZYK FORENSIC CENTER  
1885 OLD SPANISH TRAIL  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77054-2098

AUTOPSY REPORT

Case 97 - 4749

June 30, 1997

ON THE BODY OF

Earl Bernard Perry  
4121 Wipprecht Street  
Houston, Texas

CAUSE OF DEATH: Gunshot wound to the back.

MANNER OF DEATH: Homicide.

Patricia J. Moore D.O. 7/23/97  
Patricia J. Moore, D.O. Date  
Associate Medical Examiner

Tommy J. Brown 7/23/97  
Tommy J. Brown, D.O. Date  
Assistant Medical Examiner

## POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION ON THE BODY OF

Earl Bernard Perry  
4121 Wipprecht Street  
Houston, Texas

**HISTORY:** This 28 year old, black male was shot at 3810 Cavalcade, Houston, Texas, and was dead at the scene at 2:48 a.m. on June 30, 1997.

**AUTOPSY:** The autopsy was performed in the Joseph A. Jachimczyk Forensic Center of Harris County by Associate Medical Examiner Patricia J. Moore, D.O., pursuant to Article 49.25, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, beginning at 3:22 p.m., on June 30, 1997.

**CLOTHING:** The decedent was wearing a t-shirt which was covered with a large amount of blood; tan-gray shorts; blue, red, and white, boxer men's undershorts with Tazmanian Devils; white ankle socks; and a pair of white with blue trim tennis shoes. Also accompanying the body was a black baseball cap with the initial "E".

**EXTERNAL APPEARANCE:** The body was that of a well developed, well nourished, black male who measured 81 in length and weighed 256 pounds. There was moderate rigor mortis of the body. The head was symmetrical. The hair was curly and black, measuring 2-1/4 inches in length. The eyes were closed and were covered with gauze. Corneal caps were in place. Per the Lyons Eye Bank, the irides were brown; the pupils were 4 millimeters in diameter, bilaterally; the conjunctivae were not congested; arcus senilis was not present. There was dried and recent blood present on the face. The nose and ears were unremarkable. The left earlobe was pierced once. There was a moustache and a small beard present. The mouth was closed. Natural dentition was present and there was a gold cap with diamonds present in the right central incisor. There was a gold tooth with wavy lines in the left lateral incisor. The neck was symmetrical. There were no scars present. The thorax was mildly protuberant. There were no palpable masses or scars present. The pubic hair was moderate in amount. The penis appeared circumcised. The testes were present within the scrotal sac, bilaterally. The lower extremities were symmetrical. There was a 12 inch, linear, old scar extending from the mid left thigh to the lateral left knee. There was a 1 by 1/2 inch old scar on the back of the right knee. There was another 1-1/4 inch, old scar in the distal left thigh. There were multiple old scars along the knees and along the anterior aspects of the lower legs. There was a gunshot wound to the proximal left 4th toe and an exit wound to the lateral left sole of the 5th digit. This was a through and through gunshot wound. The upper extremities were symmetrical. There was an old scar with the inscription "E" in the right dorsal aspect of the right upper arm. There was a tattoo of a

heart with the inscription "ERICA" in the ventral proximal aspect of the right forearm. There was a tattoo of the word "BIG E" in the lateral left upper arm. This was beneath two scars measuring 3/4 inch and 1/2 inch. There were small scars on the back of the hands and the forearms. There was a 1-1/2 by 1 inch, old contusion in the right dorsal medial aspect of the right upper arm. There were no needle tracks present. There was mild posterior dependent lividity of the back. There was a gunshot wound to the left lateral mid to upper back. There was an entrance gunshot wound to the left lower buttock.

**INTERNAL EXAMINATION:** Section: The chest and abdomen were opened by the usual Y-shaped thoracoabdominal incision. The chest plate was removed. The subcutaneous adipose tissue at the level of the umbilicus measured 1-1/8 inches in maximum thickness. There were 800 milliliters of blood within the left pleural cavity and 1200 milliliters of blood in the right pleural cavity. There was no fluid within the peritoneal cavity. The peritoneal and pleural surfaces were smooth and glistening. The organs were in their usual locations and had normal anatomic relationships to one another.

**HEART:** The heart weighed 450 grams with a mild amount of epicardial adipose tissue. The epicardial surface was tan-pink, smooth, and glistening. The coronary arteries followed a normal distribution and showed mild to focally moderate atherosclerosis of the mid portion of the left anterior descending artery. The cardiac valve leaflets and cusps were normal in number and configuration. There was mild atherosclerosis of the anterior leaflet of the mitral valve and also of the aortic root. The endocardium was tan-pink, smooth, and glistening. The myocardium was red-brown, without focal lesions. There was mild dilatation of the left ventricle. The right and left ventricles were of normal thickness. The interventricular septum was intact and not thickened. The descending aorta and the ascending aorta were opened and showed an irregular, somewhat star-shaped perforation measuring 1 by 1/2 inch just at the level of the aortic arch.

**LUNGS:** The right and left lungs weighed 450 grams and 350 grams, respectively. Opening the major bronchi to the bronchioles revealed them to contain a mild amount of blood. The mucosal surface was mildly congested. There were no thromboemboli within the pulmonary artery or its branches. There was a 1/2 by 1/2 inch perforation with surrounding hemorrhage within the right upper lobe where the bullet had entered. The hemorrhage and contusion in the lung of the right upper lobe of this wound from the gunshot wound measured 1-3/4 by 1-1/2 inches. The pleural surfaces were otherwise pink-tan and the lungs were somewhat hyperinflated. On sectioning, the parenchyma varied from pink-tan and showed foci of hemorrhage throughout each lobe. There was no tumor or infectious process identified. Also, in addition, there was another perforation from the gunshot wound

between the left upper and left lower lobes, penetrating the left upper lobe and measuring 1/2 by 1/2 inch. The surrounding hemorrhage measured 2-1/2 by 1-1/2 inches. There were large areas of hemorrhage in the parenchyma underneath the areas in which the bullet had penetrated the lung.

**LIVER:** The liver weighed 1905 grams. The capsule was gray-brown, smooth, and intact. The gallbladder contained 2 drops of yellow-orange bile. No gallstones were identified. The hepatobiliary ducts were patent.

**Pancreas:** The pancreas weighed 120 grams and was of normal configuration. On sectioning, it revealed pale tan, lobulated parenchyma with no focal lesions.

**Adrenals:** Both adrenals were surrounded by a minimal amount of adipose tissue and weighed in toto 6 grams. The cortex was orange, slightly yellow. The medulla was gray-brown and unremarkable.

**SPLEEN:** The spleen weighed 125 grams. The capsule was gray-purple, smooth, and intact. On sectioning, the parenchyma was red-purple. The white pulp was mildly prominent. There was no tumor, infarction, or hemorrhage identified.

**GENITOURINARY TRACT:** The right and left kidneys weighed 130 grams and 135 grams, respectively. The capsules stripped with ease revealing essentially smooth cortical surfaces with rare cortical scars. On sectioning, the cortex and medulla were well demarcated, without focal lesions. The renal papillae, calyces, and pelves were unremarkable. The ureters were of normal caliber and patent. The urinary bladder contained 500 milliliters of urine. The bladder mucosa was white-tan, smooth, and unremarkable. The prostate was of normal size, shape, and configuration. It had no nodules or other gross lesions on sectioning. Both testes had normal external and cut surfaces.

**GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT:** The esophagus was opened along its length and had tan-pink mucosa. The stomach was opened along the greater curvature and contained approximately 500 milliliters of greens, rice, meat, corn, and other digestate material. The mucosal surface of the stomach was tan-pink. The rugose pattern was maintained. There were no ulcerations or hemorrhages identified. The duodenum, small and large intestines were unremarkable. The appendix was at its usual location of the cecum and was unremarkable both externally and on cut sectioning.

**NECK:** The internal structures of the neck were removed. The proximal esophagus had tan-white mucosa and contained refluxed gastric contents. The larynx was opened and contained a small amount of bloody foam and also some refluxed gastric contents. The hyoid

bone, thyroid cartilage, and cricoid cartilage were intact and had no fractures. The strap muscles were reflected and showed no hemorrhages. The thyroid gland was of usual size, shape and configuration. It was red-brown on sectioning. There were no nodules identified. The tongue had no areas of fibrosis or hemorrhage on sectioning.

**HEAD:** The scalp was reflected in the usual manner. There were no subscalp hemorrhages. The calvarium was removed and had no fractures. There were no epidural, subdural, or subarachnoid hemorrhages. The brain weighed 1500 grams. The vessels at the base of the brain had a normal anatomic distribution and no atherosclerosis. The cranial nerves were intact and were unremarkable. The cerebral hemispheres were coronally sectioned. The ventricles were of relative normal size. The basal ganglia were unremarkable. The gray and white matter were well demarcated with no focal lesions. There was no intracerebral hemorrhage. The cerebellum and brain stem were serially sectioned. There were no focal lesions. The base of the skull was intact and had no fractures. There were no neck fractures.

**DESCRIPTION OF INJURIES:** There was an entrance gunshot wound of the lateral left mid back area located 17 inches below the top of the head and 8-1/2 inches to the left of midline. The entrance wound measured 1/4 by 3/16 inch and had a slant abrasion at the 7 o'clock position. There was no soot or stippling around the entrance wound. The bullet traveled in a posterior to anterior, left to right, and upward direction. The bullet entered the left hemithorax at the 5th left posterolateral intercostal space, went through the upper lobe of the left lung, the arch of the aorta, and the apical area of the right upper lung, fractured the 1st and 2nd anterior right ribs, and was recovered in the soft tissue beneath the lateral right clavicle. A medium to large caliber, lead bullet was recovered and the initial "X" was placed on its base.

There was another entrance gunshot wound in the left lower buttock, located 42 inches below the top of the head and 3-3/4 inches to the left of midline. The entrance wound measured 3/4 by 1/2 inch. There was no soot or stippling about the entrance wound. The bullet traveled in a posterior to anterior, left to right, and sharply upward direction. A flattened, jacketed bullet was recovered with a smaller lead fragment from the deep muscle of the left mid buttock area, adjacent to the ileum. The initial "X" was placed on the bullet.

There was an entrance gunshot wound through the base of the left 4th toe that measured 1/4 by 3/8 inch. The bullet went sharply downward, right to left, through the foot. It exited the sole of the foot beneath the left 5th digit. This was a through and through gunshot wound and the bullet was not recovered.

Earl Bernard Perry .

Case 97 - 4749

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PATHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSES

1. Gunshot wound to the back.
2. Gunshot wound to the left buttock.
3. Gunshot wound through distal left foot.

Case No. 97-4749  
Earl Bernard Perry

Specimens submitted on 1/18/47

Specimens

Case: 97-4749  
Method: Alcohol, Impregnated - Not Detected

Vagina: 97-4749  
Method: Alcohol, Impregnated - Not Detected

Uterus: 97-4749  
Method: Alcohol, Impregnated - Not Detected  
Microscopic Methods: Stain, etc.  
Inhibitors: Phosphates, Acetates, etc.  
Amphibians: Metamorphosis, etc.  
Mammals: Metamorphosis - Not Detected

Unless otherwise specified, specimens will be destroyed one year after date of receipt.

*[Signature]*  
Sgt. W. J. C. C. J.

*[Signature]*  
Chief Toxicologist

OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER OF HARRIS COUNTY  
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REPORT OF ANALYSIS

July 2, 1997

TO: Patricia Moore, D.O.  
Associate Medical Examiner

CASE#: ML97-4749

Evidence submitted on 07/01/97.

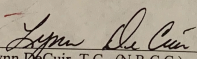
RESULTS:

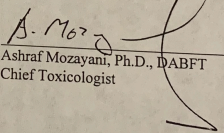
Blood: Ethanol- 0.03 g/dL  
Methanol, Acetone, Isopropanol- Not Detected.

Vitreous: Ethanol- 0.03 g/dL  
Methanol, Acetone, Isopropanol- Not Detected.

Urine: Ethanol- 0.01 g/dL  
Methanol, Acetone, Isopropanol- Not Detected.  
Marihuana Metabolite, Benzodiazepine,  
Barbiturate, Phencyclidine, Propoxyphene,  
Amphetamine/Methamphetamine, Opiate,  
Methaqualone, Methadone- Not Detected.

Unless otherwise requested, specimens will be discarded one year after date of receipt.

  
Lynn De Cuir, T.C., (N.R.C.C.)  
Assistant Toxicologist

  
Ashraf Mozayani, Ph.D., DABFT  
Chief Toxicologist

Medical Examiner's Initial

egm 7/9/97