

FBI Laboratory

2501 Investigation Parkway
Quantico, Virginia 22135

REPORT OF EXAMINATION

To: Tampa
Orlando RA
SA Nickolas B. Savage
TFO John Steven McElyea

Date: December 15, 2008

Case ID No.: 7A-TP-71176

394

Lab No.: 081213001 TO ABA

Reference: Communication dated December 12, 2008

Your No.:

Title: CAYLEE MARIE ANTHONY - VICTIM
MISSING / ABDUCTED MINOR
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Date specimens received: December 13, 2008

The items listed below were examined in the Latent Print Operations Unit:

ITEMS FROM MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

Q62-Q64 Tape

ITEMS FROM RESIDENCE

K10 Elimination fingerprints of GEORGE A. ANTHONY

K11 Elimination fingerprints of CYNTHIA M. ANTHONY

K12 Elimination fingerprints of LEE A. ANTHONY

This report is being issued by the Latent Print Operations Unit.

Results of Examinations:

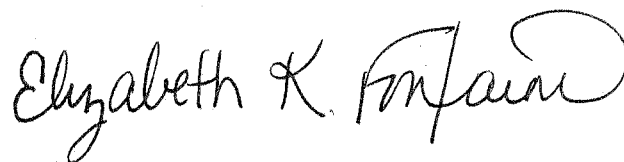
The requested latent print examinations were conducted, but no latent prints were detected.

Remarks:

For questions about the content of this report, please contact Physical Scientist/Forensic Examiner Elizabeth K. Fontaine at [REDACTED].

For questions about the status of remaining forensic examinations, please contact Request Coordinator Erin P. Martin at [REDACTED].

The specimens are being returned under separate cover.



Elizabeth K. Fontaine
Latent Print Operations Unit

This report contains the opinions/interpretations of the examiner(s) who issued the report.



FBI Laboratory

2501 Investigation Parkway
Quantico, Virginia 22135

REPORT OF EXAMINATION

To: Tampa
Orlando RA
SA Nickolas B. Savage
TFO John Steven McElyea

Date: December 22, 2008

Case ID No.: 7A-TP-71176 - 402

Lab No.: 081213001 TO HO

Reference: Communication dated December 12, 2008

Your No.:

Title: CAYLEE MARIE ANTHONY - VICTIM
MISSING / ABDUCTED MINOR
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Date specimens received: December 13, 2008

The following items were received in the Questioned Documents Unit on December 22, 2008:

ITEMS FROM MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

Q62-Q64 Tape

This report contains the results of the questioned document examinations.

Results of Examinations:

The Q62 through Q64 pieces of tape were examined for the presence of any stickers. No stickers or sticker fragments were observed on these items.

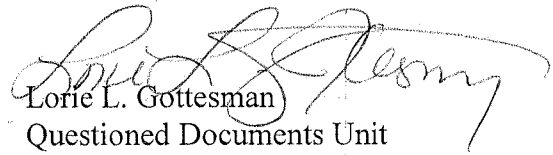
Remarks:

The submitted specimens will be returned under separate cover.

Digital images of specimens Q62 through Q64 are retained.

For questions about the content of this report, please contact Forensic Examiner Lorie L. Gottesman at [REDACTED].

For questions about the status of remaining forensic examinations, please contact Request Coordinator Erin Martin at [REDACTED].


Lorie L. Gottesman
Questioned Documents Unit

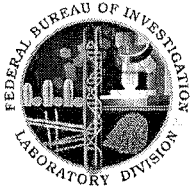
This report contains the opinions/interpretations of the examiner(s) who issued the report.

Page 2 of 2

081213001 TO HO

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5584



FBI Laboratory

2501 Investigation Parkway
Quantico, Virginia 22135

REPORT OF EXAMINATION

To: Tampa
Orlando RA
SA Nickolas B. Savage
TFO John Steven McElyea

Date: January 27, 2009

Case ID No.: 7A-TP-71176 - 413

Lab No.: 081213001 TO SN

Reference: Communication dated December 12, 2008

Your No.:

Title: CAYLEE MARIE ANTHONY - VICTIM
MISSING / ABDUCTED MINOR
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Date specimens received: December 13, 2008

The items listed below were examined in the Trace Evidence Unit (Hair and Fiber):

ITEMS FROM MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

- Q59 Hair mass
- Q60 Debris from skull
- Q62-Q64 Tape

ITEM FROM RESIDENCE

- Q66 Tape (OCSO Item #65, Q-76)

This report contains results of the trace evidence examinations (hair and fiber) and supplements FBI Laboratory report dated December 19, 2008.

Results of Examinations

No hairs suitable for meaningful microscopic comparison purposes and microscopically dissimilar to the Caucasian head hairs found in specimen Q59 were found in or on specimens Q60 and Q62 through Q64.

No hairs suitable for meaningful microscopic comparison purposes were found on specimen Q66.

Textile fibers of various types and colors were recovered from specimens Q60, Q62 through Q64, and Q66. These fibers have been preserved on glass microscope slides for future comparison purposes.

Additional trace evidence examinations are continuing and will be the subject of a separate report.

The specimens were examined using stereo-microscopy and comparison microscopy.

Remarks:

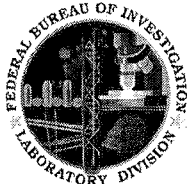
The submitted items will be returned under separate cover at the completion of the laboratory examinations.

For questions about the content of this report, please contact Forensic Examiner Stephen Shaw at [REDACTED]. For questions about the status of remaining forensic examinations, please contact Request Coordinator Erin Martin at [REDACTED].



Stephen Shaw
Trace Evidence Unit

This report contains the opinions/interpretations of the examiner(s) who issued the report.

**FBI Laboratory**2501 Investigation Parkway
Quantico, Virginia 22135**REPORT OF EXAMINATION**

To: Tampa
Orlando RA
SA Nickolas B. Savage
TFO John Steven McElyea

Date: February 4, 2009

Case ID No.: 7A-TP-71176 - 415

Lab No.: 090115014 TO UX

Reference: Communication dated January 22, 2009

Your No.:

Title: CAYLEE MARIE ANTHONY - VICTIM
MISSING / ABDUCTED MINOR
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Date specimens received: January 15, 2009

The following items were inventoried by the Laboratory's Evidence Control Unit and received in the Firearms/Toolmarks Unit:

Q110 Bullet jacket (J-60032, Item 4, Q176)

Q110.1 Debris (J-60032, Item 4, Q176)

The results of the firearms examinations are included in this report.

Results of Examinations:


Specimen Q110 is a .30 caliber copper bullet jacket with expansion seams that was fired from a barrel rifled with six (6) grooves, right twist. The Q110 bullet jacket exhibits no marks of value for comparison purposes. Firearms that have general rifling characteristics like those exhibited by the Q110 bullet jacket include .308 Winchester caliber, .30-30 Winchester caliber and .30-06 Springfield caliber rifles manufactured by Marlin Firearms Co., Savage Arms Corporation and Winchester Repeating Arms Company.

Specimen Q110.1 is debris recovered from the Q110 bullet jacket. No examinations were performed in the Firearms/Toolmarks Unit of the Q110.1 debris.

Remarks:

This concludes the examinations performed in the Firearms/Toolmarks Unit. The submitted specimens will be returned under separate cover by the Laboratory's Evidence Control Unit. Should any suspect ammunition or firearms be found, please resubmit the Q110 bullet jacket for further comparisons.

For questions regarding the content of this report, please contact Examiner Brandon Giroux at (703) 632-7234. For questions regarding the status of the submitted items, please contact Request Coordinator Erin Martin at (703) 632-7708.


Brandon Giroux
Firearms/Toolmarks Unit

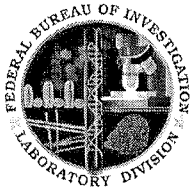
This report contains the opinions/interpretations of the examiner(s) who issued the report.

Page 2 of 2

090115014 TO UX

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5588



FBI Laboratory

2501 Investigation Parkway
Quantico, Virginia 22135

REPORT OF EXAMINATION

To: Tampa
Orlando RA
SA Nickolas B. Savage
TFO John Steven McElyea

Date: February 27, 2009

Case ID No.: 7A-TP-71176 -421

Lab No.: 090115014 TO

Reference: Communication dated January 22, 2008

Your No.:

Title: CAYLEE MARIE ANTHONY - VICTIM
MISSING / ABDUCTED MINOR
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Date specimens received: January 15, 2009

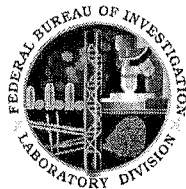
The following items were received in the FBI Laboratory and submitted to the Photographic Operations and Imaging Services Unit (POISU):

ITEMS FROM RESIDENCE

- Q246 Kodak Funsaver disposable camera (H-60498, Item 41, Q212)
- Q247 Kodak Funsaver disposable camera (H-60498, Item 62, Q214)

The Photographic Operations and Imaging Services Unit (POISU) developed the film from specimen Q246 and produced two sets of 4x6 prints and one compact disc containing images. The Q247 specimen was blank. The items above, prints, and compact disc will be returned under separate cover.

Erin P. Martin
Erin P. Martin
Evidence Control Unit
(703) 632-7708



FBI Laboratory

2501 Investigation Parkway
Quantico, Virginia 22135

REPORT OF EXAMINATION

To: Tampa
Orlando RA
SA Nickolas B. Savage
TFO John Steven McElyea

Date: March 4, 2009

Case ID No.: 7A-TP-71176 - 424

Lab No.: 080805005 TO HM
080911006 TO HM
090115014 TO HM

Reference: Communications dated August 4, 2008, September 10, 2008, and January 22, 2008

Your No.:

Title: CAYLEE MARIE ANTHONY - VICTIM
MISSING / ABDUCTED MINOR
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Date specimens received: August 5, 2008, September 11, 2008, and January 15, 2009

The following specimens were received in the Trace Evidence Unit (mineralogy) on August 6, 2008 under cover of communication dated August 4, 2008 and were assigned FBI Laboratory number 080805005 TO HM:

ITEMS FROM VEHICLE - FLORIDA TAG # G63 XV

- Q26 Debris from trunk (OCSO Item #1, Q-14)
- Q27 Debris from inside trunk (OCSO Item #3, Q-15)
- Q28 Debris from trunk interior and fender well interior (OCSO Item #6, Q-17)

The following specimens were received in the Trace Evidence Unit (mineralogy) on September 11, 2008 under cover of communication dated September 10, 2008 and were assigned FBI Laboratory number 080911006 TO HM:

Q46 Shovel (OCSO Item # 1, K-11)
Q46.1 Label from Q46 shovel blade (OCSO Item # 1, K-11)

The following specimens were received in the Trace Evidence Unit (mineralogy) on February 3, 2009 under cover of communication dated January 22, 2008 and were assigned FBI Laboratory number 090115014 TO HM:

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FROM RESIDENCE

Q249-Q250 Boots (H-60531, Item1, Q218)
Q251-Q252 Shoes (H-60531, Item1, Q218)
Q253-Q254 Shoes (H-60531, Item1, Q218)
Q255-Q256 Shoes (H-60531, Item1, Q218)
Q257-Q258 Shoes (H-60531, Item1, Q218)
Q259-Q260 Shoes (H-60531, Item1, Q218)
Q261-Q262 Shoes (H-60531, Item1, Q218)
Q263-Q264 Shoes (H-60531, Item1, Q218)
Q265-Q266 Shoes (H-60531, Item1, Q218)
Q267-Q268 Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q269-Q270 Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q271-Q272 Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)

Q273-Q274	Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q275-Q276	Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q277-Q278	Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q279-Q280	Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q281-Q282	Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q283-Q284	Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q285-Q286	Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q287-Q288	Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q289-Q290	Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q291-Q292	Shoes (H-60531, Item 14, Q219)
Q293	Transport bag
K15	Debris from top layer of evidence marker H (H-60520, Item 1, Q142)
K16	Soil sample from second layer of evidence marker H (H-60520, Item 2, Q143)
K17	Soil sample from third layer of evidence marker H (H-60520, Item 3, Q144)
K18	Soil sample from fourth layer of evidence marker H (H-60520, Item 4, Q145)
K19	Debris from top layer of evidence marker I (H-60520, Item 5, Q146)
K20	Soil sample from second layer of evidence marker I (H-60520, Item 6, Q147)

Page 3 of 6

080805005 TO HM
080911006 TO HM
090115014 TO HM

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5592

- K21 Soil sample from third layer of evidence marker I (H-60520, Item 7, Q148)
- K22 Soil sample from fourth layer of evidence marker I (H-60520, Item 8, Q149)
- K23 Soil sample from 150 feet south of the ϕ point of lane (H-60523, Item 1, Q153)
- K24 Soil sample from evidence marker A (H-60499, Item 1, Q82)
- K25 Soil sample from evidence marker B (H-60499, Item 2, Q83)
- K26 Soil sample from evidence marker C (H-60499, Item 3, Q84)
- K27 Soil sample from evidence marker D (H-60499, Item 4, Q85)
- K28 Soil sample from evidence marker E (H-60499, Item 5, Q86)
- K29 Soil sample from evidence marker F (H-60499, Item 6, Q87)
- K30 Debris from evidence marker G (H-60499, Item 7, Q88)

The results of the trace evidence (mineralogy) examinations are included in this report.

Results of Examinations:

Comparison of geologic materials for the purposes of determining a common origin is accomplished by using one or more analytical techniques. These techniques can include: Munsell color determination in a light box under day light conditions; the determination of texture using stereobinocular and petrographic microscopes; and the identification of components present and their relative abundances using stereobinocular and petrographic microscopes and additional instrumental methods as needed. The actual tests performed are dependent on the type(s) and quantity of the geologic material present, and the needs of the examination/analytical requirements. The properties expressed are used as comparison criteria. When specimens are indistinguishable in all their observed properties, the possibility that the compared specimens originated from the same source cannot be eliminated.

Twenty-two pairs of footwear and a transport bag (Q249 through Q293) were submitted for comparison of any soil present to soil recovered from the vicinity of the crime scene (K15 through K30). The footwear was received packaged in pairs. Because of the possibility of transfer between items packaged in contact with each other, the debris from each pair of shoes was recovered to a single container and examined collectively. Each container of debris from a pair of shoes is denoted with the specimen numbers of both shoes, for example, Q249-Q250. Specimen Q253 contained a fragment of glass embedded in the sole of the shoe. This glass fragment could not have been the result of transfer from specimen Q254 and is denoted as debris from specimen Q253.

No geologic materials were recovered from specimens Q249-Q250, Q251-Q252, Q254, Q255-Q256, Q257-Q258, Q259-Q260, Q263-Q264, Q265-Q266, Q267-Q268, Q271-Q272, Q273-Q274, Q279-Q280, Q283-Q284, Q287-Q288, and Q291-Q292.

Debris containing geologic materials was recovered from specimens Q253, Q261-Q262, Q269-Q270, Q275-Q276, Q277-Q278, Q281-Q282, Q285-Q286, Q289-Q290, and Q293. These specimens were examined visually using a stereobinocular microscope. Specimens Q253, Q261-Q262, Q281-Q282, Q285-Q286, Q289-Q290, and Q293 contain insufficient geologic materials for meaningful comparison to the recovered soils from the crime scene (K16 through K18 and K20 through K29). Specimens K15, K19, and K30 are principally composed of plant materials, and contain insufficient geologic materials for comparison.

Soil and/or sediment recovered from specimens Q269-Q270, Q275-Q276, and Q277-Q278 is different in color than the soils and debris from the crime scene (K15 through K30). Additionally, abundant plant material is present in soils from the crime scene that is not present in the soil and/or sediment recovered from specimens Q269-Q270, Q275-Q276, and Q277-Q278. Accordingly, the soil and/or sediment recovered from specimens Q269-Q270, Q275-Q276, and Q277-Q278 did not originate from the crime scene as represented by specimens K16 through K18 and K20 through K29.

The inability to associate specimens through a mineralogical examination does not preclude that the item(s) could have been present at the area in question. Soil differs both across the land and down the soil profile as a function of parent material, climate, biological activity, geography, and time, yielding soil which is distinct from place to place and with depth below the surface. These changes can occur abruptly or gradually. Therefore, the soil samples from a specific location must be interpreted to represent only that site, and may not exemplify all soils in the area or soil that may have been present in the past.

Botanical examinations are not currently being conducted in the Federal Bureau of Investigation Laboratory. Universities and local extension services may be of some assistance in the analysis of plant material.

Debris recovered from the trunk of a vehicle (Q26 through Q28), and debris recovered from a shovel (Q46 and Q46.1) were submitted in an attempt to determine the provenance of any soil present. There is insufficient soil present in the debris from inside the trunk and from the trunk interior and fender well interior (Q27 and Q28, respectively), with which to undertake a provenance study. Debris from the trunk (Q26) contains mineral grain with textural features of widely differing environments. Although it is possible that these different environments were once present in the same location across geologic time, this material probably represents an accumulation of materials from different sources collected into the trunk over a period of time. Because these materials are intimately mixed, no sources of these materials can be determined.

Multiple soils were recovered from the shovel and label on the shovel (Q46 and Q46.1, respectively). This examination was discontinued after the discovery of the victim's body.

Remarks:

The results of other examinations will be the subject of separate reports. The specimens will be returned to you under separate cover at the completion of the FBI Laboratory examinations. The supporting documentation for the opinions and interpretations expressed in this report is retained in the FBI Laboratory files. For questions about the content of this report, please contact Geologist/Forensic Examiner Maureen C. Bottrell at (703) 632-7697. For questions regarding the status of the specimens, please contact Evidence Control Unit Request Coordinator Erin Martin at (703) 632-7708.



Maureen C. Bottrell
Trace Evidence Unit

This report contains the opinions/interpretations of the examiner(s) who issued the report.

Page 6 of 6

080805005 TO HM
080911006 TO HM
090115014 TO HM

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SS95



FBI Laboratory

2501 Investigation Parkway
Quantico, Virginia 22135

REPORT OF EXAMINATION

To: Tampa
Orlando RA
SA Nickolas B. Savage
TFO John Steven McElyea

Date: March 13, 2009

Case ID No.: 7A-TP-71176 -425

Lab No.: 090115014 TO NP

Reference: Communication dated January 22, 2009

Your No.:

Title: CAYLEE MARIE ANTHONY - VICTIM
MISSING / ABDUCTED MINOR
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Date specimens received: January 15, 2009

Specimens:

The following items were received in the Chemistry Unit:

ITEMS RESUBMITTED FROM FBI LABORATORY NUMBER 081213001 TO SN LF ABA
MQ NR MA HO

Q59-Q59.1 Hair Mass (1B105, E4381283 & 1B107, E4381285)

This report contains the results of the toxicology examinations of item Q59.1.

Results of Examinations:

Alprazolam and clonazepam were not detected in the Q59.1 hair.

Additionally, the hair sample was screened for the following with negative results:
flunitrazepam, diazepam, midazolam, oxazepam, nordiazepam, triazolam, temazepam,
lorazepam and ketamine.

This testing was performed using liquid chromatography / tandem mass spectrometry. The detection limits of this method are 2 picograms of drug per milligram of hair for alprazolam, clonazepam, flunitrazepam, diazepam, nordiazepam, triazolam and temazepam and 5 picograms of drug per milligram of hair for midazolam, oxazepam, lorazepam and ketamine.

Remarks:

The Q59.1 hair cuttings are allegedly those that were removed from the Q59 hair mass by Dr. Bruce Goldberger for toxicology testing on December 18, 2008.

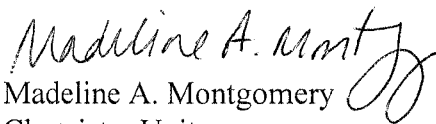
The Q59.1 hair sample was not tested for chloroform, as this examination is not deemed probative by the FBI Laboratory's Chemistry Unit. Testing of the Q59.1 hair sample was focused on alprazolam, clonazepam and other benzodiazepines pursuant to communications between Forensic Examiner Madeline A. Montgomery and Medical Examiner Jan Garavaglia on December 17, 2008.

There is little research available on the amounts of drug expected to be found in hair after limited dosing. Although the method used in this analysis allows for the detection of very small amounts of the drugs listed, negative results should not be interpreted as proof that the individual was not exposed to the drugs listed.

The disposition of the submitted items will be addressed in a separate communication.

For questions about the content of this report, please contact Forensic Examiner Madeline A. Montgomery at (703) 632-7425.

For questions about the status of remaining forensic examinations, please contact Request Coordinator Erin Martin at (703) 632-7708.


Madeline A. Montgomery
Chemistry Unit

This report contains the opinions/interpretations of the examiner(s) who issued the report.



FBI Laboratory

2501 Investigation Parkway
Quantico, Virginia 22135

REPORT OF EXAMINATION

To: Tampa
Orlando RA
SA Nickolas B. Savage

Date: March 19, 2009

Case ID No.: 7A-TP-71176 - 427

Lab No.: 090115014 TO MA

Reference: Communication dated January 22, 2009

Your No.:

Title: CAYLEE MARIE ANTHONY - VICTIM
MISSING / ABDUCTED MINOR
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Date specimens received: January 15, 2009

The following item was examined in the Chemistry Unit:

Q242 Knife (H-51975, Item #8, Q80)

The results of the requested adhesive comparison examinations are included in this report.

Results of Examinations:

The Q242 knife was examined for the presence of adhesive like the Q64 duct tape previously examined under FBI Laboratory number 081213001 TO MA (report dated December 19, 2008). Minute amounts of clear, sticky materials were present on two areas of the Q242 blade; however, neither material is consistent with the Q64 duct tape adhesive. Although the materials are too limited to fully characterize, they remain suitable for limited comparison examinations should suspect sources be located.

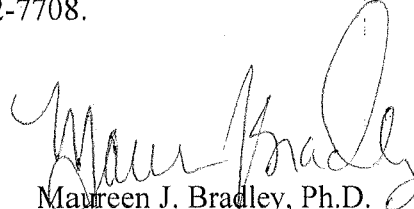
The following analytical techniques were utilized in the examination of these items of evidence: visual and microscopic examinations and Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR).

Remarks:

Q242 is being retained at the FBI Laboratory. Its disposition will be the subject of a separate communication.

For questions regarding the content of this report, please contact Forensic Examiner Maureen J. Bradley at (703) 632-7417.

For questions regarding the status of the remaining forensic examinations, please contact Request Coordinator Erin Martin at (703) 632-7708.



Maureen J. Bradley, Ph.D.
Chemistry Unit

This report contains the opinions/interpretations of the examiner(s) who issued the report.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Office of Law Enforcement

Clark R. Bavin

National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory

1490 East Main Street

Ashland, Oregon 97520

FWS/LE LAB 09-000115

25 March 2009

Nickolas Savage, SA
FBI – Orlando RA
850 Trafalgar Court
Suite 400
Maitland, FL 32751

Dear Special Agent Savage:

Enclosed are the Morphology and Veterinary Medical Examination Reports regarding the evidence submitted to the Laboratory for identification under your Agency Case No. 7A-TP-71176.

Per your request, the evidence will be returned to the Orange County Sheriff's Office (ATTN: Gerardo Bloise) with a copy of this letter. If I can be of further assistance, please give me a call at (541) 482-4191.

Sincerely,

Barry W. Baker
Forensic Scientist - Morphology

5600



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Office of Law Enforcement
Clark R. Bavin
National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory
1490 East Main Street
Ashland, Oregon 97520

IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 25, 2009

MORPHOLOGY EXAMINATION REPORT

Agency:

USFBI, Orlando
850 Trafalgar Court, Suite 400
Maitland, FL 32751

Lab Case #: 09-000115

Examiner: Baker

Agency Case #: 7A-TP-71176

Investigator: Savage

Suspects: Anthony, Casey M.

Case Title: Caylee Marie Anthony -
Victim

EVIDENCE RECEIVED:

The following evidence was received in the Evidence Unit of the Laboratory on March 10, 2009, and was transferred to the undersigned examiner on that same date:

LAB-1: "Snake" [ST#J-60088; Item#1]

EXAMINATION CONDUCTED:

LAB-1 was examined visually, and identification was made by the undersigned examiner by macroscopic comparison with reference to published literature.


LAB-1 was also assigned to Rhoda M. Ralston, Veterinary Medical Examiner, for analysis. (See report dated March 16, 2009.)

EXAMINATION CONCLUSIONS:

LAB-1: One (1) carcass of an Eastern Diamond-backed Rattlesnake (*Crotalus adamanteus*)

DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE:

LAB-1 was transferred to the Evidence Unit pending return to the submitting agency.



Barry W. Baker
Forensic Scientist



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Office of Law Enforcement

Clark R. Bavin

National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory

1490 East Main Street

Ashland, Oregon 97520

March 16, 2009

VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINATION REPORT

Agency:

USFBI, Orlando
850 Trafalgar Court, Suite 400
Maitland, FL 32751

Lab Case #: 09-000115

Examiner: Ralston

Agency Case #: 7A-TP-71176

Investigator: Savage

Suspects: Anthony, Casey M.

Case Title: Caylee Marie Anthony -
Victim

EVIDENCE RECEIVED:

The following evidence was received in the Evidence Unit of the Laboratory on March 10, 2009, and was transferred to the undersigned examiner on March 11, 2009:

LAB-1: "Snake" [ST#J-60088; Item#1]

EXAMINATION/S CONDUCTED:

The evidence item was radiographed (x-rayed), dissected, and examined visually (necropsy examination) for gross pathological lesions. Photographs were taken to document any significant gross pathological findings.

NECROPSY EXAMINATION RESULTS:

Lab Case #: 09-000115

Lab-1

Species: Eastern Diamond-backed Rattlesnake

Sex/Age: Male/Adult

Weight: 1390 gm

Identification #: ST #J-60088; Item #1

Body Condition: Good

Specimen: Intact Carcass

Post Mortem Condition: Good

Date Examined: March 12, 2009

HISTORY:

No history provided.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

Total length is approximately 132 cm (52 inches). Tail length from vent to tail tip is approximately 15 cm (6 inches), including nine (9) rattles. There is a serosanguinous (blood-colored) liquid discharge from the mouth. The mouth contains bloody mucous. No oral lesions are observed. Two (2) normal fangs are present. The integument (skin) is normal in appearance. A misshapen and slightly flattened area is observed to the body at approximately 2/3rds of the carcass length from the snout. There are no palpable fractures. The vent is normal in appearance.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION:

The carcass was skinned and the body cavity opened along the ventral midline to facilitate an internal examination. The dorsal longitudinal musculature along the vertebral column is torn starting approximately 64 cm (25 inches) from the snout and extending to approximately 84 cm (33 inches). The total width of the tissue disruption is approximately 20 cm (8 inches). The associated tissues are hemorrhagic. No penetrating gunshot wounds are observed. There are adequate mesenteric fat deposits. The musculoskeletal system is normally developed. The skull is intact. The brain was not examined.

The trachea contains bloody liquid. The right lower lung and air sac are hemorrhagic. The gall bladder, spleen, and pancreas are disrupted and surrounded by clotted blood with evidence of fibrinous organization. The heart is intact, but empty of clotted blood. The liver and kidneys are pale, but otherwise normal in appearance. The upper esophagus contains a small mass of ingested clotted blood. The stomach and intestinal tract are empty. The colon contains a small amount of mucoid brownish-green material and part of a small mammal toe nail. Nothing human in nature was observed. No lesions suggestive of an infectious disease process are apparent.

RADIOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION:

Approximately 2/3rds of the carcass length from the snout the vertebral column is misaligned. No fractures of the associated vertebral and ribs are visible. No metallic radiodensities suggestive of bullet fragments or pellets are observed.

SUBSAMPLES SAVED/SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS: None

NECROPSY FINDINGS:

- 1) Misshapen and slightly flattened area observed to the body at approximately 2/3rds of the carcass length from the snout
- 2) Associated dorsal longitudinal musculature along the vertebral column is torn with associated tissue hemorrhage and total width of disruption is approximately 20 cm (8 inches)
- 3) Right lower lung and air sac are hemorrhagic and upper esophagus contains a small mass of ingested clotted blood
- 4) Gall bladder, spleen, and pancreas disrupted and surrounded by organizing clotted blood
- 5) Liver and kidneys are pale

DIAGNOSIS:

Blunt Force Trauma - Vehicular

COMMENT:

Based on the gross pathological findings, it is my opinion this rattlesnake died of blunt force traumatic injuries sustained from compression with a solid structure, such as a vehicle tire. The observed misshapen and slightly flattened area observed to the body at approximately 2/3rds of the carcass length from the snout with associated hemorrhagic disruption of the dorsal longitudinal musculature along the vertebral column with a total width of disruption of approximately 20 cm (8 inches) would be consistent with this type of trauma. The hemorrhage of the associated right lower lung and air sac likely resulted in blood loss into the mouth, which was subsequently ingested as the clotted blood observed in the upper esophagus. The presence of the ingested clotted blood and organizing clotted blood surrounding the disrupted gall bladder, spleen, and pancreas suggests the snake lived for unspecified amount of time after being run over. In my opinion, the snake would not have been immediately immobilized. The extensive internal blood loss was the subsequent cause of death.

Examination Report 09-000115 - Continued
March 16, 2009

DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE:

All evidence item(s) were transferred to the Evidence Unit pending return to the submitting agency.

Rhoda M. Ralston, DVM
Rhoda M. Ralston, DVM
Senior Veterinary Medical Examiner