

**FORM 37**

Rule 60(1)

**FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST**

*Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008*

**Court reference:** 2720/11

**Inquest into the Death of DALE GRAEME COOK**

Delivered On: 24th October, 2011

Delivered At: Coroners Court of Victoria  
Level 11, 222 Exhibition Street  
Melbourne

Hearing Dates: 24th October, 2011

Findings of: CORONER KIM M W PARKINSON

Place of death: Wantirna Health, 251 Mountain Highway,  
Wantirna South, Victoria 3152

Police Coronial  
Support Unit (PSCU): Leading Senior Constable King Taylor

FORM 37

Rule 60(1)

**FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST**

*Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008*

**Court reference:** 2720/11

In the Coroners Court of Victoria at Melbourne

I, KIM PARKINSON, Coroner

having investigated the death of:

**Details of deceased:**

Surname: COOK  
First name: DALE  
Address: 30 Wellman Street, Box Hill, Victoria 3128

AND having held an inquest in relation to this death on 24th October, 2011  
at Melbourne

find that the identity of the deceased was DALE GRAEME COOK  
and death occurred on 24th July, 2011

at Wantirna Health, 251 Mountain Highway, Wantirna South, Victoria 3152

from

- 1a. PNEUMONIA
- 1b. CARCINOMA OF THE OESOPHAGUS
2. CEREBRAL PALSY

**In the following circumstances:**

1. Mr Dale Cook was born on 1 October, 1969 and was 41 years of age at the time of his death. Mr Cook had a medical history of cerebral palsy and he was under the care of the Department of Human Services and resided at in a Department of Human Services Residential Care Facility at Box Hill.

2. On 11 July 2011, Mr Cook attended the Box Hill Hospital Emergency Department, having suffered a large gastrointestinal bleed and a general deterioration in his functioning. Mr Cook had an advanced case of oesophageal carcinoma. After consultation with family, Mr Cook was palliated. On 11 July 2011, he was transferred to the Wantirna Health Service for palliative care. He died on 24 July 2011.

3. Mr Cook was a person in care as defined by s3(d) of the **Coroners Act 2008** ("the Act") and accordingly his death was reportable pursuant to s5(c) of that Act. An inquest into his death is mandatory pursuant to s52(2)(b) of the Act. This inquest has proceeded by summary of the circumstances.

4. An autopsy was performed by Dr Paul Bedford, Forensic Pathologist of the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine. Dr Bedford reported that the cause of death was:

- 1(a) Pneumonia
- 1(b) Carcinoma of the Oesophagus;
- 2. Cerebral Palsy

5. Having considered the available evidence, I am satisfied that Mr Cook died from natural causes. I find that Mr Dale Cook died on 24 July 2011, and that the cause of death was pneumonia and carcinoma of the oesophagus and that cerebral palsy was a contributing factor.

Signature:



Kim M W Parkinson  
Coroner



24th October, 2011