

IN THE CORONERS COURT
OF VICTORIA
AT MELBOURNE

Court Reference: 0581/2011

FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST

Form 37 Rule 60(1)

Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008

Inquest into the Death of: ROBERT DUNLOP

Delivered On: 4 June 2012

Delivered At: Melbourne

Hearing Dates: 4 June 2012

Findings of: CORONER K. M. W. PARKINSON

Police Coronial Support Unit Senior Sergeant David Dimsey

I, CORONER K. M. W. PARKINSON, Coroner
having investigated the death of ROBERT DUNLOP

AND having held an inquest in relation to this death on 4 June 2012
at Melbourne
find that the identity of the deceased was ROBERT JOHN DUNLOP
born on 26 June 1934
and the death occurred on 13 February 2011
at Box Hill Hospital, Nelson Road, Box Hill Victoria 3128

from:

- 1a. PNEUMONIA
- 1b. MESTASTATIC LIVER DISEASE FROM AN UNKNOWN PRIMARY
MALIGNANCY

in the following circumstances:

1. Mr Robert Dunlop was born on 26 June 1934 and was 76 years old at the time of his death. Mr Dunlop had a past medical history of intellectual disability and had been diagnosed with end stage Parkinson's disease. He had resided in residential care for most of his life. He had resided at Kew Cottages for many years and more recently at a residential care facility at Lemon Grove, Nunawading. Mr Dunlop was a person in care as defined by Section 3(d) of the *Coroners Act 2008* ("the Act") and accordingly his death was reportable pursuant to Section 4(c) of that Act. An inquest into his death is mandatory pursuant to Section 52(2)(b) of the Act.
2. Mr Dunlop was cared for by staff at Lemon Grove who report that he had suffered a sore throat on 28 January 2011 for which he was attended by his GP. He developed respiratory difficulties on 1 February 2011 and when this had not improved the following morning, staff arranged for his transfer to the Box Hill Hospital. Mr Dunlop was admitted to Box Hill on 2 February 2011. He was diagnosed with pneumonia and dehydration. Liver function was also identified as abnormal. X-ray identified right lobe pneumonia. His condition deteriorated and Mr Dunlop was provided palliative care. Mr Dunlop died on 13 February 2011.

3. An inspection and report was undertaken by Dr Heinrich Bouwer, Forensic Pathologist with the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine. Dr Bouwer stated that CT scan showed multiple liver metastases, bilateral pleural effusions and left lower lobe pneumonia. He stated that a reasonable medical cause of death was 1a. Pneumonia and 1b. Metastatic Liver Disease from an unknown primary malignancy.
4. I am satisfied that Mr Dunlop's care and management was reasonable and appropriate.
5. I find that Mr Robert John Dunlop died on 13 February 2011 at Box Hill Hospital, Box Hill from natural causes and that the cause of his death was Pneumonia and Metastatic Liver Disease from an unknown primary malignancy.

I direct that a copy of this finding be provided to the following:

The family of Mr Robert Dunlop

Interested parties

Signature:



K. M. W. PARKINSON
CORONER
6 June 2012

