



21-0427

STROUD (AKA CARLSON), Amy



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EMILY RUSSELL, M.D.

ER

11/18/2021

**PERSONS PRESENT AT AUTOPSY**

Corporal Steve Hansen of the Saguache County Sheriff's Office and Crime Scene Investigator Tanya Atkinson of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation are present during the postmortem examination.

**GENERAL EXAMINATION**

The body is that of a normally-developed, cachectic, adult White female, 65 inches tall, weighing 75 lbs, and appearing compatible with the stated age of 45 years. The deceased is lying in a green sleeping bag with her face exposed. A brown and gold colored beaded headband with blue and green stones is on the head and a red ruffled scrunchie ties the hair back. A pink, blue and white tie-dye fleece shawl is draped around the shoulders and upper back and a maroon faux fur-like scarf and a pink, white, and black bandanna are loosely styled around the neck. The decedent is clad in a multicolor shirt, gray cotton straight leg pants, diaper containing red purge-type fluid, and blue and white fluffy socks over a pair of pink socks. A yellow metal necklace with yellow metal pendant with one green heart-shaped stone and multiple clear stones is around the neck. A white metal necklace with green heart stone pendant and multiple colored stones of varying shapes along the chain is underneath the decedent's back. Also with the body are a clear tack and a white mesh bag with an affixed pink and gold bow. These clothing and property items are released.

Also received are eight small brown bottles with medicine droppers with colorful labels specifying: "COLLOIDAL TITANIUM", "Gaia's Colloidal Copper", "Gaia's Colloidal Iridium", "Gaia's Colloidal Gold", "Gaia's Colloidal Indium", "Colloidal Platinum", "Gaia's Colloidal Silver", and "Gaia's Colloidal Palladium". These are retained as evidence.

Full body radiographs are performed and identify dental work and no bony lesions.

A blood standard is released to the Saguache County Sheriff's Office at the time of autopsy.

**EXTERNAL EXAMINATION**

There is moderate decomposition in the absence of embalming with drying of the face, upper arms, fingers, knees, and feet and skin slippage. Rigor mortis is dissipated in the extremities, jaw, and neck. Posterior lividity is fixed. The deceased has reddish-brown scalp hair averaging 14 inches in length. The eyes are not appreciated secondary to decomposition. The ears, nose, lips, and external auditory canals appear normally formed. The mouth has natural dentition. The external genitalia and perineum are unremarkable.

The skin has a blue-gray discoloration.

Make-up is on the face including foundation (thin to focally thick application obscuring the blue-gray discoloration of the skin), blush, and multicolor vibrant glitter eyeshadow.

The remainder of the external examination of the body is unremarkable and there is no evidence of any trauma.

**INTERNAL EXAMINATION**

**HEAD:** The scalp is incised and retracted. The scalp, subscalpular area, and skull are unremarkable. The cranial vault is opened revealing thin, tough, pliable dura. The brain weighs 970 gm and has a pastelike consistency preventing sectioning. No collections of hemorrhage are present. The dura is stripped from the basilar skull and no fractures are found.

**BODY:** The body is opened with a Y-shaped incision. The organs occupy their usual positions and relationships. The body cavities are free of adhesions or abnormal collections of fluid. The organs and tissues have changes of moderate decomposition including red-brown discoloration, softening, and dulling of the surfaces.

**NECK:** The hyoid bone and larynx are intact. The airway is patent and there is no evidence of infection or tumor. The right lobe of the thyroid gland has a 5 mm well-circumscribed nodule containing clear brown gelatinous fluid, grossly consistent with a colloid. The left lobe is unremarkable. The tongue is unremarkable.

**CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:** The intimal surface of the abdominal aorta is free of significant atherosclerosis. The heart weighs 170 gm. The epicardial and endocardial surfaces are smooth. The myocardium is uniformly softened and has a homogeneous, red-brown appearance. The cardiac valves are thin, delicate, and unremarkable. The coronary arteries are free of significant atherosclerosis.

**LUNGS:** The right lung weighs 530 gm and the left lung weighs 480 gm. The major bronchi are unremarkable. The pleural surfaces are smooth and have a purple-red, moderately anthracotic appearance. On cross-section, the parenchyma appears purple-red-brown. There are no pulmonary emboli.

**GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM:** The esophagus, stomach, small and large bowel, and appendix are unremarkable. The stomach contains scant green fluid and one small solid fragment.

**LIVER:** The liver weighs 1120 gm. The capsule is smooth. The parenchyma is homogeneous red-brown and softened. The gallbladder contains 2 mL of green-brown bile with no calculi.

**PANCREAS:** Unremarkable.

**ADRENAL GLANDS:** Unremarkable.

**SPLEEN:** The spleen weighs 90 gm and the capsule is smooth and blue-gray. On cross-section, the parenchyma is unremarkable.

**KIDNEYS:** The right kidney weighs 100 gm and the left kidney weighs 120 gm. The capsules strip with ease revealing pitted cortical surfaces, right more than left. On cross-section, the cortices appear congested and exhibit well-demarcated corticomedullary junctions and a 3 mm yellow nodule is within the right parenchyma. The collecting systems, ureters, and bladder are

unremarkable. The urinary bladder is void of contents.

**UTERUS, FALLOPIAN TUBES, AND OVARIES:** On speculum examination the vaginal mucosa has four focal retractions and is without evidence of trauma. The uterus is unremarkable. The right fallopian tube ends bluntly and the fimbria are not appreciated. The left fallopian tube is unremarkable. The ovaries are unremarkable.

### **MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATION**

#### **CASSETTE SUMMARY**

- 1-2: Heart
- 3: Right kidney, spleen
- 4: Left kidney, liver
- 5: Right lung lobes
- 6: Left lung lobes

#### **MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTIONS**

**Heart:** Sections show autolysis, bacterial overgrowth, scattered apparent fibrosis, and focal lymphocytic infiltrates without evidence of myocyte injury.

**Spleen:** A section shows autolysis.

**Liver:** A section shows autolysis, bacterial overgrowth, apparent fibrous expansion of the portal areas, and apparent macrovesicular steatosis.

**Kidneys:** Sections show autolysis and bacterial overgrowth. The right kidney shows a focus of fibrosis and the nature of the previously described nodule cannot be further elucidated.

**Lungs:** Section show autolysis, bacterial overgrowth, and collections of interstitial and alveolar space pigment laden macrophages. Iron stain is performed with adequate control on slide 5 and no iron pigment is appreciated.

**Toxicology Report**  
**El Paso County Coroner's Office**  
**2741 E. Las Vegas Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906**  
**719-390-2450 MAIN/719-390-2462 FAX**

**Name:** CARLSON, Amy Renee

**Case #:** 21-00427

**Doctor:** Emily Russell M.D.

**Date Received:** 04/30/2021

**County:** Saguache

**Agency#:**

**Alcohols and Volatiles:**

Analyte	Specimen	Result		
ETHANOL	Muscle	34 mg/dL		
ETHANOL	Decomp Fluid	68 mg/dL		

**Immunoassay Screen (ELISA):**

Analyte	Specimen	Result		
AMPHETAMINE	Decomp Fluid	Negative		
BARBITURATES	Decomp Fluid	Negative		
BENZODIAZEPINE METABOLITES	Decomp Fluid	Negative		
COCAINE/ BENZOYLECGONINE	Decomp Fluid	Negative		
FENTANYL	Decomp Fluid	Negative		
METHADONE	Decomp Fluid	Negative		
METHAMPHETAMINE	Decomp Fluid	Negative		
OPIATES	Decomp Fluid	Positive		
OXYCODONE	Decomp Fluid	Negative		
THCCOOH	Decomp Fluid	Positive		
TRAMADOL	Decomp Fluid	Negative		
TRICYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS	Decomp Fluid	Negative		
ZOLPIDEM	Decomp Fluid	Negative		

**GC-MS Results (Qualitative):**

Analyte	Specimen	Result		
COTININE	Decomp Fluid	Present		
ACETAMINOPHEN	Decomp Fluid	Present		

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THC	Decomp Fluid	Present		
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**Quantitative Results:**

Analyte	Specimen	Result		
ACETAMINOPHEN	Decomp Fluid	21.9 ug/mL		
HYDROCODONE	Decomp Fluid	Present; < 10 ng/mL		
HYDROMORPHONE	Decomp Fluid	28 ng/mL		
THC	Decomp Fluid	87 ng/mL		
11-OH-THC	Decomp Fluid	>100 ng/mL		
THC-COOH	Decomp Fluid	423 ng/mL		


**Miscellaneous Results:**

Analyte	Specimen	Result		
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**Comments:**

\*\* Liver sent to NMS for Silver analysis 8/2/2021 - see attached report (11/16/2021)

**Reviewed By:** Andrea K Tully MSc    **Date Released:** 06/08/21    **Reviewed By:** Emily Russell M.D.

  
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 Reviewer Signature

  
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 Reviewer Signature



**NMS Labs**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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Robert A. Middleberg, PhD, F-ABFT, DABCC-TC, Laboratory Director

**Toxicology Report**

**Report Issued** 11/16/2021 18:10  
**Last Report Issued** 11/16/2021 14:00

**To: 10276**  
 El Paso County Coroner's Office  
 Attn: Sandy Way  
 2741 E. Las Vegas Street  
 Colorado Springs, CO 80906

**Patient Name** CARLSON, AMY  
**Patient ID** 21-00427  
**Chain** 21274477  
**Age** Not Given **DOB** Not Given  
**Gender** Not Given  
**Workorder** 21274477

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**Positive Findings:**

<u>Compound</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Matrix Source</u>
Special Request Finding(s)	Positive		001 - Liver Tissue

See Detailed Findings section for additional information

**Testing Requested:**

<u>Analysis Code</u>	<u>Description</u>
7724SA	Special Request: Silver

**Specimens Received:**

<u>ID</u>	<u>Tube/Container</u>	<u>Volume/ Mass</u>	<u>Collection Date/Time</u>	<u>Matrix Source</u>	<u>Labeled As</u>
001	White Plastic Container	9.5 g	Not Given	Liver Tissue	2100427
002	Homogenate Container	Not Given	Not Given	Liver Tissue	Not Applicable

All sample volumes/weights are approximations.  
 Specimens received on 08/04/2021.





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**Workorder** 21274477  
**Chain** 21274477  
**Patient ID** 21-00427

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**Detailed Findings:**

Analysis and Comments	Result	Units	Rpt. Limit	Specimen Source	Analysis By
Special Request Finding(s)	Positive			001 - Liver Tissue	[Depending on request]
Silver = 470 mcg/g Reporting Limit = 38 mcg/g Analysis by Inductively Coupled Plasma/Mass Spectrometry (ICP/MS)					

**Other than the above findings, examination of the specimen(s) submitted did not reveal any positive findings of toxicological significance by procedures outlined in the accompanying Analysis Summary.**

**Reference Comments:**

- Special Request Finding(s) - Liver Tissue:  
 Silver commonly found in the electronic and photographic industries. As a metal, it is used in the manufacturing of coins, jewelry, silverware, dental amalgams, batteries, brazing alloys and solder. Silver salts are used medicinally as a broad-spectrum antibiotic in topical creams, wound dressings, and catheters. Colloidal silver is sold for oral administration as a food supplement to treat a variety of ailments. The average daily intake of silver from the environment and the diet is approximately 70 mcg per adult in the U.S.

**Sample Comments:**

001 Tissue specimen required homogenization: 21274477-001

Chain of custody documentation has been maintained for the analyses performed by NMS Labs.

Unless alternate arrangements are made by you, the remainder of the submitted specimens will be discarded six (6) weeks from the date of this report; and generated data will be discarded five (5) years from the date the analyses were performed.

Workorder 21274477 was electronically signed on 11/16/2021 13:07 by:

Carolina Noble, Ph.D.  
 Forensic Toxicologist

**Analysis Summary and Reporting Limits:**

All of the following tests were performed for this case. For each test, the compounds listed were included in the scope. The Reporting Limit listed for each compound represents the lowest concentration of the compound that will be reported as being positive. If the compound is listed as None Detected, it is not present above the Reporting Limit. Please refer to the Positive Findings section of the report for those compounds that were identified as being present.

Acode 7724SA - Special Request: Silver - Liver Tissue

-Analysis by [Depending on request] for:

<u>Compound</u>	<u>Rpt. Limit</u>	<u>Compound</u>	<u>Rpt. Limit</u>
Special Request Finding(s)	N/A		

Specimens for elemental testing should be collected in certified metal-free containers. Elevated results for elemental testing may be caused by environmental contamination at the time of specimen collection and should be interpreted accordingly. It is recommended that unexpected elevated results be verified by testing another specimen.