



## Office of Hamilton County Medical Examiner Southeast Tennessee Regional Forensic Center

3202 Amnicola Hwy · Chattanooga TN 37406 · P 423-209-5700 · F 423-493-5176

### Demographic Information

|                       |                           |                       |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Case number:</b>   | 240624-1124               | <b>Address 1:</b>     | 7024 Dana Michelle Lane         |
| <b>Death County:</b>  | Hamilton                  | <b>Address 2:</b>     |                                 |
| <b>Last name:</b>     | Schultz                   | <b>City:</b>          | Birchwood                       |
| <b>First name:</b>    | John                      | <b>State:</b>         | Tennessee                       |
| <b>Middle name:</b>   | Charles                   | <b>County:</b>        | Hamilton                        |
| <b>Suffix:</b>        |                           | <b>Zip:</b>           | 37308                           |
| <b>Race:</b>          | White                     | <b>Funeral name:</b>  | Cremation Center of Chattanooga |
| <b>Sex:</b>           | Male                      | <b>Funeral phone:</b> | 423-362-5999                    |
| <b>Age:</b>           | 67 years 0 months 29 days |                       |                                 |
| <b>Date of birth:</b> | 05/26/1957                |                       |                                 |

### Background Information

|                                  |                                   |                           |                  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Investigator notified:</b>    | 2024-06-24 17:23                  | <b>Date LKA:</b>          | 06/24/2024       |
| <b>Notified by:</b>              | CPD Dispatch                      | <b>Time LKA:</b>          | Approx. 14:04    |
| <b>Facility:</b>                 | Southeast TN RFC<br>(Chattanooga) | <b>Found dead:</b>        | 06/24/2024 15:01 |
| <b>Authorized by:</b>            | Robin Slattery                    | <b>911 call received:</b> | 2024-06-24 14:04 |
| <b>ETA at Facility/FH:</b>       |                                   | <b>Date of death:</b>     | 06/24/2024 On    |
| <b>Scene investigated ME:</b>    | Yes                               | <b>Time of death:</b>     | 17:47            |
| <b>Scene investigated by LE:</b> | Yes                               | <b>Pronounced:</b>        | 06/24/2024 17:47 |
| <b>Officer:</b>                  | Det. James King #1097<br>(CPD)    | <b>Scene arrival:</b>     | 2024-06-24 17:47 |
| <b>Agency:</b>                   | Chattanooga Police<br>Department  | <b>Scene departure:</b>   | 2024-06-24 19:02 |
| <b>Incident #:</b>               | 24-058003                         |                           |                  |

### Narrative Summary of Circumstances Surrounding Death

Monday 06/24/2024, at approximately 1521 hours, Hamilton County Regional Forensic Center (HCRFC) Investigator Robin Slattery was contacted by the Chattanooga Police Department (CPD) Dispatch. CPD Dispatch was calling to the notify the HCRFC that officers were out with a deceased male in Suite 300 at the CBL Building, located at 2034 Hamilton Place Boulevard in Chattanooga, Tennessee. (CPD #24-058003)

Upon arrival to the scene, Inv. Slattery was met by several members of CPD Crime Scene Unit (CSU) and Homicide Division. Detective James King (Badge #1097) and CSU Karren Pickard (Badge #287) were the leads for this case. Det. James King reported decedent was John Charles Shultz, D.O.B. 05/26/1957 (W/M/67). Identification was confirmed by witnesses on scene and decedent's Tennessee driver's license.

The following narrative is a summary of the information that was obtained from Det. King, Hamilton County E-911 (HCE-911), and Inv. Slattery's scene findings.

Decedent was a 20+ year employee of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Air Pollution Control Bureau.

During decedent's time with his employer, he had filed a grievance against his supervisor, Amber Boles, stating that she had been given a position that she was unqualified for. Decedent stated that he felt he had been retaliated against since making that grievance as he felt he had been given more duties with no pay increase. Decedent had documented all of these grievances against his employer in a binder in his office.

Decedent had been contacted on 06/24/2024 by his physician's office with pre-operative instructions for a hip replacement surgery that he was set to undergo on 07/01/2024. Decedent had requested from his employer to be allowed to work remotely during his recovery time. The request was denied by his supervisor who stated that he would need to take Paid Time Off (PTO) while recuperating. Decedent was unhappy with this answer and requested a meeting with Amber Boles, his supervisor and Ron Drumeller, Executive Director.

When decedent met Ms. Boles and Mr. Drumeller in Mr. Drumeller's office, decedent pulled two (2) handguns from a laptop bag and pointed them at Ms. Boles and Mr. Drumeller. Ms. Boles was to decedent's left and Mr. Drumeller was to the right. Decedent fired the gun in his right hand three (3) times with it misfiring each time. Other employees heard the interaction and entered the office. At that time, Mr. Drumeller ran from the office alerting other employees to evacuate as there was an active shooter. Ms. Boles was still in the office with decedent when other employees entered. It is unclear if they attempted to subdue the decedent or if he left Mr. Drumeller's office on his own accord. Once decedent's left Mr. Drumeller's office, Ms. Boles barricaded the door. While in the hallway, decedent fired one shot into his head and then collapsed against a wall. Witnesses reported hearing two shots. Decedent was found without signs of life when SWAT members gained entry to the office at 1501 hours.

Due to the report of an active shooter and conflicting information of his whereabouts, multiple law enforcement agencies responded and nearby businesses were placed on lockdown.

Death was officially pronounced by Inv. Slattery upon arrival to the scene at 1747 hours. The local forecast was clear and sunny with a temperature of 95°F.

The building was a multi-level northeast-facing office building with the scene located in Suite 300 on the 3rd floor. The glass in the entrance doors was broken as first responders had used force to gain entry into the building after it had been locked down. Because it was after 1630 hours, the elevators were no longer operational without a keycard. Once on the 3rd floor, an officer with CPD let Inv. Slattery in with the use of a keycard. The Chattanooga-Hamilton County Air Pollution Control Bureau appeared to utilize the majority, if not all, of the 3rd floor, with individual employee offices along the perimeter of the floor. The scene and decedent were located on the northeast end of the office. Decedent was located about 15 feet from the door with Mr. Drumeller's office another 5 feet to the right past the decedent.

The door to Mr. Drumeller's office had significant damage with a hole noted in the door and splintered wood. Office chairs and other furniture were stacked up near the door. A black laptop bag was observed on one of the chairs. A black gun was located on the desk. This was the gun that had misfired. The gun was a Crosman C11 BB gun.

Significant blood spatter was observed on the wall facing the decedent. Tissue and hair fragments were observed on the wall and a painting just outside Mr. Drumeller's office. A blood trail was observed on the carpet near the decedent. A handgun was observed near decedent's right leg.

The gun was a Taurus Millennium Pro 145 (NYH21604) semi-automatic handgun. A bullet was found in the chamber and 8 bullets were found in the magazine which had a capacity to hold 10. The bullets were all HPR 45 Auto hollow point. A casing was not found on scene and no defects were found in the walls or ceiling of the office.

Decedent was found in the hallway in a right lateral recumbent position on the carpeted floor of the office. Decedent was clothed in a black polo uniform shirt, jeans, black belt with black phone case, grey/black socks, and black shoes. Decedent's cell phone had been taken by CPD as evidence. A watch with black band was observed on decedent's left wrist. A red foam ball and a flashlight battery were found in decedent's left front pocket. A Keltec P32 (CZX69) semi-automatic handgun was found in decedent's right front pocket and was observed to have one bullet in the chamber and full magazine with 7 rounds. Also found in decedent's right front pocket was two red foam balls, a plastic fingertip, a key fob, two keys that appeared to be vehicle keys, a paperclip with two (2) handcuff keys. The handcuff keys, key fob, vehicle keys, and handgun were released to CPD on scene. A black wallet was found in decedent's right rear pocket and contained decedent's Tennessee driver's license, Social Security card, insurance cards, a medication and emergency contact list, insurance cards and cash (not inventoried on scene), along with a "White Privilege" card.

The decedent was a 67-year-old Caucasian male who was cool to the touch. Rigor mortis was not yet present in major muscle groups and manipulation was possible with minimal force. Livor mortis was right-side dependent, consistent with position found, and blanched easily with somewhat slow return. Decedent had a stellate-shaped wound midline on his forehead with significant blood and brain matter exposed. Corneas were clear. Light tache noir was present on sclera. Conjunctiva were slightly edematous. Nares appeared congested with blood. The oral airway was unable to be examined due to clenching of the jaw. Natural dentition was present on the mandible and maxilla. Due to the presence of clothing, the chest, abdomen and lower extremities were unable to be examined. Decedent has significant blood spatter to his upper extremities. Fingernails were short and clean. Examination of the posterior revealed a small abrasion on the occipital portion of the head. Upon completion of the examination, decedent was placed in a supine position in a blue body recovery bag that was sealed with Seal #1686840. Prior to placement in the bag, CSU Pickard performed gunshot residue (GSR) testing on decedent's hands.

According to Det. King, decedent had a run-in with law enforcement about 7 years prior where officers were called to his residence. Upon officer arrival, decedent held himself at gunpoint threatening suicide. Decedent was subdued by officers. It was unclear the exact disposition of that call.

A Controlled Substance Monitoring Database (CSMD) report was obtained on the decedent and yielded a positive result. Decedent had been prescribed 30 Zolpidem on 06/20/2024. There were no medications to be photographed or collected on scene. A copy of that report was uploaded to MDILog.

Past medical history for the decedent was obtained by medical records obtained from EPIC-Erlanger Medical Center's record system and included depression, CAD with stent, HTN, HLD, DMII, OSA, and ischemic cardiomyopathy with 60% EF. A copy of those records was uploaded to MDI Log.

Due to traumatic injury that led to decedent's death, medical examiner jurisdiction was accepted. Decedent was transported by Calvary Transport Service to the HCRFC for an examination by a forensic pathologist.

Law enforcement did not have any special requests. Det. James King is conducting the law enforcement investigation.

***The investigative information provided in the above report may be incomplete and is subject to change as new information becomes available.***

## **Cause and Manner of Death**

**Cause of death:** Gunshot Wound of the head

**Manner of death:** Suicide

I hereby declare that after receiving notice of death described herein, I conducted an investigation regarding the cause of death in accordance with Section 38-7-109 Tennessee Code Annotated and that the information contained herein regarding such death is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

**MDI:** Robin Slattery

Signature of Medical Examiner:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven C Cogswell', written in a cursive style.

**Steven C Cogswell, M.D.**

Date signed: 07/13/2024

# Toxicology Report page 1



NMS Labs  
200 Welsh Road, Horsham, PA 19044-2208  
Phone: (215) 657-4900 Fax: (215) 657-2972  
e-mail: nms@nmslabs.com  
Robert A. Middleberg, PhD, F-ABFT, DABCC-TC, Laboratory Director

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## Toxicology Report

Report Issued 07/09/2024 11:16

To: **147407**  
Hamilton County Medical Examiner  
3202 Amnicola Hwy  
Chattanooga, TN 37406

Patient Name Schultz, John C  
Patient ID 240624-1124  
Chain 240624-1124  
DOB 05/26/1957  
Sex Male  
Workorder 24269365

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### Positive Findings:

None Detected

See Detailed Findings section for additional information

Agency Case Number: 240624-1124

### Testing Requested:

| Test  | Test Name                           |
|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 8051B | Postmortem, Basic, Blood (Forensic) |

### Specimens Received:

| ID  | Tube/Container          | Volume/<br>Mass | Collection<br>Date/Time | Matrix Source    | Labeled As  |
|-----|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| 001 | Gray Stopper Glass Tube | 8.75 mL         | 06/25/2024 15:10        | Postmortem Blood | 240624-1124 |
| 002 | Gray Stopper Glass Tube | 9 mL            | 06/25/2024 15:10        | Postmortem Blood | 240624-1124 |

All sample volumes/weights are approximations.  
Specimens received on 07/03/2024.

NMS v.27.0

# Toxicology Report page 2



CONFIDENTIAL

Workorder 24269365  
Chain 240624-1124  
Patient ID 240624-1124

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## Detailed Findings:

Examination of the specimen(s) submitted did not reveal any positive findings of toxicological significance by procedures outlined in the accompanying Analysis Summary.

## Sample Comments:

001 Physician/Pathologist Name: Steven C Cogswell

Unless alternate arrangements are made by you, the remainder of the submitted specimens will be discarded one (1) year from the date of this report; and generated data will be discarded five (5) years from the date the analyses were performed.

Workorder 24269365 was electronically signed on 07/09/2024 10:54 by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emily M. Fenton'.

Emily M. Fenton, MBA, MSFS  
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.

Test 8051B - Postmortem, Basic, Blood (Forensic) - Postmortem Blood

-Analysis by Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) for:

| Analyte                    | Rpt. Limit   | Analyte                    | Rpt. Limit |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Amphetamines               | 20 ng/mL     | Fentanyl / Acetyl Fentanyl | 0.50 ng/mL |
| Barbiturates               | 0.040 mcg/mL | Methadone / Metabolite     | 25 ng/mL   |
| Benzodiazepines            | 100 ng/mL    | Methamphetamine / MDMA     | 20 ng/mL   |
| Buprenorphine / Metabolite | 0.50 ng/mL   | Opiates                    | 20 ng/mL   |
| Cannabinoids               | 10 ng/mL     | Oxycodone / Oxymorphone    | 10 ng/mL   |
| Cocaine / Metabolites      | 20 ng/mL     | Phencyclidine              | 10 ng/mL   |

-Analysis by Headspace Gas Chromatography (GC) for:

| Analyte | Rpt. Limit | Analyte     | Rpt. Limit |
|---------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Acetone | 5.0 mg/dL  | Isopropanol | 5.0 mg/dL  |
| Ethanol | 10 mg/dL   | Methanol    | 10 mg/dL   |

Digital data review may have taken place remotely by qualified NMS staff utilizing a secure VPN connection for some or all of the reported results. This is in accordance with and follows CLIA regulations.

NMS v.27.0

# Autopsy Report page 1



## Hamilton County Medical Examiner

3202 Annicola Highway Chattanooga, Tennessee 37406  
Phone: (423) 209-5700 Fax: (423) 493-5176

**Decedent: Schultz, John**

Age / Race / Sex: 67yo White Male

Date / Time of Death: 06/24/2024 @ 1747

ME Investigator: Robin Slattery

Pathologist: Steven C. Cogswell, MD

Autopsy Assistants: K. Miller and A. Smith

**Case: 240624-1124**

Autopsy: ME24-45

Date / Time of Exam: 06/25/2024 @ 1130

Police Agency: Chattanooga Police Department

LEO Attending: none

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## Postmortem Examination

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CAUSE OF DEATH: Gunshot wound of the head

MANNER OF DEATH: Suicide

### AUTOPSY FINDINGS

1. Contact range penetrating wound of head

Entrance central forehead

Skull fractures, brain lacerations

Bullet recovered from brain

Pathway backward, slightly downward, and very slightly rightward

### Other findings

1. Abrasion of posterior scalp

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### EVIDENCE OF INJURY

A contact range penetrating gunshot wound of the head has its entrance in the central forehead, 2 3/4 inches below the top of the head and on the anterior midline. The entrance defect is 5/8 x 1/2 inch with skin lacerations to 3/4 inch extending superiorly. Circumferential marginal charring and a partial muzzle imprint are present.

The bullet enters the skull through a keyhole defect. Soot is on the outer table. The bullet passes backward through the brain causing morcellation of both frontal poles and lacerations of the corpus callosum, midbrain, the right side of the pons, and the right lobe of the cerebellum. The bullet impacts the occipital bone, causing fracture of the inner table. Confluent subarachnoid hemorrhage is associated.

## Autopsy Report page 2

The recovered bullet is an expanded large caliber jacketed hollowpoint with partial fragmentation. The wound pathway is backward, slightly downward, and very slightly rightward.

A generally horizontal 2 x 1 inch superficial abrasion is on the posterior scalp.

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### EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body is a 69 inch, 250 pound, well developed white male appearing consistent with the recorded age of 67 years. Body habitus is obese. Rigor mortis is fully developed. Fixed purple-red livor mortis is posterior, except in areas exposed to pressure. Decomposition is absent. Except as noted below, the external examination is unremarkable. Clothing and personal effects are documented.

The scalp hair is grey with balding. The earlobes are creased. The eyes are blue without arcus senilis. The corneas are clear. The sclerae and conjunctivae are unremarkable with no petechial hemorrhages. The oral and nasal mucosae are unremarkable. The dentition is natural and in good condition. A full beard and mustache are present. The neck is unremarkable.

The chest and abdomen are normally formed. The breasts have no masses. The abdomen is obese and soft without identifiable scars. The external genitalia are atraumatic normal adult male. The back is straight and normally formed.

The extremities are normally formed without absence of digits. The forearms have a few irregular scars. The hands and fingernails are clean. The fingernails are short and intact. The lower legs have multiple scars with mild stasis changes.

MEDICAL THERAPY: None.

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### INTERNAL EXAMINATION

The autopsy is limited to head only. Reflecting the scalp reveals no pre-existing lesions. The meninges are thin, transparent and congested. The 1411 gram brain has mild to moderate edema. The external configuration is symmetrical and unremarkable. The vasculature has no atherosclerosis. Serial sections through the cerebral hemispheres reveal no pre-existing lesions within the cortex, subcortical white matter, or deep parenchyma of either hemisphere. The cerebral ventricles are not dilated. Sections through the brainstem and cerebellum reveal no pre-existing lesions. Stripping the dura reveals the above-noted skull fractures.

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### ADDITIONAL STUDIES

1. Subclavian blood is sent for toxicology studies.
2. A blood spot card is saved.
3. Photographs are taken.
4. X-rays are done.



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5. The recovered bullet is packaged for receipt to law enforcement.

### TOXICOLOGY

Qualitative urine drug screen for the common drugs of abuse was done at the time of autopsy. It was negative. Confirmatory testing and quantitation on blood revealed a negative drug screen. Blood alcohol was also negative.



Steven C. Cogswell, MD

13 July 2024