McKenzie Kargel

PBS 3A

Drennon

Unit 1 Case report

Introduction: At 9:45 on a hot, 92 degree morning, Anna Garcia’s neighbor called the police because her dog was barking incessantly and she had not opened the door or answered the phone. He had last seen her walking her dog early that morning when she was wearing a sweater, though it was hot. Anna was found lying face down in her entryway.

Summary of findings: One person of interest in Anna Garcia’s case is her ex-husband, Alex Garcia, whom she recently divorced and who quickly married a younger woman (Erica Piedmont, who is also a person of interest because she was seen sitting outside Anna’s house he previous day). He is expecting a baby and is low on money, but he is still the beneficiary on Anna Garcia’s life insurance plan. He went to Anna’s house the previous night to discuss some paperwork. Another person of interest is Doug Greene, who had been dating Anna until she recently broke up with him. He knows that she has no close family or friends, and that she usually walks her dog every morning, but has not been doing this recently. Lucy Leffingwell co- owned a bakery with Anna, but has been considering buying her out because of their disagreement over whether to expand with a line of sugar- free products or not. She saw Anna at work the previous day when she said she had to leave early to take care of something. She knows that Anna had been in the hospital and was experiencing radiating back pain, but thought she had healed because she stopped taking her antibiotics.

 At the crime scene was found: a pool of vomit, blood spatters, a pool of blood under the head, a syringe, some small white pills, fingerprints on a spilled orange juice glass, hair on a lamp, and a muddy shoeprint. The blood could belong to Anna Garcia or Erica Piedmont. The pills are acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin). The hair and fingerprints belong to Anna. The gel electrophoresis shows that the DNA found belongs to Anna Garcia as well. The blood spatters were between eight and ten millimeters in diameter and probably fell from a height of about five or six centimeters.

 The Autopsy report includes that there is an injury to the right temple, with an open wound where pre- mortem bruising is evident. The ankles are swollen. The fingernails and pallor show substantial greying, which is a sign of lack of oxygen. The right upper arm and left lower shin had both been broken recently, but healed before the time of death. There is an inflamed, red injection site on her left thigh.

Conclusion: Anna Garcia’s death was probably an accident. Anna could have had some sort of allergic reaction while walking her dog, and used the syringe to inject herself with adrenaline, which would explain the puncture wounds on her leg. This would also explain the greying of the fingernails due to lack of oxygen. She could then have gotten some aspirin to take, but tripped over her dog and hit her head on the table while she was drinking it. There was no evidence found showing that any other person was ever at the scene