



VERDICT AT CORONER'S INQUEST

File No.: 2006:0273:0939

An Inquest was held at the Coroners Court, in the municipality of Burnaby in the Province of British Columbia, on the following dates March 31 - April 4, 2008 before Scott Fleming, Presiding Coroner, into the death of LAM Yau Tong (Frankie), 51, Male, and the following findings were made:

Date and Time of Death: 1 August, 2006 0123 Hours

Place of Death: Shell Road & Cambie Road Richmond, B.C. (Location) (Municipality/Province)

Medical Cause of Death

(1) Immediate Cause of Death: a) Multiple Blunt Force Injuries DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

Antecedent Cause if any: b) Motor Vehicle Accident DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

Giving rise to the immediate cause (a) above, stating underlying cause last. c)

(2) Other Significant Conditions Contributing to Death:

Classification of Death: [X] Accidental [ ] Homicide [ ] Natural [ ] Suicide [ ] Undetermined

The above verdict certified by the Jury on the 4th day of April AD, 2008.

SCOTT FLEMING Presiding Coroner's Printed Name

Original signed by S. Fleming Presiding Coroner's Signature



## VERDICT AT CORONER'S INQUEST

### FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS A RESULT OF THE INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF

FILE No.: 2006:0273:0939

LAM

SURNAME

Yau Tong (Frankie)

GIVEN NAMES

#### **PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE INQUEST:**

Presiding Coroner: Scott Fleming

Coroner Counsel: Steven Boorne

Court Reporting/Recording Agency: Verbatim Words West Ltd.

Participants/Counsel: Helen Roberts, Counsel for the Department of Justice for the RCMP  
Catherine Kinahan, Counsel for the Vancouver Police Department  
The Lam Family, on their own behalf

The Sheriff took charge of the jury and recorded 24 exhibits. Seventeen witnesses were duly sworn in and testified.



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*Pursuant to Section 38 of the Coroner's Act, the following recommendations are forwarded to the Chief Coroner of the Province of British Columbia for distribution to the appropriate agency:*

#### **JURY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To: Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
Commander "E" Division, RCMP  
Attorney General of British Columbia  
Chief Constable – Vancouver Police Department  
British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police

1. We recommend that the level of the event that triggers a pursuit be raised. Specifically, we recommend that pursuits should be considered as equivalent to a high level use of force/high risk option, and should only be employed when other options have been exhausted, or are not available.
2. We recommend that in both urban and suburban detachments the administrative and supervisory duties of an NCO be split, and performed by separate police officers.
3. We recommend that police officers on regular duty, particularly ERT and Canine Units, entering a police jurisdiction other than their own, must immediately contact Dispatch for that jurisdiction, and place themselves under the supervision of the field officer in that jurisdiction. As well, Police Units frequently operating in other jurisdictions should be required to familiarize themselves with the policies and procedures of those jurisdictions.

To: Commander "E" Division, RCMP  
Chief Constable - Vancouver Police Department  
Chief Constable - New Westminster Police Service  
Chief Constable – West Vancouver Police Department  
ECOMM

4. We recommend that all supervisory and/or field officers within the jurisdictions served by ECOMM be required to spend a shift in the ECOMM Dispatch Centre so as to more fully understand ECOMM policies and procedures.

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To: Justice Institute of British Columbia  
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
Commander "E" Division, RCMP  
Attorney General of British Columbia  
Chief Constable – Vancouver Police Department

5. We recommend that training in the concept and practices of "boxing and pinning" be more closely related to real world conditions. As well, "boxing and pinning" should specifically exclude the use of civilian vehicles as one of the vehicles being used in the procedure.

To: Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
Commander "E" Division, RCMP  
Attorney General of British Columbia  
Chief Constable – Vancouver Police Department

6. We recommend that it be incumbent on a shift supervisor to ensure that all staff under their supervision be made aware of the content of any documents setting out new policies or procedures.
7. We recommend that in any critical event, including police pursuits, where policies or procedures have not been adhered to, that the officer(s) involved be required to review the policy documents and procedures relevant to their actions.
8. We recommend that emergency services vehicles, which as part of their duties are required to travel to other police jurisdictions, be equipped with mapping GPS units.
9. We recommend that police officers be trained in, and required to employ, precise and specific terminology in all radio communications.

To: Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
Commander "E" Division, RCMP  
Attorney General of British Columbia  
Chief Constable – Vancouver Police Department  
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10. We recommend that Dispatchers for a police jurisdiction have a specific field supervisor identified for each shift to whom they must convey pertinent information about any incident(s) occurring within, or entering into, their police jurisdiction via a dedicated police radio frequency.