



MAGISTRATES COURT *of* TASMANIA

CORONIAL DIVISION

Record of Investigation into Death (Without Inquest)

*Coroners Act 1995
Coroners Rules 2006
Rule 11*

I, Simon Cooper, Coroner, having investigated the death of Dwayne Robert Davies

Find, pursuant to Section 28(1) of the Coroners Act 1995, that

- a) The identity of the deceased is Dwayne Robert Davies;
- b) Mr Davies died as a result of homicide;
- c) The cause of Mr Davies' death was a shotgun gun shot wound; and
- d) Mr Davies died on 26 May 2017 at 60 Cockatoo Gully Road, Elderslie, Tasmania.

Mr Davies, a 47 year old self employed tattoo artist and motor cycle aficionado, died when he was shot on 26 May 2017, by his close friend Bradley Scott Purkiss.

Purkiss shot Mr Davies at the instigation of Mr Davies' wife Margaret Anne Otto, with whom he was having an affair.

The shooting was, in effect, an ambush and involved pre-meditating and planning. After Purkiss killed Mr Davies, having lured him to his home at Elderslie under the pretext of discussing the possible purchase of a motorcycle, he took his body to a remote property at Levendale and buried it.

Mr Davies' body was recovered from its shallow grave on 2 June 2017, wrapped in plastic. It was taken by mortuary ambulance to Hobart where an autopsy was carried out by Dr Donald Ritchey, Forensic Pathologist.

At the autopsy, Dr Ritchey found Mr Davies' body to have shot gun wounds of both the head and the left upper back. Neither wound had an exit wound. A substantial amount of ballistic material was recovered from the corpse.

Mr Davies' body was formally identified by fingerprint comparison.

Purkiss and Otto were both charged, tried, convicted and sentenced to lengthy periods of imprisonment for the murder of Mr Davies.

Comments and Recommendations

The circumstances of Mr Davies' death are not such as to require me to make any comments or recommendations pursuant to Section 28 of the *Coroners Act 1995*.

I convey my sincere condolences to the family and loved ones of Dwayne Robert Davies.

Dated: 19 January 2024 at Hobart in the State of Tasmania.

Simon Cooper
Coroner