

Case No. 81-15167 Crypt No. 1

1 **REPORTED AS:**

Natural Accident Suicide Homicide
 At Work Nursing Home In Custody State Hospital
 Officer Involved Hit & Run F.R.A.

Probable Drowning in Ocean

81-15167
 WAGNER/Aka: WOOD, NATAL
 Found 11-29-81
 Acc. : 1

Reported by Detective Morsek Address LASO Homicide Phone 714-4311

Found Dead by: Found Dead by: L.A. County Life Guards
 Pronounced Dead by:

Agency Notified: _____ Date & Time _____
 Officer _____

Name of Decedent - First Natalie Middle _____ Last Wagner/Aka: Wood

Date of Death (Month, Day, Year) 11-29-81 Hour 0744

Sex Female Race Cauc 12. Social Security Number _____ 13. Birthplace of Decedent (state or foreign country) _____

6. Date of Birth 7-16-38 7. Age 43 years

14. Name of Surviving Spouse (if wife, enter birth name) _____ Religion _____

16. Number of Years in this occupation _____ 17. Employer (if self-employed, so state) _____

18. Kind of Industry or Business _____

19A. Usual Residence - Street Address (street and number or location) 603 North Canon Drive

19B. City or Town Beverly Hills 19C. County Los Angeles 19D. State Calif.

20. Name and Address of Informant - Relationship _____

21A. Street Address (street and number or location) Isthmus of Catalina Island

21B. City or Town Catalina Island 21C. County Los Angeles

22. Specify Accident, Suicide or Homicide Accident 23. Place of Injury Ocean

24. Injury at Work No 25. Date of Injury - Month, day, year 11- -81 26. Hour unk.

27. Location (street and number or location and city or town) Pacific Ocean - Catalina Island

28. Describe How Injury Occurred (events which resulted in injury) Probable Drowning in Ocean

NOTIFICATION

Next of Kin Husband Address _____ Date & Time 11-29-81

Relationship _____ Phone _____ Notified Yes by Present

Teletype - Sent by _____ of Sheriff's Teletype. Date, Time & Initials _____

Personal notification - To be made by _____ of _____ Date, Time & Initials _____

IDENTIFICATION

Personal OR by: Dennis Davern Address 4626 Via Marina

City Marina Del Rey Relationship Boat Skipper Phone 821-5313 Initials FD Date & Time 11-29-81

P.F. No. _____ DPSS No. _____

Brought in by Coroner Mortuary _____

Name P. Baker & M. Johnson Date & Time 11-29-81 @ 1530 hrs.

Blood Sample Yes No Explain _____

I.D. Tag Yes No

Door Sealed P.A. Coroner Not

Reported to P.A. Yes No

GSR Kit Yes No

Prints Yes No
 Property Yes No
 Clothing Yes No
 Evidence brought in Meds Other
 A.S. Photo Yes No
 Hospital Report Yes No
 Note Yes No

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

I.D. Viewable Yes No Body Condition Good - unembalmed

Sex Female Race Cauc Age 43 Height 64 In. Weight 120 lbs. Hair brown Eyes brown Teeth OWN

Mustache NONE XXXXXX Left Wrist _____ Scars Midline-lower abdomen

Beard NONE Deformity _____

Mortuary WESTWOOD VILLAGE Release Here Yes No
 Vitals Here Yes No

Investigator Kenneth A. Baker

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Decedent is actress Natalie Wood who along with her husband Robert Wagner, a friend, and the skipper of the Wagner boat, were spending the weekend at Catalina Island.

In the early morning hours of Sunday, November 29, 1981, sometime after the group had returned to the boat, which was moored off the Isthmus, Mr. Wagner became aware that his wife and the boats dinghy were both missing. Mr. Wagner immediately radioed for help and a search was begun. Mrs. Wagner's body was spotted from the air by a Sheriff's Department helicopter that was enroute to the island to assist in the search. L.A. County Life Guards and two private searchers were the first ones to reach the body of Mrs. Wagner and pulled her from the water, where upon she was pronounced dead at 0744 hours.

Spoke with Don Whiting, night manager, of Doug's Harbor Reef, Catalina Isthmus, who related the following. Mr. Whiting arrived to work between 1600 and 1700 hours and the Wagner party was already in the bar and had been drinking. The party remained in the bar until approximately 1900 to 1930 hours at which time they were seated for dinner at the same location. During the course of the dinner, Mr. Whiting estimates that the group consumed a couple bottles of champagne. Mr. Whiting says the group left the restaurant to return to their boat at approximately 2200 to 2230 hours and that the entire group appeared to him to be intoxicated. Mr. Whiting at this time called Kurt Craig of the Harbor Patrol and asked him to make sure that the group reached their boat safely, which Mr. Craig is reported to have done.

Spoke with Mr. Wagner who related that the last time he remembers seeing his wife was at 2245 hours. Mr. Wagner when he realized his wife was missing, placed a radio call for help.

Don Whiting heard Mr. Wagner's radio call for help (Mr. Whiting lives on a boat and during his waking hours always monitors radio) at approximately 0130 hours and in turn called a friend on the Isthmus to go to the Wagner boat and advise him of the situation and if a search should be started.

When it was determined that indeed the dinghy and Natalie Wood were missing, a search was begun with Harbor Patrol, Bay Watch, private searchers, L.A. County Sheriff and U.S. Coast Guard all participating.

Mrs. Wagner's body was found approximately 200 yards off the Blue Cavern Point, Isthmus area of Catalina Island, and north of where the

INVESTIGATOR

DATE

Patricia K. Baker

WHITE . FILE
YELLOW . TOXICOLOGY
PINK . INVESTIGATIONS

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dinghy was found, near the shoreline, a couple hours earlier.

Mr. Wagner was also questioned regarding the possibility of suicide, however he states that wife was not suicidal.

Don Whiting was one of the private searches who located the dinghy and says that key was in the ignition, which was in the off position. The gear was in neutral and the oars tied down, and it appeared as if the boat had not even been used.

Decedent's body had been taken from the ocean and placed in the Hyperbaric Chamber building for safe keeping. Upon this investigators arrival at location, decedent observed lying in "stokes litter". Decedent is wrapped in plastic sheet, she herself is dressed in flannel nightgown and socks. The jacket that she was wearing when found floating, is no longer on the body, having come off when she was pulled from the water. At time decedent was pulled from the water, sheriff's personnel says that body was absent of any rigor and they noted foam coming from mouth. Decedent still has foam coming from mouth. Rigor is now present of a 3 to 4+ throughout her entire body. Decedent has numerous bruises to legs and arms. Decedent's eyes are also a bit cloudy appearing. No other trauma noted and foul play is not suspected at this time.

Skipper of the Wagner boat, Dennis Davern, identified body to sheriff's deputies.

Please notify Detectives Rasher and Hamilton 1-HOUR PRIOR TO POST
AT 976-4341.

PE

APPROVED
Juan P. Ramirez
SR. INVEST.

Pamela K. Baker
INVESTIGATOR

Pamela K. Baker

11-29-81
DATE

WHITE - FILE
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USE SCALE TO DESCRIBE INTENSITY OF RIGOR MORTIS AND LIVOR MORTIS. USE SHADING ON DIAGRAMS TO ILLUSTRATE LOCATION OF LIVOR MORTIS. DESCRIBE INTENSITY OF COLORATION AND WHETHER LIVOR MORTIS IS PERMANENT OR BLANCHES UNDER PRESSURE.

SCALE
0=Absent/Negative
1 +
2 +
3 +
4 +=Extreme Degree

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RIGOR MORTIS: None at time of being pulled from Ocean @ 0744 on 11-29-81

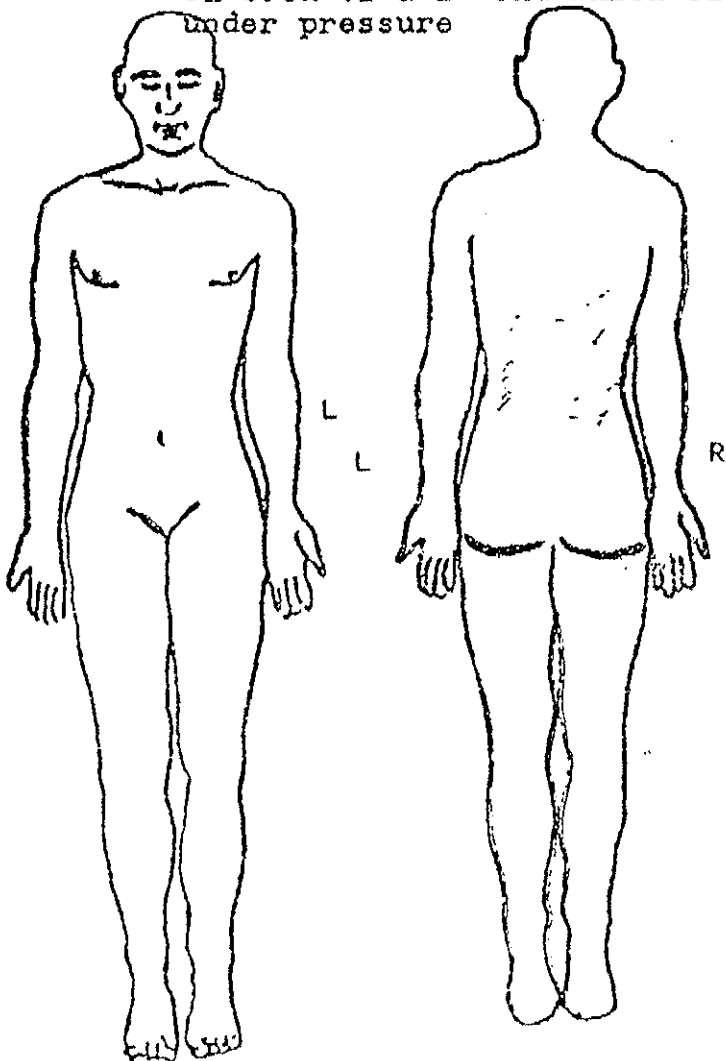
NECK: 11-29-81 at 1330 hours
Anterior Flexion 3-4+
Posterior flexion 3-4+
Right lateral flexion 3-4+
Left lateral flexion 3-4+

JAW: 3-4+ HIP: 4+
SHOULDER: 3-4+ KNEE: 4+
ELBOW: 3-4+ ANKLE: 4+
WRIST: 3-4+

TEMPERATURE:
ENVIRONMENT TEMPERATURE= 63° %F
DATE 11-29-81 TIME 1330 HRS
LIVER TEMPERATURE= 65° %F
WHERE TAKEN @ Scene
DATE 11-29-81 TIME 1335 HRS

Reported Surface Temp of Water at time Found 0744 62° to 63°

LIVOR MORTIS: Very slight and only in patches on back of a 1+ and which blanches under pressure



DATE AND TIME OF DEATH: IF KNOWN
Fd. 11-29-81 @ 0744

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION WHERE BODY FOUND AND CONTACT MATERIAL TO BODY

Floating Face Down In Ocean

TEMPERATURE REGULATED?

YES NO AT _____ DEGREE F
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CLOTHING

Flannel Nightgown, Socks and

Down Jacket, now off body

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

AGE 43 SEX Female

THIN MUSCULAR
 EMACIATED HEAVY
 AVERAGE OBESE
 OTHER _____

ACTIVITY PRIOR TO DEATH, IF KNOWN unk.

NONE MODERATE
 SLIGHT EXTREME

PREPARED BY Patricia K. Baker INVESTIGATOR
Patricia K. Baker