

# FOR PUBLIC RELEASE: Coroner Judgement of Inquiry and Inquest Inquisition and Recommendations

Department of Justice, Legal Services Yukon Coroners Service 206C Lowe Street PO Box 2703 (J-10A) Y1A 2C6 Whitehorse, YT

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Yukon Coroners Service: Judgement of Inquiry into the death of: Jeffrey WILLIAMS  Coroner Investigative File No.: 45202017036		
Name: Williams, Jeffrey Rory Dion		: 2017/08/25
Address: Atlin, British Columbia	YYYY/MM//DD	YYYY/MM/DD
Ethnic Origin: First Nation Street Address	Province/Territory  Location of Death: Alaska Highway, KM 1388	Postal Code

## **Cause of Death**

(a) Multiple Blunt Force Trauma (b) Motor Vehicle Incident - Driver

# Manner of Death

Accidental

## **Autopsy Findings**

Examination of the body revealed multiple blunt force trauma incompatible with life.

# **Toxicological Findings**

Toxicology testing detected a moderate to heavy level of alcohol intoxication with a blood alcohol content (BAC) of 0.19%.

### **Circumstances of Death**

Mr. WILLIAMS was driving a late model BMW, with three passengers from Whitehorse on the evening of August 25, 2017. The vehicle was en route to Tagish on the Alaska Highway. Near km 1388 (6 kms south of the Lewes River bridge), the BMW began to travel off-road onto the gravel shoulder. At that point of contact with the shoulder, the vehicle rotated clockwise as it continued to travel southbound, eventually moving back onto the highway and the southbound lane. The driver then over-corrected to the opposite direction, causing the BMW to begin to rotate counter clockwise. The vehicle continued this rotation into the northbound lane where it 'tripped" and rolled for 26.7 meters coming to a rest upright and facing northwest on the edge of the northbound lane. The incident scene stretched for 183 meters from the point where Mr. WILLIAMS first encountered the shoulder. Mr. WILLIAMS was ejected from the vehicle and was found to be lying approximately 30 meters from where the vehicle came to rest. Evidence indicated that he had not been wearing his seatbelt at the time of the incident. Mr. WILLIAMS died at the scene.

Witnesses traveling southbound had reported that the BMW driven by Mr. WILLIAMS had recently passed them at speeds reaching 150 km/hr.

# Significant Factors/Conclusions

Excessive speed, alcohol intoxication and failure to wear a seatbelt were the significant factors in the death of Jeffrey WILLIAMS.

These factors continue to be significant contributors to injuries and death on Yukon highways..

I therefore find that Jeffrey WILLIAMS came to his death on August 25th, 2017 from unnatural causes, to wit: Multiple Blunt Force Trauma. I classify his death as Accidental.

#### Recommendations

No recommendations.

Whitehorse, Yukon
Province/Territory

August 13, 2018

Date

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Clear