

Coroner's Verdict

Case Number 2022-134-05

The State of Ohio }
 } ss.
Ashtabula County }

On or about the 13th day of April A.D., 2022, information was given to the Ashtabula County Coroner's Office that the dead body of one, **David L. WARD JR**, came to his death as a result of apparent violent means (Sec. 313.11 etc. Ohio Revised Code), at the Emergency Department inside the Ashtabula County Medical Center, Ashtabula City, Ashtabula County.

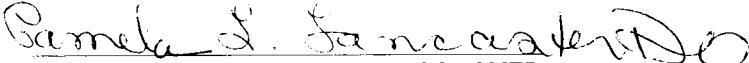
Further information was obtained concerning the circumstances of the death, i.e.: deceased was shot once in the chest.

The body was examined at the scene and at the Ashtabula County Medical Center Morgue and autopsied at the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office and found to be that of a race; White, sex; Male, 23 years of age with the following physical description, identifying characteristics, and wounds: gunshot to middle of chest, hair; Red-Blond, eyes; Green , weight; 201 lbs., height;69 inches.

There is a history that on April 13th, 2022, at approximately 0132 hours, the above said, **David L. WARD JR**, was found unresponsive. E-911 had been called and were on standby in the immediate area because of a Police situation involving **WARD**. **WARD** was pronounced dead, at 0148 hours, by Emergency Room Physician, Dr. Cortez. The Ashtabula County Coroner's Office was contacted and an investigator responded to the scene. Information provided to the Coroner's Office revealed **WARD** had been brought into the Ashtabula County Medical Center's Emergency Department by E.M.S after being shot once in the chest. **WARD** was involved in a standoff with Police Officers from the Ashtabula City Police and subsequently was shot once in the chest by Police. Police and E.M.S attempted to resuscitate **WARD** and transported him to the Emergency Department. **WARD** was later pronounced dead after all resuscitation attempts failed. **WARD** was transported to the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office where an autopsy was performed by Dr. Erica Armstrong. **WARD** was later released to Lake Erie Funeral Home. Toxicology and Autopsy results revealed positive detection Delta-9-THC, 1.0 +/- 0.2 ng/ml, Delta-9-THCCOOH, 3.1 +/- 0.8 NG/ML, Ethanol, 0.292 +/- 0.021 g/dl. The Cause of Death is **Gunshot Wound of Chest with visceral, vascular, skeletal and soft tissue injuries**. The Manner of Death is ruled **Homicide**.

Upon full inquiry based on all the known facts, I, PAMELA L. LANCASTER, D.O., Coroner of Ashtabula County, find that **David L. WARD JR** came to his death officially on the 13th day of April A.D., 2022.

Cause of Death: **Gunshot Wound of Chest with visceral, vascular, skeletal and soft tissue injuries**
Classification: **Homicide**


PAMELA L. LANCASTER D.O., CORONER

RULED: June 2, 2022

