

Upon search of the home, the officers entered the garage and located a nook created by a void under the interior stairs, which was fitted with a door. The door to the nook was fitted with a hasp and loop allowing the nook to be locked. Adjacent to the nook was a bottle of bleach atop a cooler and a microwave on a small table. Inside the microwave was a bowl filled with beans and corn pieces.

Reportedly on continued inspection, officers smelled urine in the garage and noticed that the garage door opener was unplugged. There was a pantry in the garage which also had a lock on it. Upon opening the nook door, a portable toilet was visualized and the floor was lined by a yellow egg crate style foam, that was dripping wet with either bleach or urine, when the mother stated that the decedent "lives in the garage". When asked why, the mother stated "inappropriate behavior". It was also discovered that the decedent's sister was also living in the nook with the decedent. The decedent's sister was taken to the hospital the following day and diagnosed with moderate malnutrition.

Medical records indicate that the decedent had been underweight in his last clinical visit and had no immunizations in 2014 and that his mother had been concerned about it and reported that he would not eat enough.

Autopsy showed emaciation with a body mass index of 12.3 kg/m² (Normal BMI: 18.5 kg/m² – 24.9 kg/m²) and abrasions of the head and neck, torso, and extremities. There were no lethal injuries identified. The stomach contained no gastric contents.

Toxicological studies performed on postmortem iliac blood specifically detected acetone (17 mg/dL) which is a product of fasting-induced ketoacidosis.

Relatively low concentrations of acetone in blood (>0.10g/L but <0.30g/L) probably reflects a disturbed carbohydrate metabolism or starvation ketosis during the last days of life.

Death was caused by malnutrition. It is unclear as to the exact events and occurrences ultimately leading to the decedent's malnutrition and whether or not it was due to the action or inaction of another person(s) therefore reports of the death scene investigation, circumstances surrounding and leading up to the death, and autopsy findings indicate the manner of death to be undetermined.