

Media Release

Snohomish County
Medical Examiner's Office
9509 29th Ave W, Everett, WA 98204
425-438-6200

If you are seeking updated information regarding COVID-19 related deaths, please see our COVID-19 Media Release <https://tinyurl.com/vdp9kuu>.

April 1st, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the remains found near State Route 9 between State Route 534 and Big Lake Boulevard in Skagit County on March 30th, 2020. The decedent is **Howard P. Benzel**, 67, of Mukilteo, Washington. The cause of death is blunt force injuries. The manner of death is Homicide.

For further information, please contact the Everett Police Department.

March 31st, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 36-year-old male found near the 3300 block of 203rd Street SW in Lynnwood, Washington on March 28th, 2020. The decedent is **Demarcus A. Bell** of Tacoma, Washington. The cause of death is a gunshot wound. The manner of death is Homicide.

For further information, please contact the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office Major Crimes Unit.

March 30th, 2020

Information on the 36-year-old male found near the 3300 block of 203rd Street SW in Lynnwood, Washington on March 28th, 2020 will be released following confirmation of identification, notification of next-of-kin, and examination.

For further information, please contact the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office Major Crimes Unit.

March 20th, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 40-year-old male who was found in his residence after a structural fire near the 7900 block of 72nd Drive NE in Marysville, Washington on March 19th, 2020. The decedent is **Joel J. Zimmermann** of Marysville, Washington. Both the cause and manner of death are pending further investigation.

Cause of Death

Cause of Death is a term used to indicate the medical cause of death, listing the disease(s) or injuries that caused death. Specific cause of death information is recorded on the death certificate and is entered into the Vital Statistics System of the State of Washington.

Manner of Death

Manner of Death is the way to categorize death as required by the Washington State Department of Health. The classifications are Natural, Accident, Suicide, Homicide, Undetermined, and Pending. Only medical examiners and coroners may certify non-natural deaths.

Natural is defined for Medical Examiner death certification purposes as a death due solely to an illness or medical issue not influenced by external factors.

Accident is defined for Medical Examiner death certification purposes as an unnatural death resulting from an inadvertent chance happening.

Suicide is defined for Medical Examiner death certification purposes as a death from self-inflicted injury with evidence of intent to die.

Homicide is defined as the action of one person directly causing the death of another. All murders are homicides, not all homicides are murder. An example may be an unintentional firearms-related hunting death.

Undetermined is for cases that have very little available information about the circumstances surrounding death (e.g., partial skeletal remains) or where known information equally supports, or conflicts with, more than one manner of death.

Pending is a temporary designation for cause and/or manner when additional investigation, information and/or test results are required for certification. Pending is generally amended as soon as additional information becomes available.

*A full explanation of Cause and Manner can be found in our [Annual Report](#).

The postmortem report is confidential in the state of Washington ([RCW 68.50.105](#)). Visit the [Records Request](#) page for information on obtaining postmortem reports.

For further information, please contact the Marysville Police Department.

March 10, 2020 1:00 P.M.

All COVID-19 deaths should be reported to the Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office.

SCMEO is reporting zero decedents under our jurisdiction with positive COVID-19 laboratory results. Any suspected COVID-19 cases are sent to an outside laboratory for confirmation. This office only releases confirmed information.

Updates posted daily at 4:00 P.M. at <https://tinyurl.com/vdp9kuu>.

For additional information, please contact Snohomish County's COVID-19 Joint Information Center at eccjic.activation@snoco.org or 425-388-5170, during business hours.

February 24, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 49-year-old male who was involved in a multiple motor vehicle collision near Highway 2 Mile Post 56 in Coles Corner, Washington on February 21st, 2020. The decedent died during transport to a medical facility. The decedent is **Jason Ebright** of Cashmere, Washington. The cause of death is blunt force injuries. The manner of death is Accident.

For further information, please contact the Washington State Patrol.

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 64-year-old male found inside the 7-Eleven near the 8100 block of 238th Street SW in Edmonds, Washington on February 21st, 2020. The decedent is **Nagendiram Kandasamy** of Edmonds, Washington. The cause of death is a gunshot wound. The manner of death is Homicide.

For further information, please contact the Edmonds Police Department.

February 21, 2020

Information on the 64-year-old male found inside the 7-Eleven near the 8100 block of 238th Street SW in Edmonds, Washington on February 21st, 2020 will be released following confirmation of identification, notification of next-of-kin, and examination.

For further information, please contact the Edmonds Police Department.

February 13, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has officially identified the human skeletal remains discovered by a citizen on February 9th, 2020 near the 7900 block of 31st Avenue NE in Marysville, Washington. The decedent is **Jacob M. Hilkin** of Everett, Washington. Jacob was 24-years-old when he went missing in January 2018. The cause and manner of death is pending further investigation.

For further information, please contact the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office.

February 10, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 73-year-old male who was involved in a pedestrian versus motor vehicle collision near

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the 4800 block of South 2nd Avenue in Everett, Washington on January 24th, 2020 and later died at a local hospital on February 9th, 2020. The decedent is **Richard J. De Francesco** of Everett, Washington. The cause of death is blunt force injuries. The manner of death is Accident.

For further information, please contact the Everett Police Department.

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 56-year-old male who was involved in a motor vehicle collision near the intersection of Madison Street and Evergreen Way in Everett, Washington on February 9th, 2020. The decedent is **Paulo A. Rubio** of Mukilteo, Washington. The cause of death is blunt force injuries. The manner of death is Accident.

For further information, please contact the Everett Police Department.

On February 9th, 2020, a citizen discovered human skeletal remains near the 7900 block of 31st Avenue NE in Marysville, Washington. Snohomish County Sheriff's Office Major Crimes Detectives and Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office recovered the remains. The remains have been tentatively identified and the family has been notified. More information will follow once positive scientific identification has been made.

For further information, please contact the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office.

February 3, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 14-year-old male who was involved in a pedestrian versus motor vehicle collision near Highway 99 and 200th Street SW in Lynnwood, Washington on January 31st, 2020. The decedent is **Deandre Whitaker** of Lynnwood, Washington. The cause of death is blunt force injuries. The manner of death is Accident.

For further information, please contact the Lynnwood Police Department.

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 39-year-old male who was found near the 1800 block of Chestnut Drive in Everett, Washington on January 31st, 2020. The decedent is **Gerald M. Lance** of Everett, Washington. The cause of death is multiple gunshot wounds of the chest. The manner of death is Homicide.

For further information, please contact the Everett Police Department.

January 31, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 59-year-old male who was involved in a pedestrian versus motor vehicle collision near the 900 block of 4th Street in Marysville, Washington on January 24th, 2020 and died at a local hospital on January 31st, 2020. The decedent is **Thomas D. Oglesby** of Marysville, Washington. The cause of death is blunt force injuries. The manner of death is Accident.

For further information, please contact the Marysville Police Department.

January 27, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 72-year-old female who was involved in a pedestrian versus motor vehicle collision near the 4900 block of 196th Street SW in Lynnwood, Washington on January 26th, 2020. The decedent is **Shirley E. Tinsley** of Lynnwood, Washington. The cause of death is blunt force injuries. The manner of death is Accident.

For further information, please contact the Lynnwood Police Department.

January 16, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 57-year-old female who was found near the 6300 block of Snohomish Cascade Drive in Snohomish, Washington on January 15th, 2020. The decedent is **Kathleen E. Jenks** of Snohomish, Washington. The cause of death is hypothermia. The manner of death is Accident.

For further information, please contact the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office.

January 9, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 27-year-old female who was involved in a motor vehicle versus structure collision and subsequent fire near the 21900 block of 43rd Court West in Mountlake Terrace, Washington on January 6th, 2020. The decedent is **Courtney A. Larreinaga** of Mountlake Terrace, Washington. The cause of death is thermal burns and smoke inhalation. The manner of death is Accident.

For further information, please contact the Mountlake Terrace Police Department

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 44-year-old male who was found near the Edgewater Beach Park in Everett, Washington on January 8th, 2020. The decedent is **Sophy L. Math** of Seattle, Washington. The cause of death is drowning. The manner of death is Accident.

For further information, please contact the Everett Police Department.

January 6, 2020

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 54-year-old male who was found in a wooded area near the 1900 block of 40th Street in Everett, Washington on January 3rd, 2020. The decedent is **Kenneth S. Schale** of Everett, Washington. The cause and manner of death are pending further investigation.

For further information, please contact the Everett Police Department.

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office has completed the examination and confirmed the identification of the 63-year-old male who was involved in a multiple motor vehicle collision near the Sultan Park and Ride near westbound State Route 2 Milepost 23 in Sultan, Washington on January 5th, 2020. The decedent is **Thomas G. Barnes** of Bothell, Washington. The cause and manner of death are due to natural causes.

For further information, please contact the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office.