

FORM 37

Rule 60(1)

FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST

Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008

Court reference: 4243/09

Inquest into the Death of PHILIP WILLIAM BANNER

Delivered On:	24 May 2010
Delivered At:	Hearing Room, Level 1, 436 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000
Hearing Dates:	24 May 2010
Findings of:	JOHN OLLE
Representation:	N/A
Place of death:	Port Phillip Prison, Laverton, Victoria 3000
SCAU:	Leading Senior Constable Cristiano

FORM 37

Rule 60(1)

FINDING INTO DEATH WITH INQUEST

Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008

Court reference: 4243/09

In the Coroners Court of Victoria at Melbourne

I, JOHN OLLE, Coroner

having investigated the death of:

Details of deceased:

Surname: BANNER
First name: PHILIP
Address: Port Phillip Prison, Laverton 3028

AND having held an inquest in relation to this death on 24 May 2010
at Melbourne

find that the identity of the deceased was PHILIP WILLIAM BANNER
and death occurred on 31st August, 2009

at Port Phillip Prison, Laverton, Victoria 3000

from
1a. ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE

in the following circumstances:

1. Philip Banner was aged 79 years at the time of his death. He was an inmate at Port Phillip Prison, Laverton.
2. By virtue of his death in custody, the Office of Correctional Services conducted a review, the report of which I have received and considered.
3. At the time of his death, Mr Banner was a prisoner housed in the Alexander North Unit in a dual occupancy cell. At 2.11am on the 31st August, 2009, the prisoner with whom he was accommodated contacted the prison control room via a cell intercom system, advising Mr Banner was experiencing chest pains.

4. A Code Black (Death or Serious Medical) incident was immediately called and Correctional Officers immediately attended.
5. I am satisfied that all attempts to assist Mr Banner were appropriate and undertaken in his best interests. MICA ambulances arrived at prison at 2.37am and attended Mr Banner in the St Thomas Unit of the prison. Thereafter, the paramedics took over his medical care.
6. Once Mr Banner was stabilised in the St Thomas Unit, he was placed in an ambulance for transport to St Vincent's Hospital. Having left St Thomas Unit, his condition deteriorated. Mica paramedics commenced CPR for approximately 20 minutes, however, he failed to respond.
7. The Office of Correctional Services Review was comprehensive. All aspects of the management of the incident which led to Mr Banner's death were thoroughly reviewed and staff were found to have responded appropriately.
8. A comprehensive coronial brief has been prepared and reviewed by me.
9. I am satisfied the circumstances in respect to Mr Banner's death have been thoroughly investigated.

Post Mortem Medical Investigation

10. On the 2nd September, 2009, Dr Shelley Robertson, Forensic Pathologist at the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, performed an autopsy.
11. Dr Robertson found the cause of death to be Ischaemic Heart Disease, with contributing factors, smoking, hypertension and hypercholesterolemia.
12. Dr Robertson commented:

"This 79 year old male, Philip Banner, died from natural causes whilst an inmate of Port Phillip Prison. He had extensive ischaemic heart disease with evidence of previous myocardial infarction, cardiac enlargement, previous coronary artery stenting and bypass graft surgery, axillo-femoral bypass. He had a clinical history of smoking, hypertension and hypercholesterolemia which are risk factors in the development of ischaemic heart disease."

Finding

I find that Philip Banner died of ischaemic heart disease with contributing factors, smoking, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia.

Signature:

John Olle
Coroner
Date: 24 May 2010

