IN THE CORONERS COURT
OF VICTORIA
AT MELBOURNE

COR 2026 001019

FINDING INTO DEATH WITHOUT INQUEST

Form 38 Rule 63(2)

*Section 67 of the **Coroners Act 2008***

Findings of:	Coroner Sarah Gebert
Deceased:	Kevin John Murphy
Date of birth:	04 November 1947
Date of death:	21 February 2026
Cause of death:	1a : Complications of Renal Carcinoma
Place of death:	Port Phillip Prison 451 Dohertys Road Truganina Victoria

1. I, Coroner Sarah Gebert, having investigated the death of Kevin John Murphy and without holding an inquest, make the following findings pursuant to section 67(1) of the *Coroners Act 2008* (**'the Act'**):

    a) the identity of the deceased was Kevin John Murphy, born 04 November 1947;

    b) the death occurred on 21 February 2026 at Port Phillip Prison, 451 Dohertys Road, Truganina Victoria; and

    c) the cause of death was 1(a) Complications of Renal Carcinoma; and

    d) the death occurred in the circumstances described below.

2. Kevin John Murphy was 78 years old when he was found deceased at Port Phillip Prison.

3. Kevin had been convicted of sexual offences and had been in custody since 1 October 2025.

4. Kevin's death falls within the definition of a reportable death in the Act, which includes the death of a person *in care or custody*, even if the death appears to have been from natural causes.

5. Victoria Police assigned First Constable Lalit Chand to be the Coroner's Investigator for the investigation of Kevin's death. The Coroner's Investigator conducted inquiries on my behalf, including taking statements from relevant witnesses. All the material will remain on the coronial file and comprises my investigation into Kevin's death. In writing this finding, I do not purport to summarise all the material and evidence but will only refer to it in such detail as is warranted in the circumstances of this case.

Background

6. On 30 January 2026, Kevin was transferred from Ravenhall Correctional Centre to St Augustine's Secure Inpatient Ward at St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, presenting with a background of metastatic renal cell carcinoma, left-sided chest pain, and hypoxia.

7. He underwent assessment and management for progressive metastatic renal cell carcinoma with pulmonary metastases. Following clinical review and discussions with Kevin regarding his prognosis and disease progression, it was determined that he was not suitable for further systemic cancer treatment, and a decision was made to focus on supportive and palliative management.

Circumstances of death

8. On 9 February 2026, Kevin was transferred to St John's Sub-Acute Inpatient Unit at Port Phillip Prison for ongoing symptom management and end-of-life care.

9. Following his transfer, Kevin continued to receive palliative and supportive care in consultation with the St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne Palliative Care Team.

10. At 4.30pm on 20 February 2016, a syringe driver was commenced as part of his end-of-life care to assist with symptom management.

11. At approximately 2.07am on 21 February 2026, the nurse in charge found Kevin deceased in his bed in room 922 at Port Phillip Prison. Death was formally verified at that time.

Medical cause of death

12. Forensic Pathologist, Dr Yeliena Baber, from the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine (**VIFM**), conducted an examination on 23 February 2026 and provided a written report of her findings dated 23 March 2026.

13. The post-mortem examination was consistent with the reported circumstances, including an extensive left renal mass.

14. Dr Baber provided an opinion that the medical cause of death was *1(a*) *Complications of Renal Carcinoma* and the death was considered to be due to *natural causes*.

15. I accept Dr Baber's opinion.

Pursuant to section 73(1B) of the Act, I order that this finding be published (in redacted form) on the Coroners Court of Victoria website in accordance with the rules.

I direct that a copy of this finding be provided to the following:

[redacted], Senior Next of Kin

First Constable Lalit Chand, Coroner's Investigator

Signature:





Coroner Sarah Gebert

Date: 16 November 2026

NOTE: Under section 83 of the ***Coroners Act 2008*** ('the Act'), a person with sufficient interest in an investigation may appeal to the Trial Division of the Supreme Court against the findings of a coroner in respect of a death after an investigation. An appeal must be made within 6 months after the day on which the determination is made, unless the Supreme Court grants leave to appeal out of time under section 86 of the Act.