

HR-8/12-72- Inquirer story on Wecht consultancy Cross case: without knowing facts, I'd be without doubt Cyril's scientific accuracy and the dependability of his interpretation in this case. Esp. with the pattern so typical of police arrogance/violence.

However, this also illustrates my point that he does have a private business as a consultant and has much personal gain at issue in his expected access to the contract materials, anything else he can in any way snaffle and the publicity he can cause by all of it. And if you want to see the potential for lawyers and pathologists, if the survivors sue for only this poor man's expectable income for no raises during the course of a normal working lifetime, early retirement and all that, no conubial or other losses, the least this suit could be for would be \$400,000. It can be a very profitable business! All you need is enough clients-and you can't advertise for them.

If I'm not mistaken, I think the first word I heard in justification/defense/explanation was "burrst". Pretty word. Good concept. Rich meaning(s). UW

Autopsy Shows Head Injury On Man Found Hanged in Cell

By ACEL MOORE
Of The Inquirer Staff

A 24-year-old West Philadelphia man found hanging in a police cell 10 days ago suffered a blow to the back of his head, an independent autopsy has revealed.

Preliminary findings of an autopsy performed by Allegheny County pathologist Cyril Wecht showed that Larry P. Cross had a one-half to three-quarter-inch laceration and abrasion in the rear of his skull.

Gerald Garfinkile, attorney for the Cross family said that Wecht indicated to him that "the bruise was sufficient to cause serious hemorrhaging and unconsciousness."

Attorney Gerald Garfinkile, who requested the independent autopsy after the Cross family disputed the "suicide" ruling of the original post-mortem examination, said he will seek a coroner's inquest based on Wecht's findings.

Cross, who was employed as a \$10,000-a-year baker for a Cherry Hill, N. J., firm, died July 21 at Lankenau Hospital where he was taken the night before by police from the 19th District, 61st and Thompson sts.

Although Montgomery County Coroner Dr. John Hoffa ruled the death a suicide, the Cross family — including his wife, Hattie, who was with him at the time of the traffic citation, challenged the ruling.

GARFINKLE SAID Wecht conducted the autopsy Friday

7/30/72



Cyril Wecht

in the Philadelphia Medical Examiner's office.

About 6:30 P. M. on July 21, Cross, his wife and children, Tracey, 5, and Scheryl, 4, were traveling east on Vine st., when their car got stuck in heavy traffic behind a slow-moving District 19th police car.

AFTER CROSS passed the vehicle, he was stopped by the police inside and issued a ticket for passing too closely. When Cross refused to pick the ticket up from the floor of the car where it was thrown, he was pulled from his car and taken to the station.

The city medical examiner has disputed Wecht, who has not yet submitted a final report. Rizzo has defended the police and Specter announced that an inquest will be held. HR(8/4/72)