

VERDICT OF THE JURY

STATE OF ILLINOIS} SS
WINNEBAGO COUNTY }

In the Matter of the Inquest on the body of Kayla L. Seago, deceased,
white /female, age 24, held at Rockford on the 7th Day of August A.D. 2015.

This is neither a civil nor a criminal trial procedure, merely an Inquest into her death.

We, the undersigned Jurors, sworn to inquire into the death of Kayla L Seago on oath do find that she came to her death due to asphyxia, due to hanging. On Sunday, January 11, 2015, Kayla Seago was involved in an incident which led to her death. The incident occurred in her residence, 1316 Midway Drive, Rockford, Winnebago County, Illinois. An investigation revealed that on the above date at 4:15 a.m. the 911 communications center received a call for a hanging victim that was not breathing. The Rockford Police Department along with Rockford Fire Department and their ambulance were notified of the incident. On the arrival of emergency personnel they were met by Mr. Ernest McKee. Mr. McKee directed them inside the home and into the basement where they located Ms. Seago unresponsive. She was laying on her back on the floor of the basement and there was a piece of black nylon belt found near her head. Attached to a pipe in the ceiling above Ms. Seago was what appeared to be the other end of the black belt. Upon a closer examination by paramedics it was determined that she was beyond resuscitation and she was subsequently pronounced dead. At 4:30 a.m. the Winnebago County Coroner's Office was contacted to respond to the scene. Kayla L Seago was pronounced dead at 5:03 a.m. on Sunday, January 11, 2015 at the scene. An autopsy was deemed necessary. The major findings of her autopsy were soft tissue hemorrhages of the larynx and no fracture of the nose. It is the opinion of the forensic pathologist that performed her autopsy that the hemorrhages of the larynx were an unusual finding associated with a suicidal hanging, but not unheard of, per his experience. Toxicology tests performed revealed alcohol and a high level of alprazolam was detected in her system. Further investigation revealed that Ms. Seago lived at the above address alone. She had a history of depression and anxiety and was being prescribed fluoxetine and alprazolam for these issues. Ms. Seago had three young children that were currently in the care of DCFS. According to the father of her children Mr. William Opsahl, her depression seemed to be getting worse recently due to the situation with their children and that she has attempted suicide in the past. Ms. Seago and Mr. Opsahl had been in a relationship for approximately 8 years. During their relationship they had a history of domestic issues and she currently had an active order of protection against him, however Mr. Opsahl stated that he and Ms. Seago continued to see each other. According to Mr. Opsahl and several of his friends, in the early morning hours on Sunday, January 11th they were at a friend's house down the street from Ms. Seago's drinking and playing cards. Sometime between 1:00 & 2:00 a.m. Ms. Seago showed up

Heather B. Jones Foreman
Terry P. Schindler
Darlene L. Turjick
Susan E. Engelke
John L. Taylor
Barbara M. Swann

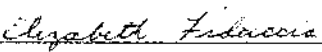
at the house and then stayed for approximately an hour before she and Mr. Opsahl began to argue and then she left. Mr. Opsahl stated that Ms. Seago started sending him text message telling him she was going to kill herself along with a photo of her in the basement of her home and a black belt around her neck. Shortly before 4:17 a.m. Mr. Opsahl arrived to Ms. Seago's house, he entered the basement and found her hanging from the black belt. At that time he ran out of the house and yelled to his friend who then ran to the basement and initiated CPR while Mr. Opsahl called the 911 communications center for medical assistance. The jury notes that no note was located at the scene. The jury further notes that Ms Seago's cell phone was located upstairs in the home and not in the basement. Members of the jury this constitutes the evidence available in this case. It will now be your duty to deliberate your findings and if possible arrive at a verdict as to the manner of Kayla Marie Seago's death. Whether you deem it to be accidental, suicidal, homicidal, natural causes, or if you cannot reach a verdict you may rule her death as undetermined. The jury rules that Kayla Marie Seago came to her death by undetermined

VERDICT: Undetermined

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I, Elizabeth "Sue" Fiduccia, County Coroner and Coroner of the County within and for said County and State, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the verdict of the jury rendered August 7, 2015 at a Coroner's Inquest on the body of Kayla Marie Seago, deceased.

Witness my hand and seal this 7th day of August, 2015.


Elizabeth "Sue" Fiduccia
Coroner