

Case 75 - Basic overview of Carl STOCKTON

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Brief Description: Death of Carl STOCKTON (31/10/1944) on 11 November 1996 after apparent incident in Surry Hills on 05 November 1996.

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This matter is an unsolved homicide on file at the UHT.

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"The Deceased was apparently assaulted in a street in Surry Hills on 5.11.1996 after drinking at a local hotel. He was taken to a shelter then became ill and was admitted to hospital but died 6 days later. Police were able to question him prior to his death and he denied that he had been assaulted. his head injuries included a fractured skull" (IN-66)

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"It was the most severe brain injury he had ever seen and could only describe it as monstrous" (DOUST)

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"Motive was difficult to establish and it does not appear that he was robbed. A lack of witnesses made the case difficult. There is no mention in the coronial brief of evidence of the deceased being gay. An inquest was held before Coroner Abernathy who commented on the thoroughness of the investigation. Medical evidence was given with opinions given that his injuries could have been sustained from either: Assault: falling over a number of times due to his high level of intoxication or: from being hit by a vehicle however, the Coroner found that it was more likely that the deceased was assaulted. An open finding was delivered on 1.12.1998. There is no evidence that the crime was "gay hate" motivated. (IN-66)

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"Despite the the varied opinions put forward and possibilities as to the cause of STOCKTON's injuries, this investigation has been unable to establish, whether it was by deliberate or accidental means, the actual cause for STOCKTON's injuries".
(ST-630 Para 145)

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"Carl had confided in me that he was a homosexual, I was aware of this fact from virtually our first meetings" (ST-648 Para 6)

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Carl STOCKTON did tell a work colleague Peter MOORE that he was a homosexual.
"I am a homosexual, it happens occasionally. In those days homosexuality was looked upon in a different light than it is today". (Para 4 ST-678).