

SIOUX FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT

320 West 4th Street • Sioux Falls, SD 57104 • (605) 367-7212

INITIAL INCIDENT REPORT

Case No.:	SFPD-2015-48801	Report Type:	Initial Incident Report
ME Case No.:	2015-ME-0447 (assigned)	Classification:	Unattended / Suspicious Death -
Date of Incident:	October 13-14, 2015	Report Date:	October 14, 2015
Report Prepared By:	D.J. Williams (Badge #2214)	Partner:	Ofc. K.R. Chandra (Badge #2891)
Supervisor Notified:	B.L. Ortega (Badge #1804)	Time Notified:	0441 hrs
Homicide Notified:	M.L. Santos (Badge #4471), page 0441 hrs	Officer Assigned:	Det. M.L. Santos arrived 0528 hrs

SECTION A - INCIDENT INFORMATION

Location:	4200 S. Western Ave., Suite 712, 7th Floor, Sioux Falls, SD 57108
Business Name:	Apex Financial Group, Inc. (tenant) - Meridian Property Group (building owner)
Call Received:	0427 hrs, October 14, 2015 - 911 dispatch (call placed by Ramon Fuentes, IT co
Units Dispatched:	Unit 22 (Williams/Chandra) - 0427 hrs
Units Arrived:	0434 hrs - met in lobby by R. Fuentes and building security officer P. Herne
Scene Type:	Interior commercial office - 7th floor executive suite
Decedent:	MARSH, Eleanor Anne - Female, White, DOB 03/22/1969 (age 46) - identified by b
Condition on Arrival:	Deceased. No signs of life. Decedent found slumped forward at executive desk,
EMS Response:	SFFR Engine 7 and Medic 12 - arrived 0438 hrs. Advanced life support assessmen

SECTION B - SCENE DESCRIPTION

Upon arrival, Officers Williams and Chandra were escorted by building security officer Herne and the reporting party, Fuentes, to the 7th floor via elevator. The 7th floor hallway was unoccupied. The door to Suite 712 was found standing open approximately 90 degrees. No evidence of forced entry was noted at the door frame, lock, or hinges. The electronic keycard reader mounted to the right of the door was intact and operational per building management.

The interior of Suite 712 consists of a main executive office (Suite 712-A), an adjacent assistant workstation area (Suite 712-B), and a small conference alcove (Suite 712-C). All three areas were accessible through the main entry door. Officers secured the scene perimeter at the main Suite 712 door and the 7th floor elevator lobby.

The main executive office (712-A) contained the decedent at a large mahogany desk positioned centrally in the room, facing north. The decedent was seated in a high-back leather executive chair, torso forward with her head resting on her left forearm on the desk surface. Her right arm was hanging at her side. Her hair was forward, obscuring her face. A black laptop computer was open on the desk,

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screensaver active. A ceramic coffee mug (cream exterior, dark interior staining) was present on the desk surface approximately 18 inches from the decedent's left hand. An open leather portfolio was present on the desk to the right, containing handwritten notes. The desk surface was otherwise consistent with active working use - papers, pens, a desk phone (receiver in cradle), a framed photograph (face down, position noted). No items appeared to have been swept from the desk. No signs of physical struggle were observed in the office: furniture was upright and in place, no broken items, no blood or other visible biological material.

Ambient lighting: overhead fluorescent lights were off. A desk lamp on the northeast corner of the desk was illuminated and directed downward. The south-facing windows (two, approximately 5 feet wide each) showed the exterior night skyline. Window latches were confirmed closed and locked by Officer Chandra. Temperature in the room was normal building ambient (approximately 68-70°F per HVAC reading). No odor of decomposition noted at time of arrival.

SECTION C - ACTIONS TAKEN

Time	Action	Officer
0434 hrs	Units arrived lobby; met Fuentes and Herne; proceeded to 7th floor	Williams / Chandra
0436 hrs	Scene accessed - Suite 712 door open; decedent confirmed unresponsive; scene cleared	Williams
0437 hrs	Scene secured; Fuentes directed to lobby to await interview; Chandra instructed to secure	Chandra
0438 hrs	SFFR Engine 7 / Medic 12 arrived on floor; ALS assessment begun	Williams (liaison)
0441 hrs	Decedent pronounced deceased at scene - Para. J. Alvarez, SFFR Medic 12	SFFR Medic 12
0441 hrs	Sgt. Ortega notified; Homicide (Det. Santos) paged	Williams
0443 hrs	Minnehaha County Medical Examiner's Office notified - on-call	Chandra
0445 hrs	SFPD Crime Scene Unit requested	Williams
0452 hrs	7th floor corridor secured with crime scene tape at elevator	Chandra
0506 hrs	Building manager Solis notified; responded to building	Chandra
0519 hrs	SFPD CSU (Ofc. R. Alvarez-Ruiz, CSU-12; Tech. D. Okafor, CSU-11) arrived on scene	Williams
0528 hrs	Det. M.L. Santos arrived on scene; case transferred to Homicide	Williams
0535 hrs	Det. J.R. Brewer arrived on scene	-
0612 hrs	ME Investigator T. Kowalczyk (MEI-09) arrived; jurisdiction accepted	
0814 hrs	Decedent transported from scene by DMTS - run DMTS-2015-10-14-007	

SECTION D - NOTIFICATIONS AND NEXT OF KIN

Next of Kin:	MARSH, Gregory T. (spouse) - 4718 Hawthorn Ridge Dr., Sioux Falls, SD 57110
NOK Notification:	Conducted in person by Det. Santos and Victim Services Advocate L. Ferreira at
NOK Response:	Mr. Marsh was cooperative. Requested to remain at residence; agreed. Interview
Other Notifications:	Apex Financial Group - COO Craig Ellsworth notified by telephone at 0805 hrs (

Prepared By:	Ofc. D.J. Williams (Badge #2214)	Date:	October 14, 2015
Reviewed By:	Sgt. B.L. Ortega (Badge #1804)	Date:	October 15, 2015
Forwarded To:	Homicide - Det. M.L. Santos (Badge #453)	Steno	Active - Homicide Investigation