

# Comparison of Lopez / Saucedo Autopsies

## AUTOPSIES

Saucedo's left lung was collapsed. Lopez's stab wound was to the left lung. Carlos Hernandez is right handed.

Autopsy of Dahlia Saucedo: Performed by Dr. Rupp on 11/20/1979. [Basically, she was beaten until her liver separated, her vena cava (major artery) ruptured and her lung collapsed. The knife wounds were superficial. -LN]

5'2", 105 lbs. No defensive wounds of the hands. No evidence of tissue/foreign material under the fingernails.

External Cuts: Abrasions on knees. Deep laceration in the web of the left little toe – deep and 1" wide. Small skin laceration in left gluteal area, 1" long. Multiple abrasions on tip of left shoulder to the rear. Abrasions right of midline on larynx – 1" diameter. Bite mark on rear left hip. [Get teeth impressions?] Abrasions around the mouth – right side of upper lip. Thin linear cut across back in form of large "X". Begin at tip of left shoulder, angling across back and ending in right gluteal area. Begins at tip of right shoulder, angling across back and ending in left gluteal area, continued in a curvilinear cut 6" in length across the left buttock in the 7-10 o'clock direction.

External Bruising: 2 small round bruises on left clavicular area – 1/2" diameter. 2" bruise on tip of left shoulder. 2" bruise on lower edge of ribcage, right of midline. Small vessel ruptures on left upper eyelid. Swelling, bruising over right cheekbone, no fracture. Bruising around mouth. Small, superficial bruising to scalp. [Some of the small, round bruises may be from the lug wrench found at the scene.]

Internal: Right lung, liver. 300 cc's of liquid and clotted blood in belly cavity (hemoperitoneum). Left lung is collapsed. Respiratory tree contains bloody mucus. Three rib fractures on left side. Liver capsule not intact - large laceration in liver deep in the parenchyma involving the juncture between the right and left lobes. No injury to the external genitalia or vaginal canal. Swab from vaginal area positive for acid phosphatase. [If raped, she didn't struggle.] Small and large intestine show bruising into mesentery and serosal surface of bowel. Lots of retroperitoneal bruising around both kidneys. Laceration of vena cava and traumatic injury of mesentery. Bruising into neck muscles and around thyroid. More blood on the right. Trachea and larynx contain bloody mucus.

Autopsy of Wanda Lopez: Performed by Dr. Rupp on 02/05/1983.

5'3", 170 lbs. No defensive wounds of the hands. She has an endotracheal tube in place. IV in right wrist and left hand, and left elbow. Chest tube, left. Resuscitator burns on chest.

External Cuts: 2 stab wounds to chest [I've gathered from the trial template that one of these is surgical in origin -LN]. One has a drainage tube, the other is sutured shut. *Stab Wound 1* – 18" from top of head, left of midline. 1/2" long. Penetrates left chest cavity and goes completely through the lower lobe of the left lung. *Stab Wound 2* – 19" from top of head. 1 1/2" in length. Just to lower level of breasts. Passes almost completely through the lower lobe of the left lung. 2 liters of blood in the chest cavity.

Internal: Left lung is collapsed.



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Some thoughts reviewing the closing arguments:

1. Charlotte mentioned that Hernandez's MO is knifing women he knows. The inference is that Lopez would have identified Hernandez by name to the police if she'd known him. She doesn't have to know Hernandez for him to know her. Who's her baby's daddy? You could also characterize the Saucedo murder as a revenge killing and the Ybanez stabbing as jealousy (she wouldn't sleep with him). He seems to get offended by women who sleep around outside of marriage but won't sleep with him.

2. Garcia and Barrera. It sounds from closing like I have them on the wrong sides of Easter Street. From west to east, it goes: Barrera's truck, Garcia's yard, truck on Franklin Street. This makes a direct line and more likely to be DeLuna's stuff in Garcia's yard (though not necessarily). Please tell me if you want me to change the map.

3. Aside, Pena's point about not having enough time to commit the crime after calling home from Circle K got me thinking... They had to walk to Sigmor, Wolfy's down Dodd or DeLuna's testimony about CH crossing the street to get something at Sigmor makes no sense. After having bought beer at Circle K, the walk down McArdle, then Dodd. CH cuts to the back corner of Sigmor while CDL goes to Wolfy's. Or CDL goes with him, hence the two beers, and adds



Wolfy's on the stand to distance himself from the scene. DeLuna-Closing Arguments.doc