

HENNEPIN COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
Community Prosecution Division
MEMORANDUM

TO: State v. Derek Chauvin - file

FROM: Amy Sweasy

RE: Notes from conversation with Dr. Andrew Baker, Chief Hennepin County Medical Examiner

DATE: June 1, 2020

On May 31, 2020 at 7:30 p.m., Assistant Hennepin County Attorney Patrick Lofton and I met with Dr. Andrew Baker (AB) on Microsoft Teams. All three of us were in different locations. Dr. Baker said he had (and had recently received) the final toxicology results from Mr. George Floyd's samples which were analyzed by NMS labs.

AB shared his screen and showed us the results. He said that where it says, "Hospital Blood," those samples are from Mr. Floyd's hospital admission and were not acquired at autopsy. AB said that these samples are better for determining actual blood toxicity than samples taken at autopsy. Samples taken at autopsy may have undergone "post mortem distribution."

AB walked us down the list of substances for which NMS labs tested. Those values he highlighted were:

4ANPP -- a precursor and metabolite of fentanyl present in Mr. Floyd's blood.

Methamphetamine -- 19 ng/ML which he described as "very near the low end" and "a stimulant hard on the heart."

Fentanyl -- 11. He said, "that's pretty high." This level of fentanyl can cause pulmonary edema. Mr. Floyd's lungs were 2-3x their normal weight at autopsy. That is a fatal level of fentanyl under normal circumstances.

Norfentanyl -- 5.6 a metabolite of fentanyl.

Mr. Floyd's urine was tested for 4 things and are redundant, given the blood analysis. AB said, "the only thing that matters is what's in his blood."

AB said that if Mr. Floyd had been found dead in his home (or anywhere else) and there were no other contributing factors he would conclude that it was an overdose death.