



**CORONERS COURT  
OF NEW SOUTH WALES**

<b>Inquest:</b>	Inquest into the death of Bodo Cazimir
<b>Hearing dates:</b>	20 December 2017
<b>Date of findings:</b>	20 December 2017
<b>Place of findings:</b>	State Coroner's Court Glebe
<b>Findings of:</b>	<b>Magistrate Teresa O'Sullivan, A/State Coroner</b>
<b>Catchwords:</b>	CORONIAL LAW – Cause and manner of death
<b>File number:</b>	2015/198115
<b>Representation:</b>	<b>Sergeant Durand Welsh, Coronial Advocate</b>
<b>Findings:</b>	<p><b>Identity of deceased:</b> The deceased person was Bodo Cazimir</p> <p><b>Date of death:</b> Mr Cazimir died between 19 May 2015 and 6 July 2015</p> <p><b>Place of death:</b> Mr Cazimir died at 12/18 Wolseley Street, Drummoyne</p> <p><b>Manner of death:</b> I am not able to determine the manner of death</p> <p><b>Cause of death:</b> I am not able to determine the cause of death</p>

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*The Coroners Act 2009 (NSW) in s81 (1) requires that when an inquest is held, the coroner must record in writing his or her findings as to various aspects of the death.*

*These are the findings of an inquest into the death of Bodo Cazimir*

## **Introduction:**

At about 3pm on Monday the 6 July 2015, police attended the address after neighbours reported they had not seen Mr Cazimir for an extended period and had noticed a bad smell coming from the unit. They located the deceased in the bedroom lying next to the bed.

## **The Inquest:**

The purpose of the coronial jurisdiction, according to law, is to make formal findings as to the following five aspects of a death:

- the identity of the person
- the date of their death
- the place of their death
- the manner of their death
- the cause of their death.

Guided by these five aspects, an inquest investigates the facts and circumstances of a death, places them on the public record, and in certain cases will examine changes that could be made to prevent similar deaths in the future.

Accordingly, section 27(1)(d) of the Coroner's Act 2009 legislates that an inquest "is required to be held...if it appears to the coroner concerned that the manner and cause of the person's death have not been sufficiently disclosed".

The manner and cause of death could not be sufficiently disclosed. As such, an inquest was mandatory.

## **The Evidence:**

### ***Background:***

Bodo Cazimir was born on the 17 January 1951 in Romania. The officer in charge, Senior Constable Baker, established that Mr Cazimir was a permanent resident of Australia, but she was unable to determine how long this had been the case.

At the time of his death, Mr Cazimir resided at 12/18 Wolseley St, Drummoyne. The deceased had purchased the unit in 2009. He lived by himself at the location.

Sadly, there is not a great deal known about Mr Cazimir. He had no known next of kin except a brother who resides in New Zealand. Police contacted the deceased's

brother via the New Zealand consulate. The deceased's brother advised that he wished no further contact from the police regarding the passing of the deceased.

The officer in charge received information that he was a highly educated man. He had been an academic, with his area of expertise being the applications of mathematics to music.

### ***The discovery of the body***

About 3:00 p.m. on Monday the 6 July 2015, police attended the address after neighbours reported they had not seen the deceased for an extended period and had noticed a bad smell coming from the unit.

Police were unable to gain access and notified Fire and Rescue who subsequently forced entry. Upon entering, police found the unit in an unkempt state. The keys to the unit were in the door on the inside. The windows were locked from the inside. They located the deceased in the bedroom lying next to the bed. Old vomit was in a plastic container next to the deceased. The mattress in the bedroom appeared to be stained with blood. There was no linen on the mattress. What appeared to be blood and old vomit had been deposited in the bathroom and toilet.

Various documents in the name of Bodo Cazimir were within the unit. These included an electricity bill, gas bill, NSW Drivers Licence, Medicare card, medical records, and assorted credit cards and other documents.

Due to his state of decomposition, police were unable to visually confirm the identity of the deceased through comparison with photo ID.

Police spoke with the deceased's neighbours, who advised them that the deceased was a very private man, effectively a recluse. They had not seen him since December 2014, but this was not unusual. Within the unit police located a Coles tax invoice in the name of the deceased for the delivery of groceries. The invoice was dated the 19 May 2015. Senior Constable Diane Baker said in oral evidence that the groceries were still in the plastic shopping bags, on the floor, when police discovered Mr Cazimir.

Police spoke with the deceased's doctor, Dr Joanna Williams of Drummoyne General Practice. Dr Williams told police she last saw the deceased in January 2015 after tests had located a tumour in his bladder. She recommended the deceased immediately attend hospital, but the deceased informed her he did not intend to attend hospital. He refused any treatment for the tumour.

Dr Williams provided the details of Wendy Arthurson, a friend of the deceased. Ms Arthurson told police she had not spoken to the deceased for five years. However, she supplied police with the details of Alex Marshall, who told police he had last seen

the deceased six to eight weeks previously. This was the last instance when the deceased was known to be alive.

### ***Identity***

On the evidence before me I am satisfied, on the balance of probabilities, that the deceased person is Bodo Cazimir.

### ***Autopsy Report***

Forensic Pathologist, Dr Rebecca Irvine, conducted an autopsy on Bodo Cazimir and was unable to ascertain the cause of death. The advanced state of decomposition hindered Dr Irvine's investigation. For example, decomposition prevented an assessment of the deceased's renal function or tests for infectious processes. Dr Irvine stated the following in relation to cause of death: In the absence of a thromboembolus, kidney infection, or perforation of an organ, a bladder tumour would be unlikely to cause sudden death.

## **Findings required by s81(1)**

As a result of considering all of the documentary evidence and the oral evidence heard at the inquest, I am able to confirm that the death occurred and make the following findings in relation to it.

### ***The identity of the deceased***

The deceased person was Bodo Cazimir

### ***Date of death***

Mr Cazimir died between 19 May 2015 and 6 July 2015

### ***Place of death***

Mr Cazimir died at 12/18 Wolseley Street, Drummoyne

### ***Cause of death***

I am not able to determine the cause of death

### ***Manner of death***

I am not able to determine the manner of death

The circumstances of Mr Cazimir's death are very sad. He was obviously an extremely talented man who no doubt made a huge contribution during his life. He is someone who loved and was loved. For his own reasons he chose to live a reclusive life and sadly died alone without the assistance and support of a loved one.

I close this inquest.

Teresa O'Sullivan  
**A/State Coroner**

**Date 20 December 2017**