



### E39 A Kindle Dinner With a Friend: Great Start, Bad Finish

*Alessandra Radogna, MD, University of Foggia, Legal Medicine, Foggia 71122, ITALY; Marco Savito, MD, Viale Degli Aviatori 1, Foggia 71121, ITALY; Francesca Maglietta, MD\*, University of Foggia, Forensic Pathology, Foggia 71122, ITALY; Irene Riezzo, MD, PhD, SC di Medicina Legale, Foggia 71100, ITALY; Marcello Rendine, DBA, Department of Forensic Pathology, University of FOGGIA, Foggia 71100, ITALY; Michela Ferrara, MD\*, Department of Forensic Pathology, Foggia 71122, ITALY; Pietrantonio Ricci, PhD, University of Catanzaro, Catanzaro, ITALY; Francesco Sessa, MS\*, University of Foggia, Forensic Pathology, Foggia 71100, ITALY*

**Learning Overview:** The goal of this presentation is to highlight how the forensic pathologist needs advanced technology and the expertise of specialists in other forensic fields, without which solutions of crime scenes would not be found.

**Impact on the Forensic Science Community:** This presentation will impact the forensic science community by underlining the importance of a multidisciplinary approach during a crime scene investigation.

From a review of the literature, it emerges how crime scene investigations give the best results when conducted by a multidisciplinary team. This case reports an example of how, during the crime scene investigation, the intervention of the police with only the forensic pathologist would not have been sufficient for the solution of the case. This case regards a Romanian man found dead in an abandoned cottage. Inside the cottage, several rooms were inhabited and in deplorable hygienic conditions. The corpse was found lying on the floor in a supine position at the center of one of these rooms. His clothes were dirty with blood. His head rested on a pillow also covered with blood. Other bloodstains were found on the sheets near the corpse and on the floor at the left of the victim. One of these stains reproduced a shoe sole and except for these stains, the messy room was clean of blood. The inspection of the other rooms was unremarkable, except for the last ambient where a plastic bowl, containing clothes immersed in a reddish liquid, was found. It was the scene of a murder, but nothing more than the body had been found. Thus, the prosecutor requested the intervention of the forensic team, with the K-9 dog unit and Obelux CR9 LED forensic lights. The team inspected all rooms, starting from the victim's body. This inspection revealed many biological liquid stains that, starting from the corpse, continued on the corridor walls and in the next room. In this room, the dog unit found two hidden wooden sticks, but when seen with CR9 forensic light, they turned out to be covered with biological liquid at one end. Clothes in the plastic bowl were also examined with CR9 forensic light and they too were covered with biological fluid, a sample of which was taken and analyzed by the geneticist.

The external examination partially confirmed the suspicion: the victim's chest and abdomen were covered by stamping bruises, which exactly matched in form and dimension the two wooden sticks. The entire body also presented extensive bruising and laceration due to hitting and kicking, especially to the face. The victim had multiple bilateral serial rib fractures and a pneumothorax. The final confirmation came thanks to the genetic investigation carried out on a suspect arrested a few days later by policemen. The forensic geneticist used swabs, both subungual and palmar, on suspect's hands. He also studied the bloodstain's DNA found on the suspect's trousers and even on the T-shirt found in the plastic bowl in the cottage. The genetic exams showed negative results of subungual swabs and positive palmar swabs for the victim's DNA. The biological stains on the trousers and T-shirt were blood from which was obtained mixed profiles linked to those of the victim and the suspect. The suspect, also a Romanian man, then revealed that he illegally lived in the cottage with the victim and that night after getting drunk together they started beating themselves until death. In conclusion, the current general tendency of the forensic community during crime scene investigations must necessarily hold a multidisciplinary approach, making use of technologies and collaborating with professional figures, every day, as this is indispensable for the correct solution of a case.

#### Crime Scene Investigation, K-9 Dog Unit, CR9 Forensic Light