WESTMORELAND COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE CORONER

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WESTMORELAND COUNTY CORONER'S OFFICE

Public Information Release

Nature of Release: Final Ruling	Date and Time of Incident: October 12, 2011 7:10 PM
Incident Location: Dairy Queen, 305 Greensburg Road, Lower Burrell, PA 15068 City of Lower Burrell	
Person(s) Involved: **Victim**: Charles A. Post, 33 y/o male. Home Address: City of Lower Burrell Date and Time of Death: October 12, 2011 at 8:28 PM.	

Incident Details: **Cause of Death: A. Gunshot Wound of the Head**
B. Self-Inflicted

Manner of Death: **Suicide**

Immediately after shooting Officer Derek Kotecki, Charles Post ran from the scene to the rear of the Dairy Queen property. He stopped in the area of the dumpster and dropped to a squatting position. Charles Post then pointed a handgun to his own head and fired once.

Following the self-inflicted gunshot, Charles Post remained in a squatted and reclined position on a grassy embankment with his handgun clenched in his right hand. Sergeant John O'Learchick of the New Kensington Police Department then fired twice at Charles Post striking him in the chest and upper abdominal areas.

Charles Post was pronounced dead at the scene by Deputy Coroner Timothy P. O'Donnell at 8:28 PM on October 12, 2011. An autopsy was performed on October 13, 2011 by Cyril H. Wecht and Pathology Associates. Autopsy findings were consistent with the investigation. The self-inflicted gunshot wound of the head came first, was not survivable, and was the immediate cause of death. The two gunshot wounds inflicted by Sergeant O'Learchick were potentially life-threatening but secondary to the self-inflicted head wound.

Charles Post was under the influence of multiple drugs at the time of the incident. The post mortem toxicology testing showed levels of Morphine, Cocaine, Codeine, Xanax, Clonazepam, Cannnabinoids and Benadryl.

*********No further information is available from this office at this time.**********