

# **Inquest Verdict - David Victor Emmanuel**

## **1. Name of Deceased:**

David Victor Emmanuel

## **2. Injury or disease causing death**

1a. Haemorrhage

1b. Stab wound to the heart

## **3. Time, place and circumstances at or in which the injury was sustained**

At approximately 8.40am on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2011, David Victor Emmanuel, using two hands, fatally stabbed himself in the heart with a large kitchen knife in the kitchen diner of 260 Hilbury Road, Warlingham, Surrey. At the time of the fatal injury four Metropolitan Police officers were present at Mr Emmanuel's property and had arrested him for conspiracy to import Class A drugs. David Victor Emmanuel had previously been arrested in July 2010 for conspiracy to supply class A drugs and was on bail facing criminal proceedings the following week. With the second arrest, Mr Emmanuel faced the prospect of being denied bail and if convicted, a long custodial sentence. At the time of the injury Mr Emmanuel was in the kitchen – diner, under the supervision of a single officer with responsibility for completing the search book. Unobserved, Mr Emmanuel stood up from his chair and obtained the knife from an unknown location. The severity of the injury meant that, despite the officers best endeavours and paramedic attendance, Mr Emmanuel could not be saved.

## **4. Time, place and circumstances at or in which the injury was sustained**

David Victor Emmanuel took his own life.

Although the tragic events of 15<sup>th</sup> March 2011 were unforeseeable, given one officer the responsibility for supervising Mr Emmanuel and at the same time completing the premises search book was a contributing factor in his death.