

Forensics: Flying Squirrel?

Introduction

Kerr Splat, a 45-year-old attendee at the 23rd annual Skydivers Convention, was found dead on the sidewalk of the Odyssey Hotel by a hotel bellhop at 4:57 Tuesday morning. Based on the damaged concrete surrounding Splat's remains, coupled with the open window from his room 14 stories above, it is obvious Splat fell from his room to the concrete below.

Less obvious, however, is the cause of Splat's death. Inspectors first on the scene, after talking to Splat's wife, assumed Kerr, an expert skydiver, jumped from his room in an attempt to perform a daredevil dive into the swimming pool that was 24m away and came up 2.3 meters short. His best friend Bad Influence, a 52-year-old fellow daredevil, said he had made the jump the year before at the conference and was given the "most Daredevilish" prize and that nobody else could ever make the dive (although this was never confirmed). The medical examiner's report showed some discrepancies, however. Given the massive damage to Splat's body, no conclusive determinations could be made. Interviews with hotel patrons and staff indicate the Splats had been arguing late into the evening of Kerr's death and that Mrs. Splat had said he would pay for his daredevilish indiscretions. And Mr. Bad Influence had yelled at Mr. Splat that if he ever tried to make the jump, he would kill him

To further cloud the story, the Splat's took out a \$2 million life insurance policy just three months ago. Mrs. Splat stands to walk away with a lot of money if her husband's death is ruled accidental.

Potential Scenarios:

1. Kerr Splat was murdered when his wife pushed him out his bedroom window.
2. Kerr Splat died accidentally attempting a stunt jump from his 14th story window. 1 story = 4.3m
3. Kerr Splat was murdered when Bad Idea pushed him out the window

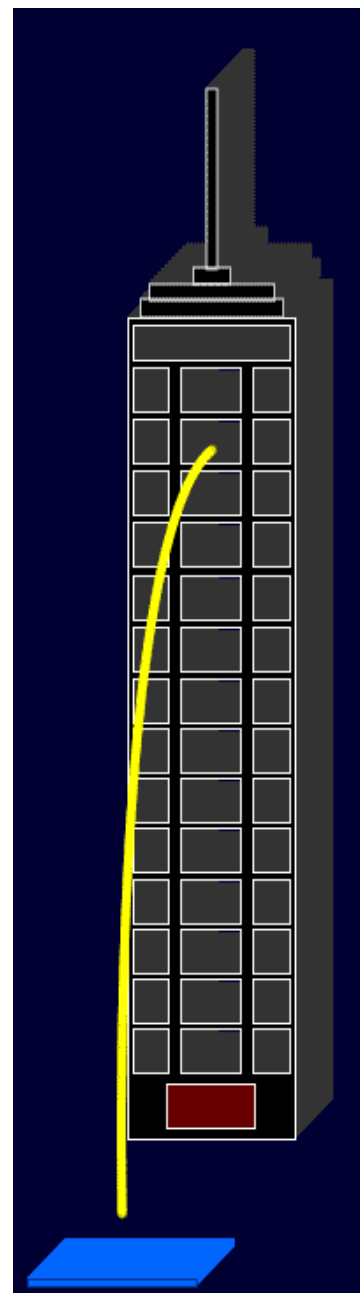
Background Information:

FBI Crime and Physiology Expert Dr. Sandra W. Corning provides you a report showing typical velocities for various activities. You can reference this information in your final report.

Your Assignment:

Based on the mock-up created by the crime lab technicians, you must determine which scenario occurred, and provide a detailed justification in your report for the police, the insurance company, and the district attorney.

You must show ALL your reasoning and equations you used to make your assessment. You will hand in a clear and concise write up with a picture showing all of your evidence and an explanation of it along with your conclusion.



FBI Typical Human Movement Velocities

Age Range	Gender	Walk (m/s)	Sprint (m/s)
18-25	Female	1.3	6.9
26-33	Female	1.2	6.7
34-42	Female	1.2	6.4
43-50	Female	1.2	5.8
51-62	Female	1.1	5.3
18-25	Male	1.4	8.1
26-33	Male	1.4	7.8
34-42	Male	1.3	7.5
43-50	Male	1.3	6.9
51-62	Male	1.3	6.1