



BAILIWICK OF GUERNSEY LAW ENFORCEMENT

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MEDIA STATEMENT

25/05/18

Statement from Patrick Rice, Guernsey Police Chief Officer:

'Following an inconclusive forensic examination carried out in the UK on 13th February, it was agreed that further tests were required to try and help determine cause of death. Due to the nature of the remains there are very few experts in the UK who can carry out the required additional examination. These experts attend crime scenes in the UK every day and as such we have encountered difficulties in securing the further forensic work.

'However, this examination has now been carried out and we are awaiting a report with the findings. It is unlikely we will receive this information before the end of June. I am acutely aware of the desire for further updates and information, however organising forensic examinations of this nature and receiving the findings can be a lengthy process and we are reliant on colleagues in the UK to carry out the specialist work needed.

'I think there is merit in again confirming some of the salient facts in relation to this case. The investigation has so far established that the remains found in the vehicle in January were that of Mikus Alps. A handwriting expert confirmed that a letter handed into police, which was sombre and reflective in content, was written by Mr Alps. Mr Alps was a supporter of a pro-Ukrainian movement and had visited the country. We are aware that Mr Alps' Facebook account has been active since his remains were found; it is not uncommon for people to share their social media log-in details with others.

'There is no evidence linking Mr Alps' activity in Ukraine with his remains being found in a burnt-out car in Guernsey. Investigating officers continue to have an open mind pending further forensic results.'

ENDS

Issued by Joel de Woolfson, Senior Media and PR Officer for the States of Guernsey, telephone number 717022.