

FINDING INTO DEATH WITHOUT INQUEST

*Form 38 Rule 60(2)
Section 67 of the Coroners Act 2008*

I, K. M. W. PARKINSON, Coroner having investigated the death of SAMANTHA KILLEN
without holding an inquest:

find that the identity of the deceased was SAMANTHA JANE KILLEN

born on 29 September 1972

and the death occurred on 17 April 2009

at Kokoda Track, Papua New Guinea

from:

1a. HYPONATRAEMIA

Pursuant to Section 67(2) of the **Coroners Act 2008**, I make findings with respect to **the following circumstances:**

1. Ms Samantha Jane Killen was born on 29 September 1972 and was 36 years of age at the time of her death. Ms Killen resided with her husband and two young children.
2. Senior Constable Kelly Ramsay of Victoria Police Coronial Support Unit, provided a brief to the Coroner setting out police investigations, including information she obtained from Papua New Guinea authorities as to their investigations. In addition, the Coroner has obtained assistance from expert medical practitioners and consulted with a senior forensic pathologist in relation to this matter. I have drawn on all of that material as to the factual matters in this case.
3. Ms Killen left Australia on 15 April 2009, to undertake the Kokoda Track hike. She had joined an expedition being conducted by Niugini Adventure Tours. Ms Killen was travelling with her father, Mr Gregory Radford, her brother, Mr Grant Radford and a family friend, Mr Peter Elliot. She is reported to have been excited at the prospect of the trip and undaunted by the prospect of the physical and emotional challenges associated with such an endeavour.
4. Ms Killen is reported to have been in good health prior to leaving Australia and commencing the hike and had been involved in exercise preparation since October 2008 for the demanding