

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A medical equipment was taken from the administrator office of Northgate Memorial during the overnight window between 00:15 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Eleni (medical resident), Oren (administrator), Gunnar (security officer), Kerensa (technician), Zinnia (pharmacist), Stellan (janitor), Zoltan (head nurse). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the medical equipment?

1. Zoltan was officially signed out at 22:15 via the front-desk register.
2. But: however the unsecured pedestrian door doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
3. The theft involved a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet.
4. Initial assumption pointed to Kerensa because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
5. Stellan filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
6. Gunnar has authorization to handle the item and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
7. However: Eleni is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
8. Stellan has a master key issued only to senior staff and authorization to handle the item and after-hours building access – initial suspicion was high.
9. Eleni clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
- 10 Zinnia lacks after-hours building access – security audit confirms.
- 11 Kerensa's badge log shows them off-site the entire window.
- 12 However: Stellan is cleared – but their hospital badge was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.

CASE 02

An accounting ledger was taken from the server room of Brightline Holdings during the overnight window between 01:45 and 04:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Theo (HR director), Anand (security officer), Emiko (legal counsel), Elara (intern), Beatrix (records clerk), Isolde (IT administrator), Florian (senior engineer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the accounting ledger?

1. Emiko had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
2. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, administrator credentials, presence between 01:45 and 04:15, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
3. Anand their video call ended at 23:50 according to the system.
4. Initial assumption pointed to Isolde because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
5. Beatrix filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
6. Anand has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, administrator credentials, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:45 and 04:15).
7. Emiko has specialized engineering certification and administrator credentials and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
8. However: Florian is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
9. Elara's security badge log shows them off-site the entire window.
- 10 However: Beatrix is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.

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CASE 03

A calibration kit was swapped from the sample storage of Pemberton Pharmaceuticals during the overnight window between 00:00 and 03:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Wren (postdoctoral researcher), Zinnia (safety officer), Maeve (lab technician), Thora (graduate student), Cyrus (principal investigator), Saoirse (clinical coordinator), Darya (undergraduate volunteer), Olive (equipment manager). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who swapped the calibration kit?

1. Olive lacks after-hours building access – security audit confirms.
2. Wren has after-hours building access and knowledge of the seal serial pattern and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.
3. Zinnia lacks elevated system privileges – confirmed by personnel records.
4. But: however the elevator override log shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 00:00.
5. Thora had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
6. Four independent requirements: elevated system privileges, after-hours building access, presence between 00:00 and 03:45, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
7. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Darya.
8. However: Saoirse is cleared – but their biohazard clearance was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
9. However: Thora is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
- 10 Darya their video call ended at 23:45 according to the system.

CASE 04

The box-office receipts were taken from the green room of Helix Repertory during the overnight window between 00:15 and 03:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Magnus (costume designer), Oren (lead actor), Kiran (box-office manager), Maeve (understudy), Zara (director), Ishaan (musical director), Xanthe (stagehand). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the box-office receipts?

1. Zara had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
2. Kiran lacks elevated system privileges – confirmed by personnel records.
3. Magnus their video call ended at 23:40 according to the system.
4. Xanthe clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
5. Maeve has clean-room or vault clearance and possession of the specific tool used and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.
6. The trace at the scene (a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Magnus.
7. However: Zara is cleared – but their prop-room code was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
8. Oren lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
9. However: Maeve is cleared – but box-office system places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
- 10 Xanthe has elevated system privileges and clean-room or vault clearance and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.
- 11 Initial assumption pointed to Zara because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.

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CASE 05

A reservation book was taken from the pastry station of Quartermaine's during the overnight window between 02:30 and 06:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Anastasia (head chef), Tariq (sous chef), Leander (line cook), Diallo (manager), Jian (host), Kasimir (dishwasher), Mauro (pastry chef), Amari (sommelier). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the reservation book?

1. Tariq filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
2. Kasimir their video call ended at 23:25 according to the system.
3. Leander was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
4. However: Leander is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
5. Amari filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
6. Mauro lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
7. The theft involved a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet.
8. Tariq has advanced restoration training and clean-room or vault clearance – initial suspicion was high.
9. Anastasia lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
- 10 Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 02:30 and 06:30, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
- 11 Amari has advanced restoration training and clean-room or vault clearance – initial suspicion was high.
- 12 However: Tariq is cleared – but their manager key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.

CASE 06

A curator notebook was taken from the archive storage of Helix Reading Room during the overnight window between 00:00 and 03:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Adrian (custodian), Wilder (visiting scholar), Polina (research assistant), Leander (archivist), Odell (volunteer), Akira (intern), Zinnia (head librarian). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the curator notebook?

1. The theft involved a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply.
2. Akira lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.
3. The trace at the scene (a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Adrian.
4. Adrian has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, clean-room or vault clearance, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:00 and 03:45).
5. However: Zinnia is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
6. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:00 and 03:45, and authorization to handle the item.
7. Zinnia filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
8. Adrian their video call ended at 22:40 according to the system.
9. But: however parking-lot camera records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:20.
- 10 Odell filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
- 11 Wilder had financial pressure – appears to have motive.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

Solve before peeking. Correct suspect and key reasoning steps below.

Case 01 E) Zoltan

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, after-hours building access, presence between 00:15 and 04:30, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Stellan appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 B) Anand

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, administrator credentials, presence between 01:45 and 04:15, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Beatrix appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 A) Darya

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, after-hours building access, presence between 00:00 and 03:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Thora appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 F) Magnus

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:15 and 03:30, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Xanthe appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 D) Kasimir

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 02:30 and 06:30, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Amari appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 B) Adrian

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:00 and 03:45, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- ☒ Odell appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.