



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

July 25, 2016

Ms. Amy Samples
Assistant County Attorney
Harris County
1019 Congress, 15th Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

OR2016-16684

Dear Ms. Samples:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Public Information Act (the "Act"), chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 619855 (C.A. File No. 16PIA0252).

The Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences (the "institute") received a request for the autopsy, toxicology, and investigation reports pertaining to a named individual. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.103 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information. We have also received and considered comments from the requestor. *See* Gov't Code § 552.304 (interested party may submit comments stating why information should or should not be released).

You inform us the submitted information was the subject of a previous request for information, as a result of which this office issued Open Records Letter No. 2016-12092 (2016). In that ruling, we determined the institute must release the information we marked pursuant to section 552.022(a)(1) of the Government Code and may withhold the remaining information under section 552.103(a) of the Government Code. We have no indication there has been any change in the law, facts, or circumstances on which the previous ruling was based. Accordingly, we conclude the institute may rely on Open Records Letter No. 2016-12092 as a previous determination and withhold or release the identical information in accordance with that ruling. *See* Open Records Decision No. 673 (2001) (so long as law, facts, and circumstances on which prior ruling was based have not

changed, first type of previous determination exists where requested information is precisely same information as was addressed in prior attorney general ruling, ruling is addressed to same governmental body, and ruling concludes that information is or is not excepted from disclosure). As our ruling is dispositive, we do not consider your argument against disclosure.

This letter ruling is limited to the particular information at issue in this request and limited to the facts as presented to us; therefore, this ruling must not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other information or any other circumstances.

This ruling triggers important deadlines regarding the rights and responsibilities of the governmental body and of the requestor. For more information concerning those rights and responsibilities, please visit our website at http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open/orl_ruling_info.shtml, or call the Office of the Attorney General's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Act may be directed to the Office of the Attorney General, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,



Britni Ramirez
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

BR/dls

Ref: ID# 619855

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)