



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

May 4, 2016

Ms. Sarah Ibrahim  
Assistant County Attorney  
County of Harris  
1019 Congress, 15th Floor  
Houston, Texas 77002

OR2016-10136

Dear Ms. Ibrahim:

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# 614790 (C.A. File No. 16PIA0150).

The Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences (the "institute") received a request for a specified autopsy report. You claim the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.108 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

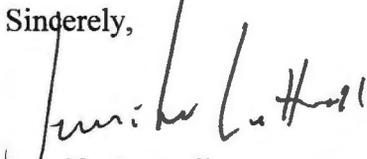
We note the submitted information was the subject of a previous request for information, in response to which this office issued Open Records Letter No. 2015-11859 (2015). In that ruling, we concluded the institute may withhold the information at issue under section 552.018(a)(1) of the Government Code on behalf of the Harris County Sheriff's Office. As we have no indication the law, facts, and circumstances on which the prior ruling was based have changed, the institute may continue to rely on Open Records Letter No. 2015-11859 as a previous determination and withhold the submitted 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).<sup>1</sup>

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](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,



Jennifer Luttrall  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

JL/akg

Ref: ID# 614790

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)

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<sup>1</sup>As we are able to make this determination, we need not address your argument against disclosure.