



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

November 23, 2020

Ms. Ashley D. Fourt
Assistant Criminal District Attorney
Dallas County
411 Elm Street, 5th Floor
Dallas, Texas 75202-3317

OR2020-29300

Re: Request for autopsy, toxicology reports, DOD 09/14/20 (20-17082-ME). (20-3689).

Dear Ms. Fourt:

The Office of the Attorney General has received your request for a ruling and assigned your request ID# 862491.

After reviewing your arguments and the submitted information, we have determined your request does not present a novel or complex issue. Thus, we are addressing your claims in a memorandum opinion. You claim the submitted information may be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code on behalf of a law enforcement agency with a law enforcement interest.¹ Further, you inform this office the law enforcement agency objects to the disclosure of the information because it relates to an ongoing criminal case and release would interfere with the case. Thus, we conclude you may withhold the submitted information pursuant to section 552.108(a)(1) on behalf of the law enforcement agency.

¹We note you did not comply with section 552.301 of the Government Code in requesting this decision. *See* Gov't Code § 552.301(e). Nonetheless, the need of a governmental body, other than the governmental body that failed to timely seek an open records decision, to withhold information under section 552.108 of the Government Code can provide a compelling reason sufficient to overcome the presumption of openness. *See* Open Records Decision No. 586 (1991).

For more information on the cited exception, please refer to the open government information on our website at <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open-government/governmental-bodies/open-records-memorandum-rulings>. You may also contact our Open Government Hotline at 1-877-OPENTEX.

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)