

## TEXAS FORENSIC SCIENCE COMMISSION

1700 North Congress Ave., Suite 445 Austin, Texas 78701

November 9, 2023

Via First Class Mail

Laura M. Sims 5910 Purple Sage Road Houston, Texas 77049

Re: Texas Forensic Science Commission Complaint No.23.48 (Harris County Institute of Forensic Science; Autopsy/Pathology)

Ms. Sims:

At its October 20, 2023, quarterly meeting the Commission approved staff's dismissal of your complaint because the Commission does not have jurisdiction over the portion of an autopsy conducted by a medical examiner or other forensic pathologist who is a licensed physician. Questions regarding the forensic pathologist's assessment of the impact of the toxicology results on autopsy findings are not subject to Commission review.

Thank you,

## Robert Smith

Robert Smith Staff Attorney Texas Forensic Science Commission