



Franklin County Forensic Science Center

Office of the Coroner

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<https://coroner.franklincountyohio.gov>



Journalist Request to View Records

The Franklin County Forensic Science Center, Office of the Coroner (FCFSC) complies with the laws set forth in the Ohio Revised Code (ORC), specifically ORC Section 149.43, pertaining to public records. Pursuant to ORC 313.10 (D) journalists are permitted access, upon the submission of a written request to view:

- 1) Preliminary autopsy and investigative notes and findings;
- 2) Suicide notes; or
- 3) Photographs

ORC 313.10 (D) prohibits the journalist from copying the preliminary autopsy and investigative notes and findings, suicide notes, or photographs. To comply with this requirement, journalists are permitted to view the foregoing in the presence of a FCFSC representative who will ensure that all provisions of ORC 313.10 (D) are complied with. Journalists will be required to secure their electronic devices, recording devices, writing instruments and paper, and any other instruments of duplication or recordation, outside of the room in which the journalist is viewing the records.

As the Coroner's Office is publicly funded, in order to be good stewards of the public's funds, the viewing will be limited in duration to not more than 30 minutes.

Decedents Name: _____

Date of Death: _____

Requesting Document(s) to view/inspect:

- Preliminary autopsy and investigative notes and findings;
 Suicide notes; or
 Photographs

Requests shall include the following:

Journalist's name: _____ Title: _____

Address of the journalist's employer: _____

State why the granting of the request would be in the best interest of the public:

Below this line for Franklin County Forensic Science Center office use only:

How was request made: Mail Fax E-mail In-person

Date/Time of Request Received: _____ Coroner Case Number: _____

Request Obtain By (initials): _____ NOK notified of inspection (date): _____

Date of inspection by Journalist Scheduled: _____ FCFSC Observer (initials): _____