

Texas Forensic Science Commission

Justice Through Science

September 19, 2011

Via Email and Regular U.S. Mail

The Innocence Project of Texas Mr. Jeff Blackburn 1511 Texas Avenue Lubbock, Texas 70401

RE: Texas Forensic Science Commission Complaint #10-27

Dear Mr. Blackburn:

The Texas Forensic Science Commission ("TFSC") has reviewed your complaint related to the criminal case of Sonia Cacy, and at its September 8, 2011 meeting, voted unanimously to dismiss the complaint based upon jurisdictional limitations. Attached to this letter is the Opinion of Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott regarding the scope of the TFSC's jurisdiction. The provisions of the Opinion applicable to your complaint are as follows:

- 1. <u>Effective Date:</u> The forensic analysis in question (GC/MS testing) occurred in 1991, *before* the effective date of the Act that created the TFSC.
- 2. <u>Accreditation:</u> The Bexar County lab that conducted the GC/MS testing was not accredited by DPS at the time the forensic analysis was conducted.

The TFSC would like to emphasize that the dismissal was not based on the scientific merit of the complaint. The complaint highlighted a number of areas of concern worthy of investigation. If the agency's jurisdiction changes, we may contact you again regarding the complaint.

Commission Office

Lynn M. Robitaille Commission General Counsel

Leigh M. Tomlin
Commission Coordinator

Texas Forensic Science Commission 1700 North Congress Avenue, Suite 445 Austin, Texas 78701

Phone: 1 (888) 296-4232 Direct: (512) 936-0770 Fax: 1 (888) 305-2432 Sincerely,

Leigh M. Tomlin