



Texas Forensic Science Commission

Justice Through Science

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February 11, 2009

Ms. Betty Hartless
245 FM 2972W
Rusk, Texas 75785

RE: Texas Forensic Science Commission Complaint – Jerry
Hartless

Dear Ms. Hartless:

The Texas Forensic Science Commission has reviewed the complaint you filed. As you may know, the Commission cannot conduct an investigation into every complaint filed with us.

The Texas Forensic Science Commission investigates complaints that allege professional negligence or misconduct by a laboratory, facility or entity that has been accredited by the Director of the Texas Department of Public Safety that would substantially affect the integrity of the results of a forensic analysis.

The term "forensic analysis" means a medical, chemical, toxicological, ballistic, or other examination or test performed on physical evidence, including DNA evidence, for the purpose of determining the connection of the evidence to a criminal action. The term does not include: latent fingerprint examinations; a breath test specimen or the portion of an autopsy conducted by a medical examiner or licensed physician.

We have concluded that there will not be an investigation conducted by the Texas Forensic Science Commission regarding your complaint. The complaint we have received addresses matters which are not within our jurisdiction as described above and required by Texas law.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Samuel E. Bassett
Samuel E. Bassett *permission Jma*
Presiding Officer

cc: Texas Forensic Science Commission Members