



TEXAS FORENSIC
SCIENCE COMMISSION

Justice Through Science

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

July 8, 2020

Via First Class Mail

Mr. Anthony Hill
TDCJ# 744207
Hughes Unit
3201 FM 929
Gatesville, TX 76597

Re: Texas Forensic Science Commission (“TFSC”) Complaint No. 20.34: Hill, Anthony
(Max Courtney; Crime Scene Investigation)

Dear Mr. Hill,

This letter is to inform you that the referenced complaint was dismissed by Commission staff because a previous complaint filed by you in 2017 made identical allegations. That complaint was dismissed and referred to the Tarrant County Conviction Integrity Unit. For information on the outcome of your case review, please contact Tarrant County directly at: Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney’s Office, Tim Curry Criminal Justice Center, 410 W. Belknap, Ft. Worth, TX 76196, Attn: Mr. Steve Conder, Conviction Integrity Unit.

Your complaint was made against independent forensic consultant Max Courtney who is now deceased. It was the presiding judge’s decision whether to permit Mr. Courtney’s analysis and related testimony at the time of your trial. Your case was tried before this Commission was created, and even today the Commission has limited jurisdiction over crime scene reconstruction. This is because it is not subject to accreditation requirements under article 38.35 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

Texas law provides the Commission may only investigate complaints concerning non-accredited forensic disciplines for the purposes of making general recommendations for best practices and other issues that may benefit stakeholders. The Commission has already made such recommendations in the context of other crime scene reconstruction complaints. The facts of your particular case do not support additional review by the Commission for these purposes.

Enclosed is a list of innocence clinics operating in Texas should you to submit your case for review. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Adams
Kathryn Adams
Commission Coordinator

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Encl.

LIST OF INNOCENCE CLINICS IN TEXAS

Actual Innocence Clinic
The University of Texas at Austin
School of Law
727 E. Dean Keeton St.
Austin, Texas 78705
Contact: Charles J. Press

The Innocence Project of Texas
300 Burnett, Suite 160
Ft. Worth, Texas 76102
Contact: Mike Ware

Texas Innocence Network
University of Houston Law Center
4604 Calhoun Rd.
Houston, Texas 77204-6060
Contact: Cassandra Jeu

Texas Southern University
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Innocence Project
3100 Cleburne Street
Houston, Texas 77004
Contact: Anthony Haughton