

LUZERNE COUNTY  
*OFFICE OF LAW*  
ROMILDA P. CROCAMO, ESQUIRE  
CHIEF COUNTY SOLICITOR



LUZERNE COUNTY  
*COUNTY MANAGER*  
C. DAVID PEDRI, ESQUIRE

**COUNTY of LUZERNE**  
P E N N S Y L V A N I A  
ESTABLISHED 1786

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August 18, 2017

Terrie Morgan-Besecker  
Times Tribune  
149 Penn Ave.  
Scranton, PA 187503  
Email: [tbesecker@timeshamrock.com](mailto:tbesecker@timeshamrock.com)  
RE: RTK Request # 17-134

Dear Ms. Besecker:

Thank you for writing to Luzerne County with your request for information pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right-To-Know law. My email is [Jackie.Carroll@luzernecounty.org](mailto:Jackie.Carroll@luzernecounty.org).

On August 17, 2017, the Luzerne County Office of Law received a request for documents from you described in the attached Right to Know request. Your request is granted in part and denied in part for the following reasons pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right to Know Law ("RTKL").

Your request is granted in that the information requested that the Coroner's Office has within its possession is attached.

Your request is denied as to the information not supplied as the Luzerne County Coroner's Office does not maintain the records requested by you, therefore, your request is denied pursuant to §705 of the RTKL. §705 of the RTKL states that "when responding to a request for access, an agency shall not be required to create a record which does not currently exist or to compile, maintain, format or organize a record in a manner in which the agency does not currently compile, maintain, format or organize the record".

You have a right to appeal this denial of information in writing to Office of Open Records, Commonwealth Keystone building, 400 North Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17120.

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If you choose to file an appeal for any reason, you must do so within 15 business days of the mailing date of the agency's response. Section 1101. If you have further questions, please contact me. Please be advised this correspondence will serve to close this request with our office as permitted by law.

Very truly yours,

  
JACQUELINE MUSTO CARROLL, ESQUIRE  
Luzerne County – Open Records Officer



570 820 6355

**pennsylvania**  
OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS

**STANDARD RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUEST FORM**

DATE REQUESTED: 8/16/17

REQUEST SUBMITTED BY:  E-MAIL  U.S. MAIL  FAX  IN-PERSON

REQUEST SUBMITTED TO (Agency name & address): LUZERNE COUNTY

NAME OF REQUESTER: Terrie Morgan-Besecker

STREET ADDRESS: Times Tribune 149 Penn Ave

CITY/STATE/COUNTY/ZIP(Required): Scranton Pa. 18503

TELEPHONE (Optional): 570-348-9137 EMAIL (optional): tbesecker@timeshamrock.com

RECORDS REQUESTED: *\*Provide as much specific detail as possible so the agency can identify the information. Please use additional sheets if necessary*

See attached

DO YOU WANT COPIES? (YES) or NO  
DO YOU WANT TO INSPECT THE RECORDS? YES or NO  
DO YOU WANT CERTIFIED COPIES OF RECORDS? YES or NO

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE: RETAIN A COPY OF THIS REQUEST FOR YOUR FILES \*\***  
**\*\* IT IS A REQUIRED DOCUMENT IF YOU WOULD NEED TO FILE AN APPEAL \*\***

**FOR AGENCY USE ONLY**

RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER:

DATE RECEIVED BY THE AGENCY:

AGENCY FIVE (5) BUSINESS DAY RESPONSE DUE:

*\*\*Public bodies may fill anonymous verbal or written requests. If the requestor wishes to pursue the relief and remedies provided for in this Act, the request must be in writing. (Section 702.) Written requests need not include an explanation why information is sought or the intended use of the information unless otherwise required by law. (Section 703.)*

To: Right to Know officer

Please accept this request for information under the Pa Right to Know Act.

- 1) Any document(s) that will reveal the number of autopsies performed by/for the county coroner's office in 2011 through 2016 and 2017 up to the date of this request, broken out by year.
- 2) Any document(s) that will reveal the total amount the county spent on autopsies from 2011 through 2016 and 2017 up to the date of this request, broken out by year.
- 3) Any document(s) that will reveal the number of autopsies where a drug overdose was determined to be the cause of death from 2011 through 2016 and 2017, up to the date of this request. If possible, break out this figure by the number of drug overdoses that were attributed to opioids.

Please note:

I am seeking documents as per requirements of the Right to Know Act. My goal here is to obtain information, not necessarily documents. If possible, I would prefer to handle this request more informally. If this information can be provided to me in summary form, either verbally or in writing, that would be acceptable. If you have any questions or need clarification, please contact me.