

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

March 5, 2018

Kimberly Ratchford
72 Glen Maura National Blvd., Floor 2
Moosic, PA 18507
Email: ratchfordka@ccbh.com

RE: RTK Request # 18-46

Dear Ms. Ratchford:

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.

On March 5, 2018, the Luzerne County Office of Law received a request for documents from you described in the attached Right to Know request. Your request is both granted and denied.

It is granted as to the cause and manner of death for Samantha Smith as an accidental overdose.

It is denied as to Diane Pepe as it was not a case reported to the Luzerne County Coroner. It is also denied as to Georgetta Boltz as results are not yet available.

It is denied as to the Coroner's reports.

Your request is denied pursuant to 65 P.S. Section 67.708 ((b)(20) "Except as provided in Subsections (c) and (d), the following are exempt from access by a requester under this act:

(20)An autopsy record of a coroner or medical examiner and any audiotape of a postmortem examination or autopsy, or a copy, reproduction or facsimile of an autopsy report, a photograph, negative or print, including a photograph or videotape of the body or any portion of the body of a deceased person at the scene of death or in the course of a postmortem examination or autopsy taken or made by or caused to be taken or made by the coroner or medical examiner. This exception shall not limit the reporting of the name of the deceased individual and the cause and manner of death."

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

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jacqueline Musto Carroll". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

JACQUELINE MUSTO CARROLL, ESQUIRE
Luzerne County – Open Records Officer
200 North River Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711

RTK REQUEST NUMBER

DATE RECEIVED

5 DAY RESPONSE DATE



COUNTY OF LUZERNE

RIGHT TO KNOW LAW REQUEST FORM

NAME OF REQUESTER: Ratchford Kimberly A
 (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) LAST FIRST MI

MAILING ADDRESS: 72 Glenmaura National Blvd. Floor 2
 STREET / P.O. BOX

Moosic PA 18507
 CITY STATE ZIP CODE

PHONE # (570) 496-1328 FAX# 1-866-284-9184

EMAIL ADDRESS: ratchfordka@ccbh.com

SIGNATURE: *Kimberly Ratchford, MA* DATE: March 2, 2018

RECORDS REQUESTED - Requesters **MUST** specify the document(s) sought. Please use additional pages if necessary.
 As the behavioral/mental health insurer for HealthChoices members in your county, Community Care Behavioral Health Organization respectfully requests a copy of the Coroner's reports for our members listed (please see attachment). Information on the cause of death is essential to allow us to properly process these cases for closure. Thank you for your assistance.

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- I AM ONLY REQUESTING ACCESS TO THE DOCUMENT(S)
 I AM REQUESTING A HARD COPY OF THE DOCUMENT(S) (PAPER, CD, etc...)
 I AM REQUESTING AN E-FILE OF THE DOCUMENT(S) (IF AVAILABLE) (PDF, EXCEL SPRDSHT, etc...)

PLEASE NOTE: LUZERNE COUNTY IS NOT 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

Luzerne County Coroner's Report Requests: February 2018

- 1) Smith, Samantha
DOB: 10/08/1980 Estimated DOD: 12/16/2017
- 2) Pepe, Diane
DOB: 06/20/1948 Estimated DOD: 12/13/2017
- 3) Boltz, Georgetta
DOB: 02/28/1982 Estimated DOD: 02/17/2018