



Media Relations Policy

Policy# 12-0720-2 Media Relations Policy Total Pages=1

Purpose: To have a standard policy in dealing with media; to allow for an exchange of information to the public without compromising an open death and/or criminal investigation.

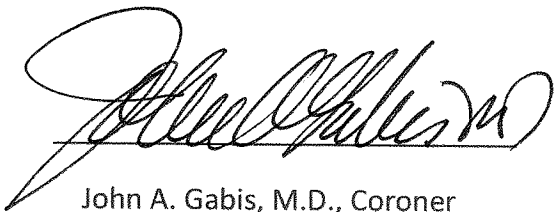
(See also Policy# 12-0615-1 Release of Information Policy)

Justification: To protect the integrity of investigations while maintaining public access to appropriate information to the media. To provide consistency of contact and communicating appropriate information.

Policy:

1. All requests for information and or interviews will be forwarded to the coroner.
2. The coroner will decide on what information will be released and by whom.
3. If approached or contacted by the media, all personnel are to advise the media of this policy and that their request will be forwarded to the coroner.
4. All press releases must be approved by the coroner.
5. If the coroner delegates a person as media contact for a case or incident, that person will remain as media contact and does not have to forward requests but must keep coroner updated and document what has been released and to whom.
6. All reference to autopsies and/or toxicology will be stated as "under the direction of the Ross County Coroner's Office" and no mention of location or agency performing the examination.

This policy has been approved and is effect until further notice:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Gabis, M.D.", is written over a horizontal line.

John A. Gabis, M.D., Coroner

May 30, 2014
(Revised) Date