

From: Andy <abostom@cox.net>

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 2:48 PM

To: Vanner, Cindy (RIDOH) <Cindy.Vanner@health.ri.gov>

Cc: 'Michael Chippendale' <mike@repchip.com>

Subject: Your assistance confirming whether such an autopsy was performed & whether an autopsy report exists, & if so, sending a redacted copy to me

Importance: High

Dear Ms. Vanner,

Ms. Martino suggested I contact you.

My state representative, the House Minority Leader, Michael Chippendale, is copied on this message.

I am a retired Brown University Medical School Associate Professor of Medicine and Family Medicine (1997-2021).

In searching CDC's public record Vaccine Adverse Event Record System (VAERS), I came across this admittedly very flimsy report on a possible RI medical examiner's case. Can you confirm whether or not such a case in fact exists, based upon the details in the report, which at least includes age, sex, date of death, covid-19 mRNA vaccine administration date, & speculative cause of death, i.e., "**lymphocytic (spelled correctly) myocarditis**" ?

If such a case, & accompanying report exist, I would like a redacted/de-identified copy of the autopsy report.

Sincerely,

Andrew Bostom, MD, MS

Cellphone: 401-447-7217

From: Vanner, Cindy (RIDOH) <Cindy.Vanner@health.ri.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:39 PM

To: Andy <abostom@cox.net>

Cc: 'Michael Chippendale' <mike@repchip.com>

Subject: RE: Your assistance confirming whether such an autopsy was performed & whether an autopsy report exists, & if so, sending a redacted copy to me

Good evening Dr. Bostom,

Ms. Martino forwarded me your request yesterday and I forwarded it on to our legal counsel who will be getting back to me as to whether or not a redacted autopsy report can be released to you. You will be receiving a response once that has been determined.

Kind regards,

Cindy

Cynthia Vanner

Director of Operations

RI Department of Health

Office of State Medical Examiners

48 Orms St.

Providence, RI 02904

Office: 401-222-5599

Cell: 401-641-9451

Fax: 401-222-4572

<http://www.health.ri.gov/laboratorytesting/>

From: Andy <abostom@cox.net>

Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 3:48 PM

To: 'Vanner, Cindy (RIDOH)' <Cindy.Vanner@health.ri.gov>

Cc: 'Michael Chippendale' <mike@repchip.com>

Subject: Follow-up question--RE: Your assistance confirming whether such an autopsy was performed & whether an autopsy report exists, & if so, sending a redacted copy to me

Importance: High

Dear Ms. Vanner,

I assume you/The ME's Office are addressing the question of whether a redacted autopsy report can be released to me because the VAERS report I forwarded does in fact correspond to a bona fide RI ME case in a 37 year-old RI female who may have died as a result of a "lymphocytic myocarditis," on 5/25/21?

Is that assumption correct?

Sincerely,

Andrew Bostom, MD, MS

From: Andy <abostom@cox.net>

Sent: Monday, March 20, 2023 3:04 PM

To: Vanner, Cindy (RIDOH) <Cindy.Vanner@health.ri.gov>

Cc: 'Michael Chippendale' <mike@repchip.com>

Subject: Update, please.

Dear Ms. Vanner,

Please provide the following information:

- 1) Regardless of whether the redacted autopsy report I requested can be provided, per your legal counsel, does it exist, i.e., does the VAERS report I sent you indeed refer to a Rhode Island ME case, that was autopsied, yes, or no?
- 2) If the autopsy was performed and the report filed, when will your legal counsel make a determination about whether a redacted report can be sent to me?

Sincerely,

Andrew Bostom, MD, MS

401-447-7217

From: Lopes, Pamela (RIDOH) <Pamela.Lopes@health.ri.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 12:14 PM

To: Andy <abostom@cox.net>

Subject: AP23-0319 records request acknowledgment

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Mr. Andy Bostom

abostom@cox.net

RE: ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS
AP23-0319

The Rhode Island Department of Health ("RIDOH") is in receipt of your request, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 38-2-1 et seq. (the "Access to Public Records Act").

Please allow this message to acknowledge receipt of your request for documents relative to the confirmation of a case existence, based upon the detailed report (shared by you); and if such case and accompanying report exist, you are seeking a redacted/de-identified copy of the autopsy report. This request will be processed according to the Access to Public Records Act, which grants ten (10) business days to respond to such inquiries.

Further information concerning the APRA may be available through the Attorney General's website at www.riag.ri.gov. Thank you for your interest in keeping government open and accountable to the public.

Pamela L. Lopes

Pamela L. Lopes
Chief Implementation Aide, Legal Department
Rhode Island Department of Health
3 Capitol Hill, Room 404
Providence, Rhode Island 02908
401-222-1036 (office)
401-318-0935 (office cell)
Pamela.lopes@health.ri.gov

VAERS Event Details

Request Form Results Map Chart Report About

[Dataset Documentation](#) [Other Data Access](#) [Data Use Restrictions](#) [Printing Tips](#)

Save

New Report

Top Notes Citation

Details for VAERS ID: 2375029-1

Event Information			
Patient Age	37.00	Sex	Female
State / Territory	Rhode Island	Date Report Completed	2022-07-21
Date Vaccinated	2021-05-13	Date Report Received	2022-07-21
Date of Onset	2021-05-25	Date Died	2021-05-25
Days to onset	12		
Vaccine Administered By	Other	Vaccine Purchased By	Not Applicable *
Mfr/Imm Project Number	NONE	Report Form Version	2
Recovered	Missing	Serious	Yes

* VAERS 2.0 Report Form Only

** VAERS-1 Report Form Only

"Not Applicable" will appear when information is not available on this report form version.

Event Categories	
Death	Yes
Life Threatening	No
Permanent Disability	No
Congenital Anomaly / Birth Defect *	No
Hospitalized	No
Days in Hospital	None
Existing Hospitalization Prolonged	No
Emergency Room / Office Visit **	N/A
Emergency Room *	No
Office Visit *	No

* VAERS 2.0 Report Form Only

** VAERS-1 Report Form Only

"N/A" will appear when information is not available on this report form version.

Vaccine Type	Vaccine	Manufacturer	Lot	Dose	Route	Site
COVID19 VACCINE	COVID19 (COVID19 (MODERNA))	MODERNA	004C21A	2	IM	

Symptom
AUTOPSY
CARDITIS
DEATH
DROWNING
MYOCARDITIS
THROMBOSIS

Adverse Event Description
PATIENT WAS FOUND DROWN IN BATHTUB AT HOME. REASON FOR DEATH: LYMOCYTIC MYOCARDITIS

Lab Data	Current Illness	Adverse Events After Prior Vaccinations
ON AUTOPSY REPORT: HEART INFALMATION AND BLOOD CLOTS		

Medications At Time Of Vaccination	History/Allergies
	,

From: Lopes, Pamela (RIDOH) <Pamela.Lopes@health.ri.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 3:23 PM
To: Andy <abostom@cox.net>
Cc: 'Michael Chippendale' <mike@repchip.com>
Subject: RE: AP23-0319 records request

VIA EMAIL ONLY

March 29, 2023

Mr. Andy Bostom
abostom@cox.net

RE: ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS
AP23-0319

Dear Mr. Bostom,

The Rhode Island Department of Health (“RIDOH”) is in receipt of your request, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 38-2-1 et seq. (the “Access to Public Records Act”). Specifically, you are seeking the following information: “confirmation of a case existence, based upon the detailed report (shared by you); and if such case and accompanying report exist, you are seeking a redacted/de-identified copy of the autopsy report.”

RIDOH has reviewed your request, and I have attached the responsive document(s) which are public records to this e-mail.

RIDOH has determined that certain information in the records that you have requested is not subject to disclosure because it falls into the following category: R. I. Gen. Laws § 38-2-2(4)(A)(1)(b), which protects information that would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Such information has been redacted from the documents.

R. I. Gen. Laws § 38-2-8 requires we give you notice of your right to appeal this decision to the Interim Director of Health, Dr. Utpala Bandy, Attention Legal Division, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. You may also wish to file an objection or complaint with the Department of the Attorney General, 150 South Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island, 02903, or the Rhode Island Superior Court of the county where the record(s) are maintained.

Further information concerning the APRA may be available through the Attorney General’s website at www.riag.ri.gov. Thank you for your interest in keeping government open and accountable to the public.

Pamela L. Lopes

Pamela L. Lopes
Chief Implementation Aide, Legal Department
Rhode Island Department of Health
3 Capitol Hill, Room 404
Providence, Rhode Island 02908
401-222-1036 (office)
401-318-0935 (office cell)
Pamela.lopes@health.ri.gov

From: Bortolotti, Lisa (OHHS) <Lisa.Bortolotti@ohhs.ri.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 10:40 AM
To: abostom@cox.net
Cc: Lopes, Pamela (RIDOH) <Pamela.Lopes@health.ri.gov>; Bortolotti, Lisa (OHHS)

<Lisa.Bortolotti@ohhs.ri.gov>

Subject: AP23-0319 records request acknowledgment

To: Andy <abostom@cox.net>

Subject: AP23-0319 records request acknowledgment

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Mr. Andy Bostom
abostom@cox.net

RE: Access to Public Records
AP23-0319

The Rhode Island Department of Health (“RIDOH”) is in receipt of your additional request, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 38-2-1 et seq. (the “Access to Public Records Act”).

Please allow this message to acknowledge receipt of your request for additional documents as follows: “Is the separate examination of the by a cardiovascular pathologist also perhaps available in redacted form?” “In follow-up to my initial request, I am now requesting the full (but redacted from any personal identifiers) cardiovascular pathology report from the cardiovascular pathologist, as well as the toxicology report, the latter with particular attention to testing done to rule in/rule out specific etiologies of myocarditis, including infectious, autoimmune, chemical/toxic, as well as antibody testing (i.e., SARS-CoV-2 spike AND nucleocapsid antibodies, etc.), and PCR antigen testing germane to BOTH SARS-CoV-2 infection, and covid-19 vaccination, the latter with particular attention to covid-19 mRNA vaccination. I am also requesting any redacted clinical records in the possession of RIDOH/The Medical Examiner’s Office which elaborate the decedents clinical history just prior to death, including known conditions/comorbidities treated (if any), and what RIDOH/The Medical Examiner’s Office has in its possession regarding any confirmation of the timing of her covid-19 vaccine administration, given the independent data in VAERS report 2375029-1, which I have attached, yet again.”

This additional request will be processed according to the Access to Public Records Act, to respond to such inquiries.

Further information concerning the APRA may be available through the Attorney General’s website at www.riag.ri.gov. Thank you for your interest in keeping government open and accountable to the public.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bortolotti, Esq.

Chief of Legal Services, EOHHS

3 Capitol Hill, Room 404

Providence, RI 02908

Direct: 401.222.2137 | Fax 401.222.1797

Cell: 401-598-6335

Lisa.Bortolotti@ohhs.ri.gov

Achiever/Individualization/Maximizer/Responsibility/Strategic



From: Andy abostom@cox.net

Sent: Monday, April 10, 2023 3:41 PM

To: 'Bortolotti, Lisa (OHHS)' Lisa.Bortolotti@ohhs.ri.gov

Cc: 'Lopes, Pamela (RIDOH)' Pamela.Lopes@health.ri.gov; 'Michael Chippendale' mike@repchip.com; 'Senator Jessica de la Cruz' jessicaforri@gmail.com

Subject: I'm an MD BTW & I need a further explanation of this please. RE: APRA23-0319 RESPONSE
Importance: High

Dear Ms. Bortolotti,

My state Representative & the House Minority Leader, Michael Chippendale, & my State Senator, the Sen Minority Leader, Jessica Delacruz, are both copied on this message

I'm an MD BTW & I need a further explanation of this please.

Being very familiar with the nature of the materials I requested---a specific CVD pathology report, some medical history of the decedent, if available, & some lab data if, available---ALL REDACTED from personal identifiers---the explanation provided that these REDACTED materials somehow "violate the privacy" , ostensibly, of the decedent's family, is just *risible*, & frankly obstructionist.

Please just redact the materials I requested and send them very soon.

Andrew Bostom, MD, MS

From: Bortolotti, Lisa (OHHS) <Lisa.Bortolotti@ohhs.ri.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 10, 2023 3:06 PM

To: abostom@cox.net

Cc: Lopes, Pamela (RIDOH) <Pamela.Lopes@health.ri.gov>; Bortolotti, Lisa (OHHS) <Lisa.Bortolotti@ohhs.ri.gov>

Subject: APRA23-0319 RESPONSE

Attached please find the response to your latest requests.

Lisa Bortolotti, Esq.

Chief of Legal Services, EOHS

3 Capitol Hill, Room 404

Providence, RI 02908

Direct: [401.222.2137](tel:401.222.2137) | Fax [401.222.1797](tel:401.222.1797)

Cell: [401-598-6335](tel:401-598-6335)

Lisa.Bortolotti@ohhs.ri.gov

Achiever/Individualization/Maximizer/Responsibility/Strategic



Autopsy report and matching VAERS report for a 37- year-old decent with lymphocytic myocarditis and drowning



Office of State Medical Examiners

48 Orms Street
Providence, RI 02904-2222
401.222.5500
401.222.5505 fax
TTY 711
www.health.ri.gov

AUTOPSY REPORT

NAME: [REDACTED] CASE#: [REDACTED]
PLACE OF DEATH: [REDACTED] RI 029 [REDACTED] AGE: 37-year-old
GENDER: Female
DATE/TIME OF DEATH: [REDACTED] 2021 [REDACTED]
DATE/TIME OF AUTOPSY: [REDACTED] 2021 [REDACTED]

Decedent: [REDACTED] Case Number: [REDACTED]

CASE SUMMARY AND OPINION: This 37-year-old [REDACTED] female, [REDACTED], was found submerged in a bathtub full of water, in a supine position, with her neck extended. Personal items on and surrounding the bathtub appeared undisturbed. Police investigation [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Lividity was partially blanching on the posterior aspect of the body at the scene, and fixed on the posterior aspect of the body at the time of autopsy. A temporary bathroom floor tile pattern of postmortem lividity was present at the scene during handling of the body by the scene investigators/body transport personnel. The body was mildly to moderately decomposed at the time of autopsy. At autopsy, a small hemorrhage of the left frontoparietal scalp was identified, suggestive of a possible fall; no intracranial injuries were identified. There was evidence of underwater submersion, to include fluid in the sphenoid sinus and moisture induced wrinkling of the skin of the bilateral hands and left foot. The cause of death is deemed drowning.

Examination of the heart by a cardiovascular pathologist shows focal lymphocytic myocarditis involving the cardiac conduction system; it is believed that the decedent was at risk for a sudden cardiac arrhythmia/event, and that it is likely that such an event preceded/contributed to the drowning of the decedent. Comprehensive toxicology testing was positive for alcohol (may in part or whole represent a postmortem artifact of decomposition). The manner of death is [REDACTED].

CAUSE OF DEATH: Drowning. Contributing factor: lymphocytic myocarditis.

Details for VAERS ID: 2375029-1

Event Information			
Patient Age	37.00	Sex	Female
State / Territory	Rhode Island	Date Report Completed	2022-07-21
Date Vaccinated	2021-05-13	Date Report Received	2022-07-21
Date of Onset	2021-05-25	Date Died	2021-05-25
Days to onset	12		
Vaccine Administered By	Other	Vaccine Purchased By	Not Applicable *
Mfr/Imm Project Number	NONE	Report Form Version	2
Recovered	Missing	Serious	Yes

* VAERS 2.0 Report Form Only

** VAERS-1 Report Form Only

"Not Applicable" will appear when information is not available on this report form version.

Event Categories	
Death	Yes
Life Threatening	No
Permanent Disability	No
Congenital Anomaly / Birth Defect *	No
Hospitalized	No
Days in Hospital	None
Existing Hospitalization Prolonged	No
Emergency Room / Office Visit **	N/A
Emergency Room *	No
Office Visit *	No

* VAERS 2.0 Report Form Only

** VAERS-1 Report Form Only

"N/A" will appear when information is not available on this report form version.

Vaccine Type	Vaccine	Manufacturer	Lot	Dose	Route	Site
COVID19 VACCINE	COVID19 (COVID19 (MODERNA))	MODERNA	004C21A	2	IM	

Symptom
AUTOPSY
CARDITIS
DEATH
DROWNING
MYOCARDITIS
THROMBOSIS

Adverse Event Description
PATIENT WAS FOUND DROWN IN BATHTUB AT HOME, REASON FOR DEATH: LYMOCYTIC MYOCARDITIS

Lab Data	Current Illness	Adverse Events After Prior Vaccinations
ON AUTOPSY REPORT: HEART INFALMATION AND BLOOD CLOTS		

Medications At Time Of Vaccination	History/Allergies