

File No. 12021

SOTF Item No. 19

CAC Item No. _____

SUNSHINE ORDINANCE TASK FORCE
AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Sunshine Ordinance Task Force

Date: June 6, 2012

Compliance and Amendments Committee

Date: _____

CAC/SOTF

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Memorandum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Order of Determination |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Complaint and Supporting documents |
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OTHER

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Completed by: Andrea Ausberry Date May 31, 2012

Completed by: _____ Date _____

*An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 25 pages.
The complete document is in the file.



SUNSHINE ORDINANCE TASK FORCE
 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco CA 94102
 Tel. (415) 554-7724; Fax (415) 554-7854
<http://www.sfgov.org/sunshine>

SUNSHINE ORDINANCE COMPLAINT

Complaint against which Department or Commission Medical Examiner

Name of individual contacted at Department or Commission Mr. Allen

- Alleged violation public records access
- Alleged violation of public meeting. Date of meeting _____

Sunshine Ordinance Section _____
(If known, please cite specific provision(s) being violated)

Please describe alleged violation. Use additional paper if needed. Please attach any relevant documentation supporting your complaint.

Requested records Medical Examiner logbooks

Do you want a public hearing before the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force? yes no
 Do you also want a pre-hearing conference before the Complaint Committee? yes no

(Optional)¹
 Name Larry A. L. Hirsch Address 775 Clemente St SF 94110

Telephone No. (415) 626-2689 E-Mail Address _____

Date Feb 10, 2012 [Signature]
 Signature

I request confidentiality of my personal information. yes no

¹ NOTICE: PERSONAL INFORMATION THAT YOU PROVIDE MAY BE SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE UNDER THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC RECORDS ACT AND THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE, EXCEPT WHEN CONFIDENTIALITY IS SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED. YOU MAY LIST YOUR BUSINESS/OFFICE ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND E-MAIL ADDRESS IN LIEU OF YOUR HOME ADDRESS OR OTHER PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION. Complainants can be anonymous as long as the complainant provides a reliable means of contact with the SOTF (Phone number, fax number, or e-mail address).

"IMMEDIATE DISCLOSURE REQUEST"

Public Records Request Form

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC RECORDS

To facilitate the effort to inspect, copy and acquire documents pursuant to the California Public Records Act, Government Code Section 6250, and the San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance, San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.1, the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force recommends that

- 1. The requester and the department treat each other with respect and politeness
2. The requester specify a time they are available to review the public records
3. The requester indicate if the request is an Immediate Disclosure Request (within 24 hours)

The cost for copies is 10 cents per page (20 cents per page for two-side copies), except for mass-produced records for agenda items for policy body meetings. Postage costs are additional.

PLEASE SEND REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC DOCUMENTS TO THE RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT. DO NOT SEND REQUESTS TO THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE TASK FORCE.

PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST FORM

To: Custodian of Records

Date: JAN 13, 2012

Medical Examiner 850 Bryant St S.F. 94103

Department

Department Address

Name of Requester: LARRY R. LITTLEJOHN

Requester Address: 775 Clementina St

City/State/Zip: S.F. CA 94103

Telephone: (415) 626-2689 Number to be called when documents are available or to clarify request

All time

(Indicate times when you can be contacted)

VOICEMAIL

Subject or Item Requested: (Please be as specific as possible)

As requested in Dec 15, 2011 letter
As requested in Jan 5, 2012 E-mail
It an letter log books or death reports
to Medical Examiner 1971, 1972, 1973
1974, 1975

X

I want to see the records. Please call me at the above phone number when the records are ready for viewing. Do not make copies on my behalf. I will review the documents first and then indicate those documents I wish copied.

I want copies of the pages in the records that I have marked.

SAN FRANCISCO
MEDICAL EXAMINER
2012 JAN 13 PM 2:25

Procedures

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner operates 24 hours/7 days a week. In most cases, when we take jurisdiction of a deceased person a forensic examination will take place. Forensic examinations may include the retention of body fluids, body tissues and/or body organs for possible diagnostic purposes. The patient will be ready for release to a Funeral Director the day following the examination. Some cases may be held for a longer period of time. A completed report will take several weeks. The death certificate is filed by the Funeral Director with the Department of Public Health at 101 Grove Street. A death certificate is filed within eight calendar days after death. The cause and manner of death may be listed as "Pending Investigation". That certificate will be amended with the cause and manner of death once they are determined.

Death certificates are obtained from the Department of Public Health, Records and Statistics, 101 Grove Street, San Francisco, California 94102, telephone number (415) 554-2710. The Division of Vital Statistics, Birth and Death Registration is located on the first floor of 101 Grove Street. The Department of Public Health building is across the street from City Hall, on the South side.

For copies of records of deaths in the City and County of San Francisco, dated 1906 through December 31, 1956, please contact the San Francisco Public Library at 100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, California 94102, telephone number (415) 557-4567. The records are stored within the Archives of the San Francisco History Section. Records prior to 1906 were destroyed in the ensuing fire. Contact the San Francisco Public Library to find out their charges for copy work.

Copies of records from January 1, 1957 through the present time may be obtained from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Hall of Justice, 850 Bryant Street - North Terrace, San Francisco, California 94103, telephone number (415) 553-1694. When requesting records from the San Francisco Public Library or the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, please provide the full name of the deceased person and if known the date of death and the Medical Examiner's Case Number. Please contact the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to find out the charge for copy work when requesting records. It can take up to a week to recover the records from storage.

Records can be requested or physically reviewed weekdays (holidays and weekends excluded) between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Until 1951, San Francisco coroners were elected; thereafter, they were appointed as part of the Civil Service and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The San Francisco Office of the Chief Medical Examiner's Records contain the death reports (1906-1956) of individuals who died in San Francisco and whose deaths legally required investigation. The records also include Necropsy Reports (1928-1956), six volumes of Personal Descriptions of Unknown / Unidentified Dead (1902-1927, 1931-1940), a two-volume Register of Deaths (Dec. 1906-May 1915), and one volume of Coroner's Office Statistics (1913-1931).

As noted above in the Administrative History, not all deaths that occur within the City and County of San Francisco are reported to or recorded by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. Since deaths due to natural causes are not usually reported and therefore are not recorded in these records, these records do not contain a comprehensive record of deaths in San Francisco.

Most of the Office's records prior to January 1906 were destroyed in the earthquake and fire of April 1906. Copies of records from January 1, 1957 through the present time may be obtained from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Hall of Justice, 850 Bryant Street - North Terrace, San Francisco, California 94103, telephone number (415) 553-1694; Fax: (415) 553-1650; email: Medical.Examiner@sfgov.org; website: www.sfgov.org/med_examiner. When requesting records, please provide the full name of the deceased person and, if known, the date of death and the Medical Examiner's Case Number. It can take up to a week for the Office to recover the records from storage.

Inquest testimony, by which jurors and the coroner determined cause and manner of death, is not part of this collection. Inquests are no longer conducted in most California counties. Inquest testimony is not currently available from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Death certificates for all deaths within the City and County of San Francisco may be obtained from the Department of Public Health, Records and Statistics, 101 Grove Street, San Francisco, California 94102, telephone number (415) 554-2710. The Division of Vital Statistics, Birth and Death Registration is located on the first floor of 101 Grove Street.

Subject: Dead body found on sidewalk about 45 Golden Gate Ave 1972-1979

From: Larry Littlejohn (larrylittlejohn@yahoo.com)

To: medical.examiner@sfgov.org;

Date: Thursday, January 5, 2012 1:28 AM

This is a request for information about above subject: Name and Date of Death. The initial autopsy was cirrhosis of the liver.

Nov 15 Wrote Medical Examiner

Nov 21 Spoke to Mr. Ahern

Dec 8 Met with Mr. Ahern

Dec 23 Spoke to Mr. Ahern. He suggests that I call back in two weeks.

Jan 9 I WILL RETURN CALL TO MR. AHERN

CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS REQUEST

In the late 1960's I was a partner with Fred Alvarez and Vince Algood in a late night gay dance club The Big Basket. Algood became the sole owner. The club moved to O'Farrell and then Kearny and then to 1028 Market St after 1971. In the early 1970's I accidentally overheard a conversation between Alvarez and Algood to this effect: There was a S.F. newspaper article about a dead body found on the sidewalk. The person was identified as an executive of an international mining company stationed in South America en route to New York City (the company's headquarters) and staying with his wife at a S.F. hotel. The Medical Examiner listed the cause of death as cirrhosis of the liver. (I later read the article but can't recall if it was the Chronicle or Examiner.) Algood said this was the real story: The person apparently drunk had entered his club (Big Basket 1028 Market St.) with three drag queens. When Algood and an assistant were closing up the club in the early AM they discovered a dead body in the women's rest room. Algood feared that if he reported the dead body to the police it might somehow effect his ability to operate the club. (He may have had some kind of police permit.) Algood and his assistant took the dead body down the back staircase to the sidewalk about 45 Golden Gate Ave. I told Algood I had accidentally overheard his conversation and was very troubled. I told Algood he had a business duty to protect customers who paid money and entered his club. I told him that I strongly felt that he had a MORAL OBLIGATION to report the truth about the death to the Medical Examiner. Several days later I went to the Medical Examiner's office (where it is today) and examined a large handwritten log book that was evidently a record of deaths reported to the Medical Examiner. I found a page that recorded this subject person's death. I found an added entry on the page that said in effect that a Mr. Vince Algood had come to the office and reported what had actually happened and that the cause of death was now being listed as death by blunt instrument to the head.

A year or so ago I read an article in the Examiner about how sometimes murders are missed by coroners. Several months ago I checked with a S.F. cold case homicide investigator. She said she could not find any cold case reports of murder in the 1000 block of Market St. in the 1970's or any

1/5/12

Print

reference to a Vince Algood in such a case in the S.F.P.D. database.

I will be 76 this Feb. I had a stroke this past Sep and one about 5 years ago. This case has now become a piece of "unfinished business" in my life. I want to be sure that this person's family knows the truth about his death.

Bless you and your staff for your help in this matter.

Larry Littlejohn 775 Clementina St. S.F. 94103 (415) 626-2689 1/5/12

2011 NOV 16 PM 1:22

November 15, 2011

Medical Examiner S.F.
850 Bryant St.
S.F. CA 94103

This is a request to examine medical Examiner
registers for 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975.
I am attempting to find the

✓ Name

✓ Address

✓ Next of Kin (if available)

of a body that was found on the street
at approximately 45 Golden Gate Ave.

This body was autopsied by the medical
examiner and subsequent information about
the cause of death was received by your office
shortly thereafter. (Report) by Mr. Vincent
Alford.

The request made under the Public Records Act and
appropriate S.F. Ordinances.

Thank you,

For H. Little

LARRY R. LITTLE ETORHO

(415) 626-2689

(415) 240-9615

Home

Cell

CONFIDENTIAL: Assistance Needed 

Amy Hart to: SOTF

02/02/2012 07:31 PM

Cc: Aleeta Van Runkle, Bill Ahern, MayorSunshineRequests, Medical.Examiner,
Naomi Kelly, Paula Jesson

History: This message has been replied to.

Dear Mr. Rustom:

I was able to reach Mr. Ahern, Medical Examiner's Administrator, this evening. Mr. Ahern indicated to me that he previously assisted Mr. Littlejohn in reviewing the bound volumes of the Register Pages and Necropsy reports from 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975 located in our Conference room. Mr. Littlejohn informed Mr. Ahern during that review that these were not the records he was looking for. Mr. Ahern informed him that there we have no other records that are responsive to his original requests. I have reviewed the current "Immediate Disclosure Request" and agreed with Mr. Ahern, that we have no other records that are responsive to Mr. Littlejohn's request.

Amy P. Hart, M.D
Chief Medical Examiner
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
850 Bryant Street, North Terrace
San Francisco, California 94103
(415) 553-1799

| | | |
|------|--|------------------------|
| SOTF | Dear Mr. Bill Ahern, I am attempting to stave off... | 02/01/2012 03:28:00 PM |
|------|--|------------------------|

From: SOTF/SOTF/SFGOV
To: Bill Ahern/SFPD/SFGOV@SFGOV
Cc: Naomi Kelly/ADMSVC/SFGOV@SFGOV, Amy Hart/ADMSVC/SFGOV@SFGOV,
Medical.Examiner@sfgov.org, MayorSunshineRequests@sfgov.org, Paula
Jesson/CTYATT@CTYATT, Aleeta Van Runkle/CTYATT@CTYATT
Date: 02/01/2012 03:28 PM
Subject: Assistance Needed

Dear Mr. Bill Ahern,

I am attempting to stave off a Sunshine Ordinance complaint by forwarding you a copy of an Immediate Disclosure Request presented to me by Larry R. Littlejohn. Under the Ordinance, an Immediate Disclosure Request has to be responded before the end of the next business day. If you have responded, please let me know what was provided and if any document was withheld please justify the action by citing the applicable City or State law.

Thank you.

Chris Rustom
Sunshine Ordinance Task Force
City Hall, Rm. 244, San Francisco, CA 94102
sotf@sfgov.org, (415) 554-7724, fax: (415) 554-7854



Records Request.pdf



Assistance Needed

SOTF to: Bill Ahern

02/01/2012 03:27 PM

Cc: Naomi Kelly, Amy Hart, Medical.Examiner, MayorSunshineRequests,
Paula Jesson, Aleeta Van Runkle

Dear Mr. Bill Ahern,

I am attempting to stave off a Sunshine Ordinance complaint by forwarding you a copy of an Immediate Disclosure Request presented to me by Larry R. Littlejohn. Under the Ordinance, an Immediate Disclosure Request has to be responded before the end of the next business day. If you have responded, please let me know what was provided and if any document was withheld please justify the action by citing the applicable City or State law.

Thank you:

Chris Rustom
Sunshine Ordinance Task Force
City Hall, Rm. 244, San Francisco, CA 94102
sotf@sfgov.org, (415) 554-7724, fax: (415) 554-7854



Records Request.pdf

LARRY LITTLEJOHN
(415) 626-2689 HOME
NO ANSWER
MACHINE
(415) 240-9615 CELL
VOICE MAIL