STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF DURHAM

IN THE GENERAL COURT
OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	MOTION TO TEMPROARILY
DEATH INVESTIGATION 9-7-2012	)	SEAL MEDICAL EXAMINER
FAITH DANIELLE HEDGEPETH	)	AUTOPSY REPORTS
	)	
CHPD OCA: 12-20848	)	

The Chapel Hill Police Department, through the Town of Chapel Hill and by undersigned counsel, moves the court for an Order Temporarily Sealing Medical Examiner Autopsy reports in the matter of the death of Faith Danielle Hedgepeth.

1. On September 7, 2012, The Chapel Hill Police Department responded to the report on an unresponsive person located at 5639 Old Durham Road apartment number 1502.

2. When emergency responders arrived at the apartment, they found Faith Danielle Hedgepeth deceased in her bedroom. Upon discovering the deceased, police initiated a death investigation which is ongoing.

3. In the course of this investigation, an autopsy was conducted by the State Medical Examiner's Office. When a report pertaining to the autopsy is issued, it will likely contain information regarding potential causes of death and condition of the body.

4. North Carolina General Statute 130A-389(a) provides that a copy of an autopsy report shall be furnished to any person upon request.

5. If released, this information has potential to compromise the ability of the Chapel Hill Police Department to conduct a thorough and complete investigation as details related to Ms. Hedgepeth's death are known only to police, witnesses and potential perpetrator(s).

6. The release of the information contained therein could also hinder the State's ability to bring the responsible party to justice.

7. In addition to undermining the ongoing criminal investigation, release of this information may also jeopardize the prosecution's right to prosecute its case relating to the criminal investigation and jeopardize the right of any suspect charged in this matter from receiving a fair trial.

Wherefore, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Court Temporarily seal any Medical Examiner Autopsy report in the matter of the death investigation of Faith Danielle Hedgepeth and limit access to only the investigating officers of the Chapel Hill Police Department, The Durham County District Attorney's Office and any future Defendant or future Defendant's Counsel in this matter. The undersigned also respectfully requests that this Order remain in effect until further Order from the Court.

Respectfully submitted, this the 14th day of September, 2012.

TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL

MATTHEW J. SULLIVAN
Staff Legal Advisor
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Phone Number: (919) 968-2760
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State Bar No.: 35596

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE**
COUNTY OF DURHAM	**SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION**

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	ORDER TEMPORARILY SEALING
DEATH INVESTIGATION 9-7-2012	)	MEDICAL EXAMINER AUTOPSY
FAITH DANIELLE HEDGEPETH	)	RECORDS
	)	
CHPD OCA: 12-20848	)	

THIS MATTER COMING ON TO BE HEARD AND BEING HEARD, ex-parte, before the undersigned and it appearing to the Court that Matthew J. Sullivan, Staff Legal Advisor for the Chapel Hill Police Department has presented a petition requesting an **Order Temporarily Sealing Medical Examiner Autopsy Records** in the Matter of the investigation of the death of Faith Danielle Hedgepeth, the Court make the following FINDINGS OF FACT:

1. The Court has jurisdiction in this matter

2. On September 7, 2012, The Chapel Hill Police Department responded to the report on an unresponsive person located at 5639 Old Durham Road apartment number 1502.

3. When emergency responders arrived at the apartment, they found Faith Danielle Hedgepeth deceased in her bedroom. Upon discovering the deceased, police initiated a death investigation which is ongoing.

4. In the course of this investigation, an autopsy was conducted by the State Medical Examiner's Office.

5. North Carolina General Statute 130A-389(a) provides that a copy of an autopsy report shall be furnished to any person upon request.

6. If released, this information has potential to compromise the ability of the Chapel Hill Police Department to conduct a thorough and complete investigation.

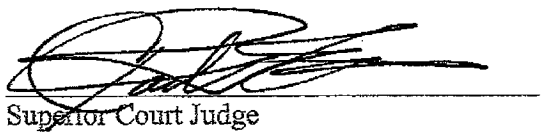
7. The release of the information contained therein could also hinder the State's ability to bring the responsible party to justice.

8. Release of this information may also jeopardize the prosecution's right to prosecute its case relating to the criminal investigation and jeopardize the right of any suspect charged in this matter from receiving a fair trial.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That any Medical Examiner autopsy report in the matter of the death investigation of Faith Danielle Hedgepeth be temporarily sealed with access limited to the investigating officers of the Chapel Hill Police Department, The Durham County District Attorney's Office and any future Defendant or future Defendant's Counsel in this matter.
2. That this Order remain in effect for 90 days, or until further Order from the Court.

This the 14th day of September, 2012.



Superior Court Judge

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF DURHAM	IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF: DEATH INVESTIGATION 9-7-2012 FAITH DANIELLE HEDGEPETH CHPD OCA: 12-20848	MOTION TO EXTEND ORDER TEMPROARILY SEALING MEDICAL EXAMINER AUTOPSY REPORTS

The Chapel Hill Police Department, through the Town of Chapel Hill and by undersigned counsel, moves the court to extend an Order Temporarily Sealing Medical Examiner Autopsy reports in the matter of the death of Faith Danielle Hedgepeth.

1. On September 7, 2012, The Chapel Hill Police Department responded to the report on an unresponsive person located at 5639 Old Durham Road apartment number 1502.

2. When emergency responders arrived at the apartment, they found Faith Danielle Hedgepeth deceased in her bedroom. Upon discovering the deceased, police initiated a death investigation which is ongoing.

3. In the course of this investigation, an autopsy was conducted by the State Medical Examiner's Office. When a report pertaining to the autopsy is issued, it will likely contain information regarding potential causes of death and condition of the body.

4. North Carolina General Statute 130A-389(a) provides that a copy of an autopsy report shall be furnished to any person upon request.

5. In a Court Order dated 14 September 2012, The Honorable Carl Fox directed that:

> a) That any Medical Examiner autopsy report in the matter of the death investigation of Faith Danielle Hedgepeth be temporarily sealed with access limited to the investigating officers of the Chapel Hill Police Department, The Durham County District Attorney's Office and any future Defendant or future Defendant's Counsel in this matter, and
> b) That this Order remain in effect for 90 days, or until further Order from the Court.

6. The Chapel Hill Police Department continues to actively conduct the investigation related to Ms. Hedgepeth's death.

7. If released, this information continues to have the potential to compromise the ability of the Chapel Hill Police Department to conduct a thorough and complete investigation as details related to Ms. Hedgepeth's death are known only to police, witnesses and potential perpetrator(s).

8. The release of the information contained therein could also hinder the State's ability to bring the responsible party to justice.

9. In addition to undermining the ongoing criminal investigation, release of this information may also jeopardize the prosecution's right to prosecute its case relating to the criminal investigation and jeopardize the right of any suspect charged in this matter from receiving a fair trial.

Wherefore, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Court extend Judge Fox's Order Temporarily sealing any Medical Examiner Autopsy report in the matter of the death investigation of Faith Danielle Hedgepeth and limit access to only the investigating officers of the Chapel Hill Police Department, The Durham County District Attorney's Office and any future Defendant or future Defendant's Counsel in this matter.

The undersigned also respectfully requests that this Order remain in effect for an additional 90 days or, until further Order from the Court.

Respectfully submitted, this the 12th day of December, 2012.

TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL

MATTHEW J. SULLIVAN
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State Bar No.: 35596

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF DURHAM

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	ORDER EXTENDING TIME ON
	)	ORDER TEMPORARILY SEALING
DEATH INVESTIGATION 9-7-2012	)	MEDICAL EXAMINER AUTOPSY
FAITH DANIELLE HEDGEPETH	)	RECORDS
	)	
CHPD OCA: 12-20848	)	

THIS MATTER COMING ON TO BE HEARD AND BEING HEARD, ex-parte, before the undersigned and it appearing to the Court that Matthew J. Sullivan, Staff Legal Advisor for the Chapel Hill Police Department has presented a petition requesting the Court to extend the time on an Order issued by the Honorable Carl Fox **Temporarily Sealing Medical Examiner Autopsy Records** in the Matter of the investigation of the death of Faith Danielle Hedgepeth, the Court make the following FINDINGS OF FACT:

1. The Court has jurisdiction in this matter.

2. On September 7, 2012, The Chapel Hill Police Department responded to the report on an unresponsive person located at 5639 Old Durham Road apartment number 1502.

3. When emergency responders arrived at the apartment, they found Faith Danielle Hedgepeth deceased in her bedroom. Upon discovering the deceased, police initiated a death investigation which is ongoing.

4. In the course of this investigation, an autopsy was conducted by the State Medical Examiner's Office.

5. North Carolina General Statute 130A-389(a) provides that a copy of an autopsy report shall be furnished to any person upon request.

6. In a Court Order dated 14 September 2012, The Honorable Carl Fox directed that:

   a) That any Medical Examiner autopsy report in the matter of the death investigation of Faith Danielle Hedgepeth be temporarily sealed with access limited to the investigating officers of the Chapel Hill Police Department, The Durham County District Attorney's Office and any future Defendant or future Defendant's Counsel in this matter, and
   b) That this Order remain in effect for 90 days, or until further Order from the Court.

7. The Chapel Hill Police Department continues to actively conduct the investigation related to Ms. Hedgepeth's death.

8. If released, this information continues to have the potential to compromise the ability of the Chapel Hill Police Department to conduct a thorough and complete investigation.

9. The release of the information contained therein could also hinder the State's ability to bring the responsible party to justice.

10. Release of this information may also jeopardize the prosecution's right to prosecute its case relating to the criminal investigation and jeopardize the right of any suspect charged in this matter from receiving a fair trial.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Court Order issued by The Honorable Carl Fox remain in effect for an additional 90 days from today's date or until further Order from the Court whichever comes first.

This the 12th day of December, 2012.

Superior Court Judge