

## SOUTHERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

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## PRESS RELEASE

May 13, 2015 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Southern Regional Health Authority Responsible for Only Clinical Autopsies

The Southern Regional Health Authority, a statutory body of the Ministry of Health has responsibility for clinical autopsy cases and not forensic autopsies.

The Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine, a division of the Ministry of National Security has responsibility for forensic autopsies in Jamaica including the parishes in the southern region.

In the past, the Southern region's Pathologist has assisted with these cases but the Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine assumed full responsibility for all forensic cases.

The Pathology Unit in the Southern region which only has responsibility for hospital autopsy cases has no backlog in its division despite the limited number of clinical pathologists available in the region.

The release is in reference to an article in the Jamaica Observer on Monday, May 11, 2015 titled, 'Health authority unaware of pathology backlog in Southern region'.

-30-

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