

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1362

By: Representative Talley

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS KEPT BY
THE STATE CRIME LABORATORY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING THE CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS KEPT
BY THE STATE CRIME LABORATORY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-12-312(a)(1)(A), concerning confidential records kept by the State Crime Laboratory, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A)(i) The records, files, and information kept, obtained, or retained by the State Crime Laboratory under this subchapter are privileged and confidential.

(ii) The records, files, and information shall be released only under and by the direction of a court of competent jurisdiction, the prosecuting attorney having criminal jurisdiction over the case, or the public defender appointed or assigned to the case.

(iii) In cases in which the cause and manner of death are not criminal in nature, the State Crime Laboratory may communicate without prior authorization required under subdivision (a)(1)(A)(ii) of this section with the decedent's next of kin or the next of kin's designee including without limitation:

- (a) Parents;
- (b) Grandparents;
- (c) Siblings;
- (d) Spouses;



(e) Adult children; or

(f) Legal guardians.