

American Academy of Forensic Sciences
American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors
International Association for Identification
International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners
National Association of Medical Examiners
Society of Forensic Toxicologists/ American Board of Forensic Toxicology

November 19, 2024

The Honorable Senator John Cornyn 517 Hart Senate Office Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn,

We are writing to express our support for your preservation of forensic evidence in natural disasters legislation.

All too often the matter of preserving this evidence is overlooked, and this can later hinder or complicate forensic investigations (e.g., identification of decedents) and various legal proceedings. Appropriate preservation of evidence gives forensic and death investigators the best opportunity to address future questions that may arise and apply novel technics and technology for testing that were not available during the initial investigation.

The ability to work with the Department of Justice developing the guidance for best practice is a task our membership looks forward to participating in. Again, thank you for your support and consideration of the forensic science community. We appreciate all of your efforts on our behalf.

Matthew Gamette-CFSO Chair

On behalf of the CFSO Board of Directors

Contact: 208-608-2301 <u>matthew.gamette@thecfso.org</u>