THEMATIC TITLE LEGAL PROBLEMS OF THAILAND'S AUTOPSY SYSTEM

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STUDENT JIRAWAT RATTANACHAIPANICH

THEMATIC ADVISOR DR. EGKAPONG SARNNOI

LEVEL OF STUDY MASTER OF LAWS, CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINAL

JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION

FACULTY SCHOOL OF LAW SRIPATUM UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this research is to study the concepts, theories and legal principles of the autopsy system, investigation, authority, and responsibility of the officers who are responsible for the autopsy as well as the rights of the deceased's relatives during the process by comparing foreign laws to Thai laws in order to analyze for solutions to legal problems related to Thai autopsy system in such a process.

The study found that the autopsy system under Thai law still authorizes merely "an inquiry officer" controls the power to order or not to order the dissection of the body. Thus, the role of the doctor is only the person who assists the investigator in finding the cause of death. Moreover, the law still remains silent for the involvement of the deceased's relatives in attending the autopsy.

Suggestions from the study, it is indispensable that the Criminal Procedure Code shall be amended by establishing "Medical Investigation Office" and "Investigative Doctors" and provides the right of the deceased's relatives to participate in the autopsy to check and balance of power in Thailand's criminal justice system