# NEWS

# DEPARTMENT OF CORONER

**County of Los Angeles** 

Anthony T. Hernandez, Director Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, M.D. Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner 1104 North Mission Road Los Angeles, CA 90033

### Contact:

Craig Harvey, F-ABMDI Chief, Operations/PIO (323) 343-0783/0788

Ed Winter, Assistant Chief, Operations/PIO (323) 343-0783/0788

## LOS ANGELES, CA - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### RE: Coroner Case Number 2012-01022 – HOUSTON, Whitney Elisebeth

The Los Angeles County Department of Coroner conducted an autopsy on the body of Whitney Elisebeth Houston, age 48, on February 12th, 2012.

The final cause of death has been determined to be:

- DROWNING
- EFFECTS OF ATHEROSCLEROTIC HEART DISEASE AND COCAINE USE

HOW INJURY OCCURRED: FOUND SUBMERGED IN BATHTUB FILLED WITH WATER; COCAINE INTAKE

OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS: NONE

MANNER OF DEATH: ACCIDENT

TOXICOLOGY: COCAINE AND METABOLITES WERE IDENTIFIED AND WERE CONTRIBUTORY TO THE DEATH. MARIJUANA, ALPRAZOLAM (XANAX), CYCLOBENZAPRINE (FLEXERIL) AND DIPHENHYDRAMINE (BENADRYL) WERE IDENTIFIED BUT DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEATH

No trauma or foul play is suspected. It is anticipated that the final Coroner report will be available for release within two weeks.

crh03/22/2012