DEATH REPORTING FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

Marshall County Coroner's Office

Cody Nugent, Coroner

Policy effective 1/1/2023

What this training covers

- Why is this policy needed?

- What are the legal requirements for death reporting

- What deaths must be reported to on-call MDI

- When is an MDI required to get involved

- How to report deaths to an MDI

- How to submit a death notification

Purpose of this Policy

- The Coroner is responsible for tracking, recording, reporting, and logging deaths due to certain causes and manners of death.

- The Coroner's Office is a government agency who is allotted resources and provided legal authority to investigate deaths more thoroughly than healthcare providers.

- Expedite and allow for quicker response in issuing cremation authorizations.

- Allow this office to respond to inquiries from local, state, and federal agencies concerning deaths within the county.

What are the legal requirements for death reporting?

- Alabama Code § 22-9A-14.c

  ....Deaths required to be reported to the county medical examiner or coroner shall be reported whether the cause is known or suspected, primary or contributory, or recent, delayed, or remote.

- Alabama Code § 22-9A-14.e

  If the physician has reason to believe that the case is within the jurisdiction of the county medical examiner or coroner, he or she shall immediately report the case to the county medical examiner or coroner.........

What deaths are required to be reported to on-call MDI?

- Accidental Deaths

  MVCs, Overdoses, Industrial, Falls, or other unintentional acts that caused the death.

- Suicide Deaths

  Gunshots, Overdoses, Hangings, Strangulation, MVCs, etc.

- Homicides Deaths

  Gunshots, Stabbings, Assaults, etc.

- Sudden Deaths

  Deaths that occur within 24 hours of onset of illness

- Infant, Child, Adolescent, and Teen Deaths.

  Regardless of cause or manner all deaths of individuals under 18 must be reported.

When is an MDI required to get involved?

- When it is by the direct or intentional act of another person

- When it is the result of chemical means, example: drug overdose, poisoning, etc.

- When a person is in police custody, being detained by police, or any other time the death occurs with Law Enforcement involved.

- When the person is under the age of 18 with no medical history or pertinent medical history available at the time of death.

- When assistance in determining the cause and manner of death is needed by a physicians or other medical certifier.

How to report deaths to an MDI

- Contact our main office number 24/7 at (256) 568-8900 and request the on-call investigator.

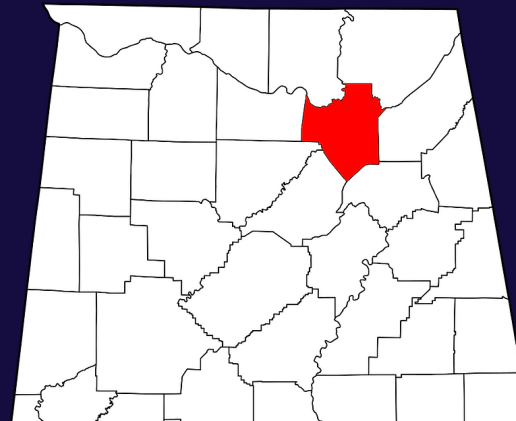- If for some reason you are unable to reach us at our office number contact Marshall E-911.

How to submit a death notification.

- For deaths not required to be reported to the MDI, you must submit a death notification form. This is HIPAA compliant.

- Go to our website www.marshallcocoroner.org

Home   About   Family Resources   Legal Forms/Resources   Training Videos

Marshall County Coroner's Office

Marshall County Coroner's

Let's Chat!

Upload Records

Cremation Notification

Notification of the Coroner prior to cremating an individual who has died in Marshall County is required by state law. After completing this form you will be given the opportunity to print a copy of the completed notification and you will receive an email containing the notification acknowledgement.

Cremation Notification Form

Death Notification

This notification is intended for use of our healthcare and medical facilities who certify deaths.

In accordance with Alabama state law, the Coroner's Office should immediately be notified if there is suspicion of criminal violence or criminal neglect, when death occurs in suspicious or unusual circumstances, when deaths are thought to result from trauma or violence, in any prison or penal institution, or when in police custody; whether the cause is known or suspected, primary or contributory, or recent, delayed, or remote.

Death Notification

Record Request

Coroner's Investigation Reports are available upon request. Reports on current and pending criminal investigations may not be available until investigations have been completed. Cause and manner of death must be final prior to releasing investigation reports.

Record Request

Let's Chat!

✓ smartsheet

Death Notification

This form should only be used to submit death notifications from medical facilities, including nursing homes, IPU hospice, hospitals, ect. Field deaths that are under hospice care and are being certified by a physician should be reported below.

Patient/Decedent Information

Decedent/Patient Name *

Date of Birth *

📅

Social Security Number *

Cause and Manner of Death

Date of Death *

📅

Time of Death *

Place of Death

CONTACT INFORMATION

POLICY QUESTIONS AND INFORMATION ON
SUBMISSIONS YOU HAVE ALREADY MADE CONTACT:

Cody Nugent, Coroner

Office: (256) 568-8900

Direct line: (256) 960-2266

cnugent@marshallco.org