

## **INFORMATION FORM**

*The staff at All County Funeral Home & Crematory would like to extend our deepest sympathy to you and your family during your time of sorrow. To better serve you, we are providing this important information, with phone numbers, which may prove helpful.*

### **DEATH CERTIFICATE PROCEDURE**

At the time of the arrangements, the informant provided and verified vital statistical information which will be used to complete the death certificate. Thereafter, the certificate is delivered to the attending physician, for signature and cause of death. The physicians, by law, may maximize up to 72 hours to complete the death certificate. If we encounter any problems or complications, we will notify you.

An Errand Car is used for obtaining the death certificate. The \$25.00 fee covers the one-time delivery and retrieval of the death certificate. If the doctor makes a error on the death certificate or we are forced to deliver to more than one location, the family will be responsible for additional fees for the errand car.

There are certain forms of final disposition which require the death certificate to be forwarded to the County Medical Examiner's Office for approval. Once the cause of death has been determined, along with the proper signature (either from the physician or Medical Examiner) the certificate is filed with the appropriate County Health Department. It is at this point that all death certificates are processed into certified copies and become legal documents. The certified copies are utilized for purposes of life insurance, stocks, bonds, probate, as well as for making changes in personal and/or real property such as automobile titles. h

Administration and Veterans Administration also require certified copies of the death certificate in determining eligibility for benefits. Although we understand the urgency of these documents, it may take up to fourteen (14) days for the entire filing process to be completed. An expedite fee of \$75.00 may decrease (lessen) the filing process up to seven (7) days or less. Please keep in mind that at the time arrangements were made, you selected either Certified Mail or Call for Pick-up as the form of death certificate disposition. Please do not call as we will obey your request in the manner you pre-determined. Calling may only delay the process.

### **CREMATION PROCESS**

For families who select cremation as a form of disposition, Florida requires a 48 hour waiting period from the time of death prior to the cremation process. Florida law also requires the approval of cause of death by the Medical Examiner in the County in which the death occurred. The legal next of kin with the right of disposition must also sign a cremation authorization allowing the funeral home to cremate the deceased. The act of cremation takes place within a 96 hour period after all the aforementioned authorizations have been obtained and the funeral expenses have been paid in full. A cremation expedite fee of \$75.00 will expedite the procedure. Once cremation has occurred, All County will dispose of the cremated remains in the manner which was designated on the Cremation Authorization Form. Any changes or amendments must be done in writing.

### **SOCIAL SECURITY**

Social Security may pay a one-time death benefit of \$255.00. This amount is payable to a surviving spouse, minor/dependent children. The surviving spouse may be entitled to collect the greater of the two Social Security amounts. If there are any questions regarding the benefits, you may call 1-800-772-1213 directly.

### **VETERAN'S BENEFITS**

The individual who pays the bill for burial expenses of a veteran who dies from a service related disability or disease, may be eligible for a burial allowance of \$1500.00 for burial and funeral expenses. When a non-service connected veteran, who is not in receipt of a V.A. pension expires in a V.A. medical center, there is a burial allowance of \$300.00 for the survivors. An allowance of \$150.00, in addition to the \$300.00 is only available for the purchase of a plot. There is no plot allowance when burial is in a National Cemetery.

When death occurs in a V.A. instution, transportation expenses to the place of burial will be provided. A copy of the veteran's military discharge certificate, D.D. 214, must be available for that purpose. If the D.D. 214 is not available, one may be obtained by filling out a standard Form 180 and mailing it directly to:

National Personnel Records Center (NPRC)  
9700 Page Boulevard  
St. Louis, MO 63132

Veteran's benefits may include burial/inurnment in a National Cemetery, a flag, headstone/marker and a pension for a widow, dependent children or dependent parents. For more information or questions, you may contact Veterans Affairs at 1-800-827-1000.

### **PROPERTY TAX SAVINGS**

The State of Florida allows all widow and widowers, who have otherwise qualified for a Homestead Exemption, an additional \$500.00 exemption from their assesed value. For additional information, please call your County Property Appraiser's office.

### **DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES**

If a vehicle is registered with the decedent's name appearing on the title, you may need a death certificate to remove the decedent's name before selling or trading the vehicle. You may circumvent this process if the title bears two (2) names, such as Jane Doe OR Robert Doe, NOT Jane Doe AND Robert Doe.

### **VICTIM SERVICES**

When death occurs as a result of a crime or homicide, the decedent's family may be entitled to receive benefits through Victim Services. Please contact the State Attorney's Office in the County in which the death occurred for more information. Bureau of Victim Compensation 1-800-226-6667

*In closing, we hope this information will assist you with the many legal and financial facets after the death of a loved one. Please know, we at All County Funeral Home, pledge our dedication and assistance to you and your family.*