

Oregon Death Certificate Timeline for Home Funeral Families

(1) Death occurs in Oregon*

(2) Person acting as the family's Funeral Service Practitioner (FSP) obtains "Home Burial [Funeral] Packet" from Oregon Center for Health Statistics at 971-673-1190

(3) Body is released to or retained by the family acting as FSP or to a professional FSP

(4) Person acting as FSP sends 24-hour Death Notice to the County Registrar where the death occurred **within 24 hours of receipt of the body**

(5) Person acting as FSP uses black ink to complete personal data section of death certificate

(6) Person acting as FSP takes death certificate to medical certifier **within 48 hours of the death**

(7) Medical certifier completes medical portion of death certificate, including cause of death, **within 48 hours of receiving death certificate**, and returns it to the FSP

(8) Once signed by medical certifier, death certificate now functions as both disposition permit and transit permit to move the body to place of final disposition

(9) Person acting as FSP returns the 1st page of the death certificate marked "ORIGINAL – VITAL RECORDS COPY" to County Registrar **within 5 days of death or date body was found**

(10) At time of final disposition, person acting as FSP gives 2nd & 3rd pages of death certificate to person in charge of cemetery or crematory who functions as "Sexton"

(11) Person in charge of cemetery or crematory (private property owner in the case of a home burial) confirms the body's metal ID tag matches the # on the permit, and signs 2nd & 3rd pages of death certificate as Sexton with date of disposition

(12) Person in charge of cemetery or crematory returns 2nd page of death certificate to County Registrar **within 10 days of final disposition**

(13) Person in charge of cemetery or crematory (including private property owner for home burial) retains 3rd page of death certificate for their records

(14) County Registrar processes original copy of death certificate, sends to state; certified copies available through the state Office of Vital Records (Oregon.gov> Public Health Division> Vital Records and Certificates)

* Families of those who die in OR but are buried in WA follow these rules. OR deaths to be buried in CA follow the rules of both states. Deaths of Oregonians that occur in other states are governed by the rules of the state where the death occurs.

2019 Courtesy of *Oregon Funeral Resources & Education*. In Oregon, no one is required to purchase the services of a funeral director or funeral home. Families may conduct any or all tasks commonly performed by a funeral home (except embalming which is not required by Oregon law) and may bury on their own property if certain provisions are met. For families wanting to handle the paperwork associated with a death without reliance on a funeral director, these are the steps to follow. For more see orfuneral.org> How To> Complete Paperwork.