

Helpful Suggestions

Social Security Benefit

Social Security will be notified of a death via the electronic filing of the death certificate by the funeral home. www.ssa.gov/benefits/survivors
800-772-1213

Veterans' Death Benefit

Deceased veterans may be entitled to burial benefits. Funeral homes are knowledgeable and can assist with arrangements. A copy of the deceased's DD Form 214 is required. US Department of Veterans Affairs:

800-827-1000 www.va.gov

Important Documents

Locate Important documents such as:

- * Deeds, Titles, and Promissory Notes/Loans
- * Insurance Policies
- * Financial Accounts
- * Safety Deposit Box
- * Birth Certificate
- * Social Security Card
- * Marriage License
- * Military Discharge Paper (DD-214)
- * Legal Paperwork such as a Will or Trust, which can be recorded with the County Clerk's Office at 206-477-6620

Other Considerations

Employer

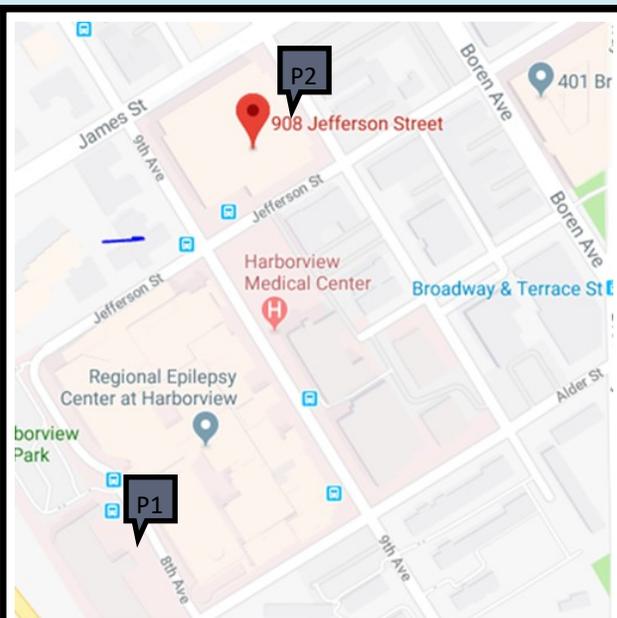
- * Contact the decedent's employer. Inquire about any 401k, pension, or company benefits that the decedent may be entitled to.

Department of Licensing

- * Contact the department of motor vehicles to cancel the license and transfer titles of all registered vehicles. Vehicle transfers can be done through the Auditor's Office at 206-296-3454.

Credit Reporting Agencies

- * EQUIFAX 800-685-1111
- * TRANS UNION 800-888-4213
- * EXPERIAN 888-397-3742



I-5 N

Take exit 164A towards James St./Madison St
Keep left to continue to James St.
Turn Right onto James St
Turn Right onto Terry Ave. for P2 garage

I-5 S

Take exit 165A James Street and stay in left lane
Continue on 6th AVE. towards James St.
Turn left onto James St.
Turn Right onto Terry Ave. for P2 garage

Parking for KCMEO client validated
P1 – 8th Ave & Alder Street
P2 – Jefferson Street Parking Garage

Buses

3, 4, 13, 60, 193, 303

*Remember to visit our website at
www.kingcounty.gov/examiner
for more details and additional information
about the Medical Examiner's Office, in-
cluding Frequently Asked Questions*



Resource Guide

Although not comprehensive, this guide is meant for your convenience only and does not constitute any endorsement by the Medical Examiner.

Mailing Address
325 9th AVE, HMC Box 359792
Seattle, WA 98104

Physical Address
908 Jefferson St. 2nd floor
Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: 206-731-3232
Fax: 206-731-8555

www.kingcounty.gov/examiner



Death Certificates

The Medical Examiner is responsible for determining cause and manner of death and completing this portion of the death certificate. This is typically completed the same day as the examination.

The funeral home, along with the legal next of kin or representative, is responsible for completing the demographic section. Death certificates are electronically filed by the funeral home with Vital Statistics prior to disposition.

A certified death certificate is generally available within 3-4 days after death. If a death certificate is certified with a *Pending* cause of death, the final determination can take up to 6 months. Please contact KCMEO directly with questions on a pending death certificate.

Local Office:

Public Health Seattle & King County, Vital Statistics: 908 Jefferson St, 2nd, Floor, Seattle, WA 98104

** Free 30 minute parking available at P2 garage

Phone: 206-897-5100 or 1-800-325-6165 ext. 6-4768

Online: www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/vitalstats/death.aspx

State Office:

Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics:

Phone: 360-236-4300 or 1-800-525-0127

Online: www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/BirthDeathMarriageandDivorce

Funeral Homes

An internet search for “Funeral Homes in King County”, or in your county of residence, will provide a list of options.

A list of licensed providers can be located using the Washington State Department of Licensing <https://fortress.wa.gov/dol/dolprod/bpdLicenseQuery/>

How to Order ME Reports

An **autopsy report** is the medical finding (cause and manner of death)

An **investigator report** is the field report (investigator's finding at the scene):

Fees apply for all reports. Please see website.

Autopsy reports are typically available 4 to 6 months following the examination.

To obtain an autopsy and/or investigator report, you must be a *family member* of the deceased. To do so, you may:

- * Download and complete the records request form from the website, or provide the necessary information in letter format (*see website for more details*).
- * Mail your form and payment to the following street address:
King County Medical Examiner's Office
325 9th Avenue, HMC Box 359792
Seattle, WA 98104-2499
- * Payment methods include:
Mail order – Check or money order
Payable to King County Medical Examiner
- Or -
In Person – Cash, Check, Money order or Credit Card (fee applies)
- * You may also order in person at 908 Jefferson St. 2nd floor Seattle, WA 98104

Personal Effects Pick-Up

Personal effects collected during a Medical Examiner investigation will be released to the family's designated Funeral Home. Families are to select a funeral home within 3 days to coordinate the release of their loved one and any personal effects.

Next Steps

1. Begin notifying other family members.
2. Choose a funeral home or crematory & notify the medical examiner.

Grief Support Groups

— Bridges A Center for Grieving Children - Tacoma
253-272-8266

Support for children ages 4-18 who have experienced the serious illness or death of a loved one

— Compassionate Friends, Seattle-King County
Chapter, 206-241-1139 www.tcfseattle.org
Support group meetings, a library, and sibling support to families who have experienced the death of a child

— Providence Loss & Grief Resources
www.providence.org/hospiceofseattle
Offers individual and support groups to those who have experienced the loss of a loved one within the last 15 months

— Northwest Infant Survival & SIDS Alliance
www.nwsids.org 800-533-0376
Support to families affected by unexpected death of an infant

— Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood
Program www.sudc.org 800-620-7832
Support to families affected by unexpected death of a child (over age 1 year)

— The Healing Center 206-523-1206
Counseling and support groups for those dealing with grief; specializes in spousal loss

— Virginia Mason Grief Services 206-223-6398
Support for those loved ones who died as a result of a sudden, violent death by homicide, suicide or other traumatic death.

— Victim Support Services - Everett 425-252-8274
www.victimsupportservices.org
Advocacy agency providing support for families of crime victims