

NOTICE REGARDING HURRICANE DORIAN

Licensees:

The State of Florida is anticipating inclement weather due to Hurricane Dorian, so please keep the following information in mind:

Power outages

If you have a refrigeration unit, please consider reaching out to the following prior to the storm so that if your facility or unit is damaged or otherwise inoperable due to the hurricane, you can obtain more immediate assistance:

1. Contact another local funeral establishment to see if it might have space available; or
2. Contact your local county emergency management. A contact list for the state's county emergency management offices is available at: <https://www.floridadisaster.org/counties/>.

You may also wish to visit <https://www.floridadisaster.org/> for more information regarding hurricane preparedness.

E-filing of Death Certificate Notices

At this time, the Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS) is not expected to be impacted by Hurricane Dorian. We recognize, however, that your accessibility to the system may be limited due to power outages in your own areas. On 8/29/2019, the Florida Department of Health – Bureau of Vital Statistics sent an email to its list of funeral establishments and similar licensees reminding them to print several blank copies of its death certificate form (DH512), fetal death form (DH428), and burial transit permit (DH326) in preparation for possible power outages and downtime. These forms were attached to the email from the Florida Department of Health which you may have received. If access to EDRS is operational, you may continue to file your records electronically. If EDRS is not accessible for an extended period of time but power is available, then the referenced forms are available as an enterable pdf and may be used to complete the death record. Once completed and signed, you may send them to the Bureau of Vital Statistics via fax at 1-855-698-0671. The completed death certificate will be attached in lieu of the fax attestation. If you do not have access to a fax machine, then you may contact the Bureau of Vital Statistics Helpdesk (1-866-295-5902) for alternative methods.

The Bureau of Vital Statistics Helpdesk (1-866-295-5902) will be closed for the observation of Labor Day on Monday, September 2, 2019. It is otherwise available: M - F 8am - 6pm, and Sat 9am - 2pm ET. Their Quality Assurance unit is also available at 904-359-6900 ext. 9020 and you may reach Ken Jones at 904-359-6900 ext. 1001.

Division of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services

The Division of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services will be closed for the observation of Labor Day on Monday, September 2, 2019. Other office closures during the week will depend upon the path and impact of the storm. The Division is otherwise available M – F 8 am – 5 pm at 1-800-323-2627.

Thank you and stay safe.