



MEMORANDUM

To: Maryland State Funeral Directors
From: Lee Hurt, Director, Vital Statistics Administration
Subject: Limited acceptance of faxed medical certifications
Date: 1/22/2020

Following recent discussions with members of the Maryland State Funeral Directors Association, the Vital Statistics Administration has agreed to allow Maryland licensed funeral directors, and their staff, to provide a copy of the first page of the multipart death certificate (via fax, email, or mail) to medical certifiers not associated with a medical facility (hospital or long term care facility) or to medical certifiers working with hospice organizations or medical practices that have not yet been enrolled in the MD-EDRS system. These medical certifiers without access to MD-EDRS may then fax the form back to the funeral director, completed with the decedent's full name, date and time of death, location of death (including city and county), causes of death and manner of death, and their certification information and signature.

Please note that all medical certifiers for deaths occurring at medical facilities, or working with hospice organizations or large medical groups enrolled in MD-EDRS must initiate and complete the medical information portion of the death certificate through the MD-EDRS system. If you are uncertain whether the medical certifier has access to MD-EDRS, you may want to ask the certifier, or you may email the EDRS Helpdesk. Faxed and transcribed certificates from certifiers with access to MD-EDRS will be rejected. Faxed and transcribed certificates will only be permitted for those certifiers without access to MD-EDRS.

Please contact Timiki Easton at timiki.easton@maryland.gov if you have any questions regarding these procedures. We appreciate your help with the timely completion and submission of our state's death certificates.