

DEATH CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

Certified copies of the Death Certificate may be obtained from the Bureau of Vital Statistics or the Town Clerk in the city or town where death occurred. A Death Certificate may be required for:

1. **To change the title on property:** The property deed accompanied by the death certificate taken to the Clerk of the Circuit Court where the property is located.
2. **To change the title on vehicle:** The title of the vehicle accompanied by the death certificate taken to the Department of Motor Vehicles.
3. **To change the title on a boat:** Contact Dept. of Motor Vehicle (Marine Division), they will advise you on how to release the title.
4. **Social Security Death Benefits:** Call the Social Security Office (800) 772-1213 to obtain information. We have included a separate form on preparing for your interview with the Social Security Department.
5. **Life Insurance Benefits:** A certified copy of the Death Certificate is required for each company. If you have multiple policies with one company only one death certificate is required.
6. **Fraternal or Union Benefits:** A certified copy for each organization
7. **Stocks and Bonds:** A certified copy for each company. If you have a portfolio, please consult with your broker.
8. **Banking Institutions:** A certified copy of the death certificate is needed for each institution. Multiple accounts with the same bank only requires one.
9. **Probate Court.** A certified copy of the death certificate will be needed for the court if the estate is probated. Consult your attorney if needed.
10. **Prepaid Funeral Contracts.** Generally, a copy of the death certificate is sufficient. A certified copy may or may not be needed. Consult your Funeral Director.
11. **Insured Loan:** If your home, boat, or auto has an insured loan, you will need a Certified Copy to collect insurance proceeds.
12. **Income Tax Return:** Consult with your accountant or tax preparer. If you prepare and file your return on your own, consult with the IRS. Funerals are not tax deductible.
13. **Veteran's Benefits:** The Spear Miller Funeral Home will assist you in applying for any benefits you may or may not be entitled to.

Please note: Contact your insurance agent for auto, boat, or home insurance. The name of the deceased will need to be removed from the policies. All life insurance policies that listed the deceased as beneficiary will need to be changed.

We trust that this information will be helpful to you.