

FAQ's

Where will the body of my loved one be taken? The body will be taken to the Perry County Morgue.

Will an Autopsy be performed? Autopsies are not performed on all Coroner's Cases. The Coroner will obtain information concerning the circumstances surrounding the death, obtain medical records, and social history. If there is **no** evidence of suspicious circumstances, then an Autopsy will NOT be conducted.

If a death is suspicious, or if the death is unusual, an Autopsy will be done to determine cause and manner of death.

Can the family request an Autopsy? If the Coroner has released the case, the family may contact a private Pathologist for an Autopsy. However there will be a fee charged by the Pathologist and payment of the autopsy is the responsibility of the requesting Family.

If the Coroner has requested the autopsy, *in the course of his Investigation*, there is no charge to the family.

May I come to the Morgue to view my loved one? Viewing is generally not allowed at the Morgue. Due to biohazard and public health concerns as well as insurance regulations, the general public is not permitted to enter the morgue facility. Once the Forensic Examination is completed, your loved one is released to the Funeral Home of your choosing.

When will I know the Cause of Death? The Coroner will conduct a Forensic Examination and review of Medical Records. When the Coroner concludes his investigation, the Cause of Death will generally be known within 24-48 hours. However, if further testing and investigation is required, it may take several months to determine cause of death.

Who May Request a Death Certificate?

- Legal representative of the decedent's estate
- Immediate family member
- Extended family member who indicates a direct relationship to the decedent

How Do I Obtain a Death Certificate? Initially through the funeral home, and then subsequently through the Division of Vital Records, which maintains records of deaths that occurred from 1906 to the present. Certified copies of death certificates (with a

raised seal) are issued and acceptable for various uses, such as: Estate Settlement, Insurance Policies, Pension/Retirement, Property Transfer, Social Security, Stocks/Bonds.

Contact

Division of Vital Records
P.O. Box 1528
New Castle, PA 16103
Phone: (724) 656-3100

Are all deaths in Perry County reported to the Coroner?

No. In Perry County, the following deaths are NOT reportable:

- Generally, natural deaths occurring in a medical facility, skilled nursing facility and/or under a hospice physician's care are not Coroner cases.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Suicide Hotline Help

Prevent Suicide PA - Cumberland-Perry Counties
www.preventsuicidepa.org
1-800-273 TALK (8255)
717-763-2222
717-243-6005

Substance Abuse

Cumberland-Perry Alcohol Commission
16 West High St.
Suite 302
Carlisle, PA 17013
717-240-6300
1-800-662-HELP (4357)

Treatment & Care Provider Substance Abuse.

Perry Human Services, Inc.
8391 Spring Rd,
PO Box 436
New Bloomfield, PA 17068
717-582-8703

Diakon Child, Family and Community Ministries
25 East McClure St.
New Bloomfield, PA 17068
717-795-0330

PA Get Help Now
Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services
1-800-662-HELP (4357)