

Coroner Case Guidelines

Parish and state law require that certain clinical circumstances must be investigated by the coroner's office. That office must be notified according to the following guidelines:

These are Coroner Cases:

"It shall be the duty of the Coroner to view the body or to make an investigation in all cases of suspicious, unexpected, unusual deaths, sudden deaths, violent deaths, deaths due to unknown or obscure causes or in any unusual manner, bodies found dead, deaths without attending physician within thirty-six (36) hours prior to the hour of death, any case of suspected abortion whether self-induced or otherwise, deaths due to suspected suicide or homicide, deaths in which poison is suspected, SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome), Child Abuse or suspected Child Abuse, any death from natural causes occurring in a hospital under twenty-four hours of admission, unless seen by a physician in the last thirty-six (36) hours, death following an injury or accident either old or recent, death due to drowning, hanging, burns, electrocution, gunshot wounds, stabs or cutting, lightning, starvation, radiation, exposure, alcoholism, addiction, tetanus, any from strangulation, suffocation or smothering, deaths due to trauma from whatever cause, deaths due to criminal means or by casualty, deaths in prison or while serving a sentence, deaths due to virulent contagious disease that might be caused by or cause public hazard, AIDS or suspected AIDS (Acquired ImmunoDeficiency Syndrome), and all cases of alleged rape, simple and aggravated, carnal knowledge and crimes against nature. The Coroner must furnish a death certificate based on his examination, investigation or autopsy, and he must state as best he can the cause and means of death, and if it appears that death be due to accident, suicide or homicide, he shall so state. The Coroner is authorized to perform or cause to be performed by competent physician, an autopsy in any case in his discretion."

Frank Minyard, MD, Coroner

Orleans Parish

Ask for a Coroner's Deputy, Secretary or Assistant.

Someone is on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Phone: 827-3575