

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

California Highway Patrol(707)428-2100
Solano County Sheriff's Office(707)784-7000
Solano County Coroner..... (707) 784-7500
Solano County District Attorney ... (707) 784-6800
Solano County Public Administrator (707) 784-6140
Solano County Veteran Services..(707)553-5261
Solano County Vital Statistics
For death certificates.....(707)784-6294
Benicia Police Department(707)745-3412
Dixon Police Department(707)678-7070
Fairfield Police Department (707)428-7300
Rio Vista Police Department.....(707)374-6366
Suisun City Police Department(707)421-7373
Vacaville Police Department.....(707)449-5200
Vallejo Police Department.....(707)648-4321

Other Important Numbers

24 hour SUICIDE PREVENTION
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
.....(800) 273-TALK (8255)
24/7 CRISIS SERVICES
Solano County Crisis Stabilization Unit
2101 Courage Drive Fairfield (707) 428 1131
Mental Health Access (800) 547-0495

SOLANO COUNTY FUNERAL HOMES

BENICIA

Passalacqua Funeral Chapel(707) 745 3130

DIXON

Bryan-Braker Silveyville.....(707) 693 0292
Milton Carpenter Funeral Home (707) 678 2189

FAIRFIELD

Bryan Braker Funeral Home.....(707) 425 4697
Fairfield Funeral Home(707) 425 1041
Fairmont Cremation Services....(707) 425 0208
Neptune Society(707) 422 4900

RIO VISTA

C. E. Stewart Funeral Chapel....(707) 374 2352

SUISUN CITY

Alta Vista Cremation & Funeral .(707) 421 0100

VACAVILLE

Bryan Braker Funeral Home.....(707) 448 4900
McCune Garden Chapel.....(707) 448 6546
Oakmont Funeral & Cremation..(707) 455 7700
Vaca Hills Chapel(707) 446 3233

VALLEJO

Colonial Chapels(707) 643 0391
Skyview Memorial Lawn(707) 644 7474
Twin Chapels Mortuary.....(707) 552 6696
Wiggins-Knipp Funeral Home ... (707) 642 4459

WINTERS

Smith Funeral Home.....(530) 795 5600



*Your
Loved One
Has Died.*

What's Next?

SOLANO COUNTY CORONER'S OFFICE

Solano County Sheriff-Coroner

520 Clay Street

Fairfield, CA 94533

Phone: (707) 784-7500

Fax: (707) 784-7501

Why is the Solano County Coroner's Office involved in the death of my loved one?

The Coroner is mandated by State Law (Government Code 27491) to investigate all violent, sudden or medically unattended deaths within the county. This means that the Coroner's Office completes a thorough professional medicolegal investigation into all deaths related to suicide, homicide, accident, infectious or communicable disease, or when the decedent had not been treated by a licensed physician within the 20 days preceding his or her death. The Coroner's Office is charged with determining both the manner of death and the actual medical reason or cause of death. The professional investigation completed by the Coroner's Office also includes establishing the identity of the decedent, and when possible, notifying the next of kin in a prompt and compassionate manner.

What do I do now?

As soon as possible, select a funeral home and inform the funeral director that the death is being handled by the Solano County Coroner's Office. If you know the Coroner's case number, provide the number to the funeral director. You can then proceed with planning the funeral services, but do not set a specific date for the funeral until the Coroner's Office has completed their investigation and released the decedent to the funeral home. Generally, most decedents can be released within two or three days. However, there are times when the release may be delayed for various reasons beyond our control. Your Funeral Director will coordinate the release on your behalf.

Who is considered the legal next-of-kin?

Absent a legal document designating a person or persons to make decisions after their death, the legal next-of-kin is defined by law as the person responsible for making decisions regarding what will happen to the decedent after their death. The law states that the legal next-of-kin is based solely upon a person's relationship to the decedent prior to their death. The first legal next-of-kin would be the spouse, (husband or wife), followed by any adult children, the decedent's parent(s), and finally the decedent's siblings, (brothers or sisters).

Where is my loved one being taken?

The Coroner's Office Investigator will arrange for transportation of the decedent to the Coroner's Office, located at 520 Clay Street, Fairfield, California.

Can I see my loved one at the Coroner's Office?

Unfortunately, the Coroner's Office is not designed to accommodate the in-person viewing of decedents. There generally is no need for anyone to identify a decedent after they have been transported to our facility. Arrangements for viewing a decedent are normally handled by the funeral home you chose, and viewings are carried out at their facility.

Why is an autopsy needed?

Autopsies are not always required prior to making a professional determination as to the cause and manner of death. However, an autopsy may be performed if the Coroner determines that it is necessary in order to make a determination.

Are there any Coroner's Office Fees?

A fee of \$378.00 is collected by the Coroner's Office to cover the cost of transporting the decedent from the place of death to our office. Typically, this fee is collected from the funeral home or cremation society at the time they arrive at our facility to pick up the decedent.

In addition to the imposition of fees to cover our transportation costs, the Coroner's Office will impose Storage Fees beginning the day after the decedent has been released for pickup. The storage fee is \$1.00 per day.

The Coroner's Office does not charge for the cost of an autopsy.

When can I have a funeral?

Our investigation should not delay your funeral plans. Although the Coroner's Office does not release decedents on Saturdays, Sundays, or designated holidays, we typically complete our investigation and release the decedent to the designated funeral home or cremation service within **96 hours of arrival at the facility**. In order to release the decedent to the funeral home or cremation service that you have chosen, the Coroner's Office must have a signed Authorization of Release form on file. The funeral home or cremation service you have chosen will normally provide you with the proper form, and under normal circumstances they will submit it to our office on your behalf.

What if I do not have enough money for funeral expenses?

If the deceased didn't make any funeral/cremation arrangements prior to their death, and it is subsequently determined by the County that the decedent was indigent and the legal next of kin does not have sufficient funds to either bury or cremate the decedent, the County will cremate the decedent at County expense and scatter their ashes in a compassionate manner.

Anyone wishing to apply for the Solano County Indigent Cremation Program should contact the Solano County Coroner's Office **as soon as possible** for information and directions.

Can I find out the cause of death?

We are able to determine the manner and cause for the majority of deaths we investigate. Although some cases require more investigation, most of the time we are able to provide Coroner, Autopsy and/or Toxicology Reports about a week after the completion of the investigation.

Where can I get a copy of the Death Certificate?

Although the Solano County Coroner's Office establishes the cause and manner of death, we do not issue death certificates. If you are working with a mortuary or funeral home, they can provide you with certified copies of the Death Certificate. All other requests for Death Certificates should be made to the Solano County Recorder's Office, Vital Statistics Section, located at 675 Texas Street, Second Floor, Fairfield, (707) 784-6294.

How do I reclaim property obtained by the Coroner's Office?

The Coroner may be in possession of personal property belonging to a decedent. The legal next-of-kin may authorize the Coroner's Office to release the property to a funeral home or mortuary. They may also obtain the property (or authorize another person to obtain the property) directly from the Coroner's Office. The Coroner's Office will release property directly to the legal next-of-kin or any person (with valid photo ID) furnishing written authorization signed by the legal next-of-kin. Property is only released during normal business hours.