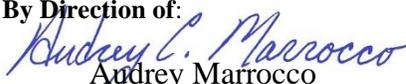


STATE REGISTRAR NOTICE

Subject: <i>Guidance for Local and Assistant Registrars: Reporting of Deaths Attributed to COVID-19</i>	Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Transitory	Number: 2020-04
Date Issued: March 6, 2020 Date Effective: March 6, 2020	Audience: Local Registrars	By Direction of:  Audrey Marrocco State Registrar

Due to the criticality of timely reporting at the state and national levels on deaths attributed to Coronavirus Disease 2019 or COVID-19, the Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries (BHSR) is requiring that all death attributed to this disease be reported through the Electronic Death Reporting System (EDRS). See State Registrar Notice (SRN) 2020-01, 2020-02 and 2020-03 for specific requirements. All State Registrar Notices are available online at <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Reporting-Registries/Pages/State-Registrar-Notices.aspx>.

Registration of COVID-19 Confirmed and Suspected Cases

Local registrars¹ perform a crucial role in ensuring that stakeholders reporting deaths comply with the requirements established by BHSR. As such, local registrars shall only register deaths attributed to or suspected to be attributed to COVID-19 if submitted through EDRS. Local registrars shall not register a paper “Certificate of Death” (form H105.143) if the death is attributed or suspected to be attributed to COVID-19.

Upon receipt of a “Certificate of Death” (form H105.143) for a COVID-19 death, the local registrar shall immediately notify BHSR. Local registrars shall notify BHSR if they receive a report of death (either through EDRS or on form H105.143) where the cause of death attributes the death to coronavirus, but does not include the specific strain of the disease. These reports of death also shall not be registered by the local registrar. Notification from the local registrar to BHSR must be by fax (717-772-3258) and must include a fax cover letter that lists the funeral director’s name and phone number.

EDRS Training

Local registrars that need refreshed on how to use EDRS should contact BHSR’s Death Registry Unit for training.

¹ Local registrars are defined as individuals that have been appointed as a local registrar or an assistant registrar, and deputy registrars that are hired by a local registrar.

Contact Information for EDRS User Support and the Death Registry Unit:

By Fax for Problematic Coronavirus or COVID-19 Cases: 717-772-3258

By Phone: Vital Events Stakeholder Hotline at 800-323-9613

By Email: EDRS Support: RA-DHEDRS@pa.gov
Death Registration: RA-DHDEATHREG@pa.gov