



CENTRAL DUPAGE HOSPITAL
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM
POLICY & PROCEDURES

TITLE: NOTIFICATION OF CORONER

SECTION: FIELD OPERATIONS

POLICY NUMBER: B-9

APPROVED BY: DR. STEVE GRAHAM EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

EFFECTIVE DATE: 01 JULY 2018

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PURPOSE:

To define when the coroner should be called by EMS personnel.

POLICY:

The following deaths, classified in Section 10 of the Coroner’s Act of the State of Illinois as amended in 1957 and in conjunction with the policies of the Central DuPage EMS System, will be reported to the coroner of the county affected.

1. Sudden or violent death, whether apparently suicidal, homicidal or accidental.
2. Maternal and/or fetal death due to abortion or any death due to a sex crime or a crime against nature.
3. Death where circumstances are suspicious, obscure, or mysterious, or where in the written opinion of the attending physician, the cause of death is not determined.
4. Death where addiction to alcohol or to any drug may have been a contributory cause.
5. Death occurring without medical attention within the last thirty days.
6. Death occurring in any DuPage County long term care facility if body is not to be transported to the hospital.
7. Situations in which EMS is called on scene of an incident but unable / not allowed to assess the patient.

NOTE:

Regardless of the situation surrounding the current patient status, medical care takes precedence over the preservation of a crime scene. However, care should be taken not to destroy evidence that can be maintained intact (i.e.: cutting through a bullet hole.) If the coroner notification is completed by the prehospital personnel, it should be recorded on the prehospital care report, indicating the time and the person receiving the call as well as the disposition of the victim. If the crime scene is turned over to the police, the name of the officer or officers and their badge numbers should be documented on the ambulance report form.

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