

## House Bill 3127 Frequently Asked Questions for Funeral Directors

Q: What is House Bill 3127 (HB 3127)?

A: HB 3127 requires that death records be completed electronically using the state's system called OVERS.

Q: What is the effective date for HB 3127?

A: Death records must be entered using OVERS starting January 1, 2026.

Q: Are there any exceptions to the requirement that death records be completed using OVERS?

A: Yes, the exceptions are:

- If a 2025 death record needs to be dropped to paper and was not dropped to paper by December 31, 2025.
- If a 2025 paper death record needs to be re-dropped to paper, or if a new certifier is needed, and the certifier does not have an active OVERS account.
- Out-of-state medical certifiers exception: If a medical certifier is from out-of-state who rarely certifies death records, then a drop to paper record can be requested.
- Individuals completing a paper death record who are acting as a funeral service practitioner. These are often called home burials and are usually handled by the state.

Q: How does a funeral director request a drop to paper death record exception?

A: To request a drop to paper death record for a valid exception, funeral directors can email or call the OVERS Help Desk at <a href="mailto:CHS.OVERSaccess@oha.oregon.gov">CHS.OVERSaccess@oha.oregon.gov</a> or 971-673-1190 opt.1, then

opt. 4. If you send an email or receive voicemail, include the following information:

- OVERS Case ID
- Your name
- Funeral home name
- Email address
- Phone number
- Reason for the exception request

You will receive an email with an appointment for a date and time that a Center for Health Statistics employee will call you to create a drop to paper death record.

Q: What if a funeral director has a drop to paper death record exception, but they have run out of purple stripe paper?

A: If a funeral director has run out of purple stripe paper they can print the death record on regular paper.

Q: Can a drop to paper death record be registered at the county after January 1, 2026?

A: Funeral directors can take a drop to paper death record to the county to be registered through March 31, 2026. After that date all paper death records must be sent to the State Vital Records Office to be registered.

Q: What can funeral directors do if a medical certifier is taking a long time to certify or refuses to electronically certify a death record?

A: Funeral directors can email <a href="mailto:CHS.Registration@oha.oregon.gov">CHS.Registration@oha.oregon.gov</a>
when a medical certifier isn't certifying a record in a timely manner. The Registration Team will contact the certifier about the requirements to certify the record.

Q: Is there a way to file a complaint against a medical certifier that is not completing a death record after the state has been contacted and the record still has not been certified?

A: If a physician or PA is not meeting their obligations under ORS 432, a funeral director may <u>file a complaint</u> with the Oregon Medical Board. The Board has staff that review all complaints and will follow

up about the process, questions can be sent to: <a href="mailto:complaintresource@omb.oregon.gov">complaintresource@omb.oregon.gov</a>.

Please note that nurse practitioners are licensed by the <u>Oregon State</u>
<u>Board of Nursing</u> and questions regarding their practice should be directed to them.