



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Human Services

Public Health Division

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October 4, 2007



Dear Colleague:

The Center for Health Statistics is proud to announce the completion of statewide rollout of our new Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS). The EDRS software is now available for use by all funeral homes throughout the state. (Look for more information about the rollout completion in an upcoming issue of the *OVERS News* newsletter.) If you are interested in getting training on the EDRS software, please call our office at 971-673-0279.

The EDRS software now includes a SSN online verification process. Because of this process, **funeral homes do not need to send in SSA-721 if they use Oregon's EDRS system when registering a death.** However, if you complete a death certificate without using the EDRS system, you still need to send in Form 721. Please see the enclosed letter from SSA about this issue.

If you need further information about EDRS, please check out the project Web page at www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/overs/. You may also call Mike Day, the project Communications Coordinator, at 971-673-1196 or Karen Hampton, the OVERS Manager, at 971-673-1191.

Thank you for helping make the rollout of EDRS such a success.

Sincerely yours,

Jennifer A. Woodward, Ph.D.
State Registrar

"Assisting People to Become Independent, Healthy and Safe"
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SOCIAL SECURITY

July 19, 2007

Dear Funeral Director:

We are writing to you to announce our new procedures for The Statement of Death by the Funeral Director (SSA-721).

Beginning July 19, 2007, if you use Oregon's Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS) to register deaths, then you will no longer need to send to SSA a separate SSA-721 to report an individual's death.

We still need your help to get information to the potential survivors who may be entitled to benefits. You can help us by distributing the last two pages of the SSA-721 to families as you register the decedent's information. These pages provide valuable information about potential benefits that may be payable and how to apply for these benefits.

If you do NOT use Oregon's EDRS, then we ask that you to continue to send us the SSA-721. Once you begin using the automated process, you may stop sending the SSA-721.

Thank you for your assistance in this process

Sincerely,

Brian Cronin

Brian Cronin
Director Office of Payment Policy