November 28, 2005

Dear Physician:

The California Department of Health Services began implementation of an Electronic Death Registration System (CA-EDRS) in January 2005. The system was piloted in two counties, Yolo and Riverside, and phased implementation has begun with other counties in California.

As a result of this development, the Department has designed two new methods to make it easier for you to certify the causes of death as they appear on the death certificate. Both Voice and Fax Attestation methods replace the pen signature. We are currently seeking physicians from within our CA-EDRS counties interested in using these new methods.

**What is Remote Attestation using FAX or Voice?**

**Fax Attestation:**
This method for medically certifying the causes of death requires the physician to merely sign the faxed attestation copy which is sent by the funeral director or decedent affair office using an option from the CA-EDRS system. After you receive the faxed attestation copy, sign on the attestation copy (which looks just like the death certificate) with your usual signature in the usual place. Then, you, or a member of your staff faxes it back to the toll free CA-EDRS fax server number shown on the instruction sheet. The CA-EDRS server will retain an image of the attestation copy. It will check for the presence of a signature in item 115, and if it finds one will then update the status of the death record in CA-EDRS to “signed.” This completes the attestation process.

**Voice Attestation:**
This method for medically certifying the causes of death requires you to follow the instructions under VOICE OPTION on the instruction sheet. After you receive the faxed attestation copy, you must call the toll free CA-EDRS number indicated on the instruction sheet, and follow the prompts provided by the interactive voice response system. You will need to have the instruction sheet and the attestation copy in front of you when you call. Once you have completed the call, the system will inform you whether or not it was successfully attested by voice. The Voice server will also notify the CA-EDRS system that the death record has been signed and the attestation is complete.

**A word of caution:**
*If the attestation copy faxed to you is incorrect and requires a change, you or your staff must contact the funeral director or decedent affairs office immediately. Do NOT modify the attestation copy. Do NOT sign an incorrect attestation copy. Do NOT sign if your name does not appear as the recipient identified on the cover sheet. Your Funeral Director or decedent affairs will make the changes that you request, and the system will re-fax you the corrected copy with new attestation numbers.*

We believe this new system will make your role in the death registration process much easier than in the past. We look forward to your cooperation and comments. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Application Support Desk, at the CA-EDRS Project Office, 916-734-8727.
CONFIDENTIAL AND TIME SENSITIVE INFORMATION ENCLOSED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recipient:</th>
<th>[PHYSICIAN SIGNING DEATH CERTIFICATE]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fax Number:</td>
<td>[PHYSICIAN FAX XXX-XXX-XXXX]</td>
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<td>Sender:</td>
<td>[SENDER’S NAME]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sender’s Phone Number:</td>
<td>[SENDER’S PHONE XXX-XXX-XXXX]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IF YOU RECEIVED THIS FAX IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY THE SENDER.
Attention

IF YOU CHOOSE THE FAX OPTION

You may not modify the physician attestation copy other than placing a signature in field 115. If you require modifications (e.g. changes to the causes of death, changes to your address), you must contact the funeral director or decedent affairs office that issued these faxed documents to you and ask them to make the corrections. They then must re-fax the corrected set to you.

A faxed DC attestation form that has been modified is NOT acceptable as an officially signed death certificate.
MEDICAL INFORMATION
ATTESTATION INSTRUCTION SHEET

Per California Statute:
- Health and Safety Code 102800 gives the medical certifier 15 hours after the death to provide the medical and health data and attest to its validity on the Death Certificate.
- Health and Safety Code 102800 and 102825 identify the specific individuals who may certify a Death Certificate.

Please review the Physician Attestation Copy included in this fax. If the Medical Information is correct, use either the Fax Option or the Voice Option to electronically attest to the information. By doing so, you certify that to the best of your knowledge, the death occurred at the hour, date, and place stated from the causes stated on the Death Certificate. Your attestation will be saved in the California Electronic Death Registration System (CA-EDRS).

NOTE
If the attestation copy faxed to you is incorrect and requires a change or your name is not the fax recipient identified on the cover sheet, you or your staff must contact the sender identified on the cover sheet immediately. Do NOT modify the attestation copy. Do NOT sign an incorrect attestation copy. Do NOT sign if your name does appear as the recipient identified on the cover sheet. The sender will make the changes that you request, and the system will re-fax you the corrected copy with new attestation numbers.

Fax Option
Fax the signed Physician Attestation Copy of the Death Certificate to the toll-free Fax Server.
1. Sign in field 115.
2. Fax the Physician Attestation Copy to the toll-free CA-EDRS Fax Server at 1-800-913-6121.

Voice Option
Call the toll-free CA-EDRS Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS).
1. Call the toll-free CA-EDRS IVRS at 1-800-713-2908.
2. Follow the instructions as prompted, entering the numbers below when prompted and confirming your authority to attest to the Medical Information.

   Death Certificate Record Number: [XXXXXX]

   Voice Attestation Number (VAN): [XXXXXXXX]

3. State the following phrase:

   “I [PHYSICIAN NAME], certify that the death certificate copy submitted to me for [DECEDENT NAME ] is correct”

IF YOU RECEIVED THIS FAX IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY THE SENDER.