

SOUTHERN FOX VALLEY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM POLICY & PROCEDURES

TITLE: CORONER NOTIFICATION

SECTION: GENERAL POLICY NUMBER: D-54.0

APPROVED BY: DR. ARTHUR PROUST EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

EFFECTIVE DATE: 09/01/2023 PAGE NUMBER: 1 OF 2

PURPOSE:

To define when the coroner shall by notified by EMS personnel

POLICY:

- 1. Per 55 ILCS 5/3-3020, Coroner is to be notified by ambulance personnel where the death is subject to investigation under Section 3-3013. Per 55 ILCS 5/3-3013, these subjects include the following:
 - a. A sudden or violent death, whether apparently suicidal, homicidal or accidental, including but not limited to deaths apparently caused or contributed to by thermal, traumatic, chemical, electrical or radiational injury, or a complication of any of them, or by drowning or suffocation, or as a result of domestic violence as defined in the Illinois Domestic Violence Act of 1986.
 - b. A death due to a sex crime
 - c. A death where the circumstances are suspicious, obscure, mysterious or otherwise unexplained or where, in the written opinion of the attending physician, the cause of death is not determined.
 - d. A death where addiction to alcohol or to any drug may have been a contributory cause; or
 - e. A death where the decedent was not attended by a licensed physician
 - f. Deaths in State institutions and all deaths of wards of the State or youth in care as defined in Section 4d of the Children and Family Services Act in private care facilities or in programs funded by the Department of Human Services under its powers relating to mental health and developmental disabilities or alcoholism and substance abuse or funded by the Department of Children and Family Services

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- g. Situations in which EMS is called on scene of an incident but unable/not permitted to assess the patient
- 2. 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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