



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

VITAL STATISTICS AND REGISTRATION

PO BOX 370

TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0370

www.nj.gov/health

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lieutenant Governor

MATTHEW D'ORIA
Acting Commissioner

January 25, 2010

Dear Hospital Administrator:

The Department of Health and Senior Services' Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS) has been established in compliance with NJSA 26:8-24.1.

Over the last several years comprehensive training has been conducted in the funeral home/director, medical examiner, hospital and local registrar communities detailing the use and functionality of the EDRS.

Therefore, effective April 15, 2010 paper death certificates will no longer be accepted by the state or local registrar, in cases where the death has occurred in a hospital/acute care center or when certified by the medical examiner. Those cases occurring in Hospice, Nursing Homes or Long Term Care centers or certified by private practice physicians will be accepted by the funeral director and submitted via the fax hybrid option until such time as the entities can be fully trained.

All funeral homes/directors are required to submit all death certificates electronically and local registrars must reject paper death certificates submitted for registration. Local registrars are authorized to accept the rare case of a paper death certificate if there are issues with the Internet, malfunctioning computer or the like but will be monitoring to ensure compliance with the requirement to receive electronic submission from the identified entities effective April 15, 2010.

Medical entities seeking additional training or support should contact Joan Pritchard of my staff at 1-609-341-5002.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Questions regarding this directive can be routed to me toll-free at 1-866-649-8726 extension 500.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Komosinski
State Registrar
Vital Statistics and Registration