



COUNTY OF ANOKA

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

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December 19, 2011

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Don't Overpay for Certified Death Records

Certified death records, commonly called death certificates, are available through Anoka County in the Vital Statistics Office and the Anoka County License Centers in Columbia Heights and Coon Rapids. The cost is \$13.

Reports have surfaced recently of commercial websites, including several popular genealogy sites, charging \$100 or more for a death record. "Since in most cases these sites obtain their information from government sources, it's completely unnecessary to spend more than the \$13 fee charged by the county," said Anoka County Board Chair Rhonda Sivarajah. "Certified death records are often required for insurance and other legal purposes; Anoka County makes obtaining them safe and convenient."

Death records can be ordered by **mail, fax, email, or in person** from the Anoka County

Vital Statistics Office:

Vital Statistics Office
Anoka County Government Center
325 East Main St., Room 120
Anoka MN 55303-5036
Fax: 763-323-5203
Email: VitalStats@co.anoka.mn.us

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Don't Overpay for Certified Death Records – Add 1

Death records also may be ordered **in person** at the Coon Rapids License Center, 455 99th Ave. NW, Suite 100, in Coon Rapids and the Columbia Heights License Center, 3982 Central Ave. NE in Columbia Heights.

Under Minnesota's "Tangible Interest Law," anyone requesting a death record must demonstrate a tangible interest or legitimate reason for obtaining the record. People who have a tangible interest in a certified death record are:

- The child, grandchild, spouse, parent, grandparent, sibling, legal custodian, or guardian of the subject;
- The person who filed or the representative of an organization that filed the death record with the Minnesota Department of Health or the local registrar;
- A person demonstrating a need to protect personal or property rights;
- A person presenting a court order directing issuance of a certified record.

The cost is \$13 for the first certified death record and \$6 for each additional record of the same subject issued at the same time.

For more information go to www.anokacounty.us or call the Anoka County Vital Statistics Office at 763-323-5201.