

Title 15: Mississippi Department of Health

Part 5: Office of Health Informatics

Subpart 85: Public Health Statistics

Chapter 1. Rules Governing the Registration and Certification of Vital Events

Subchapter 3

Rule 1.3.1. Definitions:

13. **“Health Care Provider”** means a licensed person or organization that provides health care services.
14. **“Induced Termination of Pregnancy”** means the intentional termination of pregnancy with the intention other than to produce a live-born infant or to remove a dead fetus.
15. **“Informant”** means the person or organization who is listed on the vital record as the informant who provides information for the registration of said vital record.
16. **“Institution”** means any establishment, public or private, which provides in-patient medical, surgical, or diagnostic care or treatment, or nursing, custodial or domiciliary care to four or more unrelated individuals, or to which persons are committed by law.
17. **“Legal Representative”** means attorney, physician, funeral director, or other authorized agent acting on behalf of the registrant or his or her family.
18. **“Licensed Adoption Agency”** means any agency or organization performing adoption services duly licensed by the Mississippi Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children’s Services.
19. **“Live Birth”** means the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of human conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, which, after such expulsion or extraction, breathes or shows other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.
20. **“Medical Examiner”** means the state Medical Examiner, county medical examiners and county medical examiner investors collectively, unless otherwise specified.

21. **“Medical Treatment”** means the management and care of a patient to combat disease or disorder and includes, but is not limited to, hospitalization, laboratory tests, surgery or prescription drugs.
22. **“Mother”** means the female from whom a live birth or fetal death was expelled or extracted, and to whom the umbilical cord and placenta were attached, or whom a court order specifies as the mother of the fetus or child.
23. **“Physician”** means a person authorized or licensed under the laws of the state to practice medicine or osteopathy.
24. **“Registration”** means the acceptance by the Office of Vital Records and the incorporation of a vital record into its official records.
25. **“Reporting”** means the submission of information relating to a vital event to the Office of Vital Records for medical, health, statistical, or administrative uses, but not for incorporation into its permanent official records.
26. **“State Medical Examiner”** means the physician, board certified in forensic pathology, appointed by the Commissioner of Public Safety to investigate and certify deaths which affect the public interest.
27. **“Stillbirth”** or **“Stillborn”** means an unintended, intrauterine fetal death occurring in this state after a gestational age of not less than twenty (20) completed weeks, or a weight of 350 grams or more. Stillbirths are required to be reported as Fetal Deaths.
28. **“System of Vital Statistics”** includes the collection, registration, preservation, amendment, and certification of vital records; the collection of other required reports on vital events; and activities related thereto, including the tabulation, analysis, and publication of vital statistics.
29. **“Verifiable Midwife”** means a ‘lay’ or ‘granny’ midwife whose identity and initial delivery has been documented by an authorized representative of the State Registrar of Vital Records, or a midwife that has been certified by a state or nationally recognized organization.
30. **“Vital Events”** means the occurrences of live births, deaths, fetal deaths, induced termination of pregnancy, adoptions, marriages, divorces and annulments.
31. **“Vital Records”** means certificates or reports of the following categories of vital events; births, deaths, marriages, divorces and annulments and data related thereto.
32. **“Vital Statistics”** means the data derived from certificates and reports of all categories of vital events and related reports.

SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-1; Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-7

Chapter 3. Registration of Live Births

Subchapter 21. Court Order Changes which are not Corrections to Birth Facts

Rules 3.21.1. Change of name by court order: A name change, which is not a correction to the birth facts shall, upon receipt of a certified Mississippi chancery court order and required fee, be added to the birth certificate as a marginal notation of the fact. The birth name shall not be eradicated and the name changed shall not be put in the birth name place. The face of the certificate shall be stamped to indicate the legal authority under which the name was changed and the date of the change.

SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-1; Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-7; Miss. Code Ann. §93-17-1

Rules 3.21.2. Change of sex by court order: Sex reassignment shall be added to the birth certificate as a marginal notation, upon receipt of a certified Mississippi chancery court order and the required fee.

SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-1; Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-7

Chapter 4. Registration of Deaths

Subchapter 6. Interstate Transportation of Dead Bodies

Rule 4.6.3. Transportation of dead bodies: A dead body or fetus shall be buried, cremated or otherwise disposed of within 48 hours of death unless the body has been embalmed by a licensed embalmer or unless the body is kept under refrigeration at a temperature of 4°C (39°F). If the dead body is transported within or out of the state and the destination cannot be reached within 24 hours after death, the body shall be embalmed by a licensed embalmer or kept under refrigeration at a temperature of 4°C (39°F). Any dead body shipped by common carrier shall be enclosed in an outside shipping case. The outside shipping case may be made of metal, wood or any other suitable material which is approved by the common carrier. The outside case may be omitted in all instances when the body is transported in a hearse or funeral director's conveyance.

SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-1; Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-7

Chapter 6. Induced Terminations

Subchapter 2. Reporting

Rule 6.2.1. Requirements

Each induced termination of pregnancy which is performed in this state shall be reported to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics within fifteen (15) days of the procedure on a form prescribed or furnished by the Mississippi State Department of Health. Patients are to be listed by identification number only and not by name. The attending physician shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, sign and file the report.

SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-1; Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-7; Miss. Code Ann. §41-41-407(3)

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Rules 3.21.2. Change of sex by court order: Sex reassignment shall be added to the birth certificate as a marginal notation, upon receipt of a certified Mississippi chancery court order, ~~a medical statement that attests to the reassignment,~~ and the required fee.

SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-1; Miss. Code Ann. §41-57-7

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shall be embalmed by a licensed embalmer or kept under refrigeration at a temperature of 4°C (39°F). Any dead body shipped by common carrier shall be enclosed in an outside shipping case. The outside shipping case may be made of metal, wood or any other suitable material which is approved by the common carrier. The outside case may be omitted in all instances when the body is transported in a hearse or funeral director's conveyance.

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