



Spotlight on... Bay County

Bay County is located in the on the Gulf of Mexico in the Panhandle region of Northwest Florida and was created on July 1, 1913. The Bay County Health Department dates back to the late 1930s when a group of citizens saw a growing need for a county health unit in Panama City.

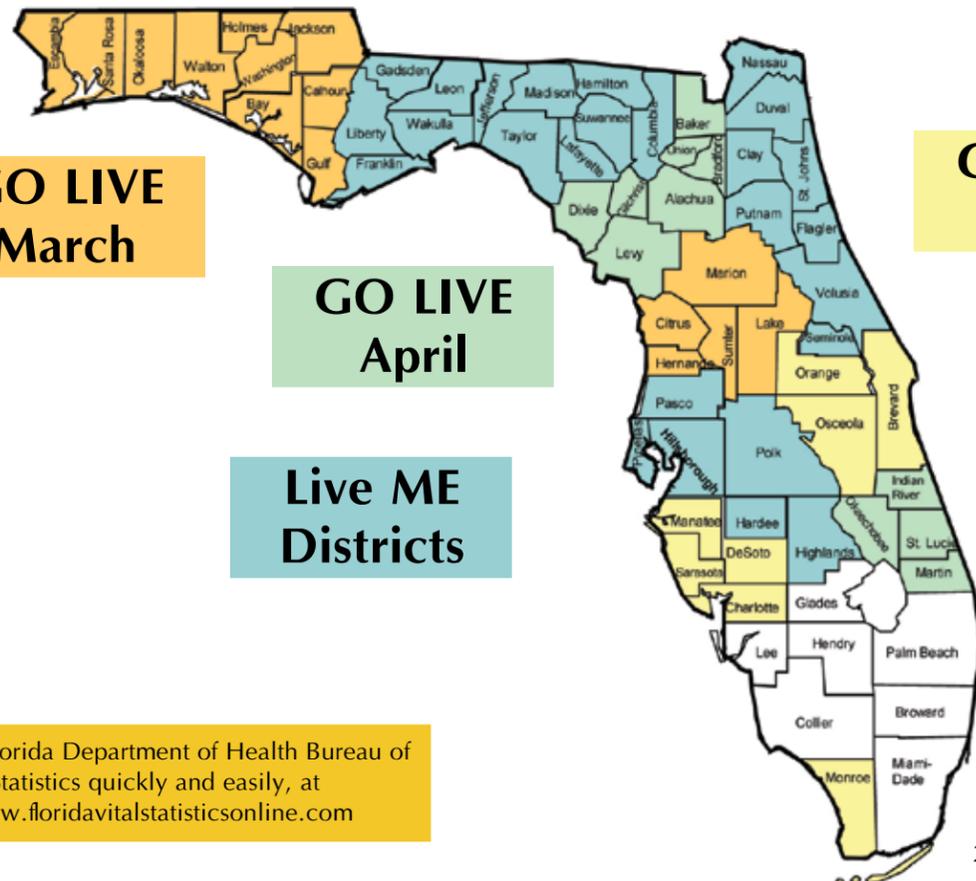
Today, the health department serves a population of approximately 164,000, which increases with seasonal visitors in the spring and summer. The vital statistics' team may be small in size but large in customer service. Leading the staff is Chief Deputy Registrar, Mary Hay (pictured on the left), with Arlene Conklin, DR (pictured on the right). Together the

team has 29 years of combined service to the department. Last year their office issued nearly 9,000 birth certifications, and more than 10,000 death certificates, serving 9 local funeral homes.

With the Electronic Death Registration (EDR) starting in March, it will be an exciting time for the Bay County vitals' staff. Keep up the good work, Mary and Arlene!



Electronic Death Registration System Implementation



You can find Florida Department of Health Bureau of Vital Statistics quickly and easily, at <http://www.floridavitalstatisticsonline.com>

2/29/2012

The Chief Deputy Registrar Operations Manual (COM) has been updated.

This manual is intended for department use only and is available for downloading at the Department of Health intranet site. CDRs should be sure all staff have a copy for reference.

Disposition of Fetal Remains Less than 20 Weeks Gestation

When there is a delivery of fetal remains that has not reached the 20th week of gestation, many families still wish to have a funeral service for that child. In these instances, funeral directors have asked about obtaining medical examiner approval for final disposition since many of these deliveries result in cremation. Section 11G-2.001(3)(c), Florida Administrative Code, reads, "Fetal deaths for which cremation, anatomic dissection or burial at sea of the remains is intended must be referred to the medical examiner for investigation. For the purposes of this section, "fetal death" is defined by Section 382.002, F. S."

Based on the above reference, medical examiners *do not* have to be notified of disposition of any fetal deaths less than 20 weeks gestation. Funeral directors cannot complete a burial transit permit as they are used for deaths and fetal deaths that meet the definition as outlined in s. 382.002, F.S. From a vital statistics perspective, s. 382.002, F.S. does not allow for a vital record to be filed.

Questions on how to account for these cases on the monthly reports and embalmers' affidavits should be directed to the Division of Funeral, Cemetery and Consumer Services, the regulatory board over the practice of funeral directing.

Chief Deputy Registrar Advisory Committee (CDRAC) Update

The Chief Deputy Registrar Advisory Committee has been busy participating in changes to multiple procedures and policies. As always, they had major input into the annual revision of the CDR Operations Manual; they played a significant role in the construction of the new FIMR process, and have been involved in streamlining the EDRS Fax Attestation process. CDRs will continue to play a role in the successful rollout of the EDRS as they will continue to be the point person when funeral homes have reluctant physicians not wanting to sign the death certificate and in monitoring filing times for compliance issues.

We welcome the newest CDRAC member, Kathleen Patton, CDR for Clay County. Kathleen filled the position vacated by Janie Carpenter's retirement last fall. Regretfully, we must wish one of our seasoned CDRs, CDRAC member, and CDRAC chair, Luz Perez, Hillsborough County, a fond farewell as she enters the next chapter of her life - Retirement. Lucy will be greatly missed. There is another vacancy, soon to be filled, created when Chris Mashintonio, Charlotte County, recently retired. The next Vital News issue will announce her replacement, Lucy's replacement, and the new CDRAC chair.

BITS 'n PIECES

CDRs:

- A reminder to run your Safety Paper Usage Report DAILY. If you need assistance, contact Cindy Russ, 904/359-6900, ext 1136.
- Transmittals sheets should be completed for each year submitted, and batched separately when mailing to the state office.

Funeral Directors:

- Be sure when you enter your license number for the EDRS death records, **use zeros** and not the letter "O".
- For any reluctant physicians, consult with the local CDR **prior** to contacting the state office for assistance.
- When putting in a helpdesk ticket, please do not leave your phone once you have made the call. We usually get back with the caller within about 10 minutes. If you are unavailable when we call back, it delays your getting the answer you need and requires another call and another ticket to be put into the system.
- If you have any questions, contact the state's helpdesk at 866-295-5902.

Meet the Newest Member of QA



Quality Assurance is pleased to announce the addition of Mary Boutte'. Ms. Boutte comes to us from the EDRS helpdesk and has a strong background in customer service, training and IT/helpdesk. She is a team player with a passion for detail and new experiences. We're sure you'll be just as pleased as we are to have Mary on our team!!

Welcome Aboard

The following appointments have been made to the position of registrar in the county health department:

Chief Deputy Registrar	
Susie Moore	Franklin County
Tammy Yzaguirre	Lee County
Del Lewis	Santa Rosa County
Local Registrar	
Kelly King.....	Calhoun County