

Electronic Birth Registration



“On the Road Again” could be the QA theme song this spring and summer! We’re busy working with hospitals to bring them online with the Electronic Birth Registration system.

Our assessment includes such things as determining their wireless capability and their current Healthy Start process. Jana Duffy receives calls almost every day from facilities eager to participate!

Wuesthoff Memorial in Rockledge, Wuesthoff Medical Center in Melbourne, Baptist Medical Center Beaches, Jacksonville Navy Hospital, Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare, and Shands at Alachua General are the most recent facilities to come onboard. Each facility brings its own challenges and success stories as we continue working toward statewide implementation.

Chief Deputy Registrar Advisory Committee Update

The Chief Deputy Registrar Advisory Committee (CDRAC) Welcomes Another New Member: Victoria Brack

Victoria Brack, Osceola County Chief Deputy Registrar has been chosen to fill the vacant CDRAC seat.

CDRAC journeyed to the state office to get a “sneak peek” at the Electronic Birth Registration system. Members had the opportunity to sit through a training much like those provided to the hospitals. The system is user friendly and all members are looking forward to their county going on line. Kevin Wright introduced the new computer version of the birth certificate, which will be implemented later in the year. This new version will have much more information and was received with tremendous reviews.

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MEET ‘N GREET



*Front Row L-R: Ken Fields, Rogelio Macapagal, Carmelita Sitjar, Josie Reyes, Ligaya Deleon, Lolota Santos, Evelyn Fugate, Necitas Delatorre, Donnalyn David, Dorcas Nelson.
Back Row L-R: Pat Hasan, Pat Kelsey, Eva Wilkes, Brenda Hennis, Rosemary Harris, Indiana Estrada, Annette Roundtree, Kevin Wright, John Stewart, Sandra Outing.*

With this issue we would like to introduce you to our **Client Services Unit**. These hard-working employees are an integral part of the Vital Records Section. Kevin Wright is the Program Administrator, Evelyn Fugate is the Health Services Manager, and Sandra Outing is the Record Center Manager. Record Technicians are Indiana Estrada, Patricia Hasan, Donnalyn David, Ken Fields, Eva Wilkes, Dana Hull, Marion Presley, Brenda Hennis, Necitas Delatorre, Teri Riancho, and Carmelita Sitjar. Record Specialists are Ligaya Deleon, Pat Kelsey, Lolita Santos, Annette Roundtree, Josie Reyes, and John Stewart. OPS workers are Rosemary

Harris, Dorcas Nelson, and Rogelio Macapagal.

This unit takes in approximately 2000 pieces of mail daily (for the entire office), and is responsible for completing orders for birth, marriage, and divorce certificates received by mail, walk-in clients at our front lobby, and through VitalChek, a private vendor who accepts credit card payments by telephone and via the Internet. They take funds and help process orders for death certificates. In the month of April, 2007, this unit issued approximately 23,000 certificates and helped to process orders for another 15,000 death certificates.

Change In Latitude

As summer begins, we say farewell to Kathy Stephens, Program administrator over the Amendments Units. She has been in vitals for 35 years and has retired as of June 1, 2007. Not only will we miss Kathy's experience and knowledge, but her kindness and good heart will be missed even more.

Kathy's leaving provides an opportunity for others. Betty Shannon, formerly Health Services Manager of the Corrections and Paternity Units, has been promoted into the administrator position. We feel good that the torch has passed to someone of such strong ability.



Healthy Start & Electronic Birth Registration

With the implementation of Electronic Birth Registration (EBR), the method Healthy Start uses to get their information has changed. For those counties where EBR has been implemented, data is now available from the "data warehouse" or "e-vault", accessible to Healthy Start staff.

In the hospital, the e-Vitals EBR system prints the mother's signed statement agreeing to or declining participation, which is given to the mother upon leaving the hospital. This copy includes the scoring, should the mother agree to screening, but there is no scoring if she declines screening. Healthy Start can also print a copy of this document if needed.

The state office has been working closely with Healthy Start coordinators and the coalitions to ensure a smooth transition to this new process. As rollout proceeds statewide, Healthy Start in affected counties will be notified of the upcoming changes.

BURIAL WITHOUT PERMIT

The funeral director must obtain a burial transit permit *prior to* final disposition and within five days after death. The state office is learning from both medical examiners and chief deputy registrars that this is not always what happens. What brings this fact to light is that there might be a question as to the cause of death, or the private physician may decide not to sign the death certificate. After further review, it is learned that the funeral director has proceeded with burial without having ever issued the permit.

Failure to comply with this requirement is a violation of section 382.006, Florida Statutes and could result in an administrative fine for the funeral director.

Chapter 6, The Burial Transit Permit, of the Vital Records Registration Handbook addresses the proper procedure. Funeral directors can also check with their chief deputy registrar should there be any question on filing times.

Electronic Death Registration (EDR)

No sooner do we begin implementation of EBR, then we begin planning for filing the death certificate via the Internet. Electronic Death Registration (EDR) has been a topic of discussion at the state office for several years. Just as birth took time to implement, so will death. Implementation is planned to begin in late 2008 and 2009.

In order to ensure we have considered every angle, a workgroup is being assembled to meet, plan, and develop such a system, building on what we have learned so far. This workgroup will be made up of our partners in the death registration process: funeral directors, medical examiners, physicians, Florida Hospital Association, NAPHSIS, and CDRAC. We are very excited that this workgroup will be helping us develop an efficient and user friendly system for Florida.

Welcome Aboard



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

Local Registrar:

Jose Cardenas.....Duval
Sherri BrammerOsceola

Chief Deputy Registrar

Eva WilliamsBroward
Jean Coulliette.....Duval
Mayur RaoIndian River
Alisha WilliamsMadison
Robin TarpleyOkaloosa

The revised Vital Records Registration Handbook & the Birth & Death editions of the handbook can be downloaded from the website at:

http://www.doh.state.fl.us/planning_eval/vital_statistics/index.html

Funeral Director Application For Death Record

When the funeral director completes an application for a certification of a death record that includes cause of death, or an application to amend the death record, it is very important for the them to *complete the form in full*. The funeral director license number must be on every application submitted. This helps our county and state office staff know if the applicant/funeral director is entitled to the information they are requesting. Requests will be returned if the information is not listed.

If there is a question on proper completion of the application, check the Vital Records Registration Handbook, Chapter 4, “Funeral Director Application for Death Certifications”, or contact the chief deputy registrar.



CORRECTION:

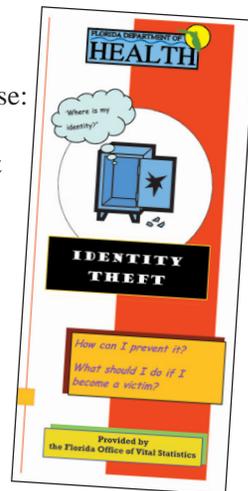
The March 2006 article, “2006 Hospital Birth Compliance LIST OF CHAMPIONS”, should have included **South Miami Hospital** in the 92—99% range. Their staff work diligently to maintain the highest level of performance and we apologize for this omission. On that same note, we misnamed one of our 100% compliant hospitals. The hospital name should read **Munroe Regional Medical Center**. We apologize and thank the hospital and staff for their outstanding performance in 2006.



BROCHURES AVAILABLE

There are two new brochures available to CDRs from the warehouse:

Identity Theft
DH 150-938,
4/07



**What's needed for a
Vital Record for a
Foreign Country—
Apostille/Exemplified**
—
DH 150-935 5/07

The County Health Department phone list (with fees) is posted to the Internet at:

http://www.doh.state.fl.us/planning_eval/vital_statistics/index.html

The list is updated quarterly & can be downloaded at any time. Be sure to verify with county should there be additional fees.

Top 20 First Names For 2006

MALE

FEMALE

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Joshua | 11. Christian | 1. Isabella | 11. Abigail |
| 2. Michael | 12. Ethan | 2. Emily | 12. Ashley |
| 3. Anthony | 13. Jonathan | 3. Madison | 13. Samantha |
| 4. Christopher | 14. Tyler | 4. Sophia | 14. Sarah |
| 5. Jacob | 15. Joseph | 5. Emma | 15. Alyssa |
| 6. Daniel | 16. William | 6. Ava | 16. Elizabeth |
| 7. Matthew | 17. James | 7. Olivia | 17. Kayla |
| 8. David | 18. Gabriel | 8. Mia | 18. Victoria |
| 9. Alexander | 19. Ryan | 9. Hannah | 19. Alexis |
| 10. Nicholas | 20. Noah | 10. Brianna | 20. Jasmine |

BITS 'N PIECES

CDRs are reminded to use the pink copy of the burial transit permit when accepting death certificates for filing. If the permit is referenced and it notes that a DC has already been received, the risk of filing **duplicate** records is greatly reduced.

The statistical tables, & past issues of the *Vital News*, are found on the department’s website at the following address:

[http://www.doh.state.fl.us/
Planning_eval/Vital_Statistics/
VitalNews/vn-index.htm](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Planning_eval/Vital_Statistics/VitalNews/vn-index.htm)

