

Cremation Issue Chart

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



ISSUE: IDENTIFICATION OF DECEASED			
Law/Regulation	Is ID Required?	Information Required for ID	Any Restrictions/Limitations
N/A			
ISSUE: ALTERNATIVE CONTAINER FOR CREMATION			
Law/Regulation	Is It Required?	Definition of Alternative Container	
N/A			
ISSUE: URN			
Law/Regulation	Any requirements for Urn/ Temporary Container	Definition of Urn/Temporary Container	
N/A			

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ISSUE: AUTHORIZING AGENT	
Law/Regulation	Legal Order of Authorizing Agent
§ 3-413. Claim of human remains — Order of priority of next of kin.	<p>(a) Unless other directions have been given by the decedent, the right to control the disposition of the remains of a deceased person, the location and conditions of interment, and arrangements for funeral goods and services shall vest in the following in the order of priority named:</p> <p>(1) The competent surviving spouse, or domestic partner, as defined under § 32-701(3);</p> <p>(2) The sole surviving competent adult child of the decedent, or if there is more than one competent child of the decedent, the majority of the surviving competent adult children; provided, that less than a majority of the surviving competent adult children shall be vested with the rights and duties under this section if they have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult children of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition to those instructions by more than a majority of all surviving competent adult children;</p> <p>(3) The surviving competent parent or parents of the decedent; provided, that if one of the surviving competent parents is absent, the remaining competent parent shall be vested with the rights and duties under this section if reasonable efforts to locate the other parent are unsuccessful;</p> <p>(4) The surviving competent adult person in the next degrees of kindred; provided, that if there is more than one surviving competent adult person of the same degree of kindred, the rights and duties under this section shall be vested in the majority of those persons; provided further, that less than the majority of surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kindred shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section if those persons have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kindred of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition to those instructions by more than a majority of all surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kindred; and</p> <p>(5) An adult friend or volunteer.</p> <p>(b)(1) Any competent adult may decide the disposition of the individual's remains after death and without the pre-death or post-death consent of any other person by executing a document, in accordance with this section, which expresses the individual's wishes regarding the disposition of his or her body.</p> <p>(2)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any competent adult may designate an individual who shall be empowered to make decisions concerning the disposition of the human remains of the individual by executing a document in accordance with this section.</p> <p>(B) The document shall include language that clearly communicates the individual's intent to have the person so designated make decisions regarding the disposition of the individual's human remains upon death. The document shall become effective upon the death of the individual choosing the representative.</p> <p>(c) A document executed under subsection (b)(1) and (2) of this section shall be dated and signed by the individual delineating the disposition of his or her remains upon death under subsection (b)(1) of this section or designating a representative under subsection (b) (2) of this section.</p> <p>(d) A person may revoke the document executed under this section in writing, at any time.</p> <p>(e) A document executed under this section may be included as part of a document executed in accordance with subchapter II-A of Chapter 15 of Title 7.</p>

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ISSUE: FINAL DISPOSITION	
Law/Regulation	Any Guidelines or Requirements of Disposition of Cremated Remains Including Mailing Requirements
N/A	