#### STATE OF CONNECTICUT

# OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

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June 12, 2006 A

TO:

**Funeral Directors** 

FROM:

H. Wayne Carver II, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner

SUBJ:

Items of interest

## Cremation fee

**REMINDER-** The Commission on Medicolegal Investigations has authorized an increase in the cremation fee from \$75.00 to \$100.00 per case effective July 1, 2006.

Cases reported to this Office after June 30, 2006, 2359 hours, will be charged the \$100.00 rate. Cases reported <u>prior</u> to this time, although the cremation inspection is completed after this time will be charged the \$75.00 rate.

### Cremation fee billing collections protocol

While the new billing system has been a success, there is an unfortunate downside in that a small handful of funeral services have been unwilling to promptly remit past due fees despite repeated phone calls, faxes and/or dunning notices.

It has become necessary to institute a collection protocol to collect these funds due by state law. Briefly, the collection process includes initial follow-up and upon a 2<sup>nd</sup> dunning notice, revocation of billing privileges until further notice. In the most extreme instance, soon after the 3<sup>rd</sup> notice, the account will be turned over to the state collections agency together with a copy of the delinquency to the Department of Public Health Licensure Division for action.

#### **OCME** brochures:

Just a reminder, additional brochures are available by contacting us at 800-842-8820 (679-3980 locally) asking for Mr. Luis Torres.

Thank you. As always, please contact this office if we can be of service.

cc: Assistant Medical Examiners