

INVESTIGATIVE JURISDICTION

When reportable deaths occur, certain state and federal agencies by law and regulation must be notified when the death is related to their area of specialty.

Deaths offshore

Jurisdiction typically goes to the county of first landfall, but covers to the opposite bank and is mutually agreed upon. If a boating accident occurs in federal waters, the US Coast Guard will potentially be involved. Any accident with hazardous material, large spills, large loss of life or property and/or craft over 100 tons are reported to the NTSB Marine Division. 202-314-6450

Military Installations

The jurisdiction is divided into land acquisition and federal security requirements, and applies to civilians who die on military installations. If the land is federal, then the Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner assumes jurisdiction. If the land is state, then it is the local jurisdiction. For example, Fort Snelling is Minnesota owned land; therefore Hennepin County holds jurisdiction. A portion of Fort Snelling Park is in Dakota County, so Dakota County has jurisdiction. If military personnel die off base, it is the local jurisdiction that investigates the death and provides the exam. However, under IO US code, 1471(1999), the Armed Forces Medical Examiner may conduct a forensic pathology investigation to determine cause and manner of death, and is not limited if the investigation by the other sovereign is incomplete and the local jurisdiction is suspended.

Military Aircraft Accidents

Civilian or Military planes fall under NTSB. 630-377-8177 or FAA 847-294-8400

Federal Bureau of Investigations

Federal Criminal Laws- Possible assertion of Federal investigative jurisdiction (with suspension of state and local jurisdiction) 18 US code 1751(1965) 612-376-3200

The FBI/**Secret Service** has authority to investigate the death of the President, President-elect, Vice President, Vice President-elect, any member of Congress or member of Congress-elect, or appointed presidential staff that dies unexpectedly or due to trauma. The FBI may request assistance from any local, state or federal agency. 18 US code 351(1970) covers congressional, cabinet and Supreme Court assassinations, kidnapping and assault. 18 US code 1116 (1972) applies for foreign officials, official guests or internationally protected persons.

The FBI via **Bureau of Indian Affairs** has jurisdiction to investigate any death on a federal Native America community. However, they only investigate at a Felony level. The FBI is only the investigative unit; the coroner has jurisdiction over the exam, notification, identification and medical information. Minnesota has

two Federal Native American Communities: Red Lake and Bois Forte. The state Native American Communities are provided police, fire and community services by invitation. When the state Native American community accepts the local law enforcement, they are accepting the Coroner's jurisdiction under Public Law 280.

The FBI has investigative jurisdiction when crimes are committed against the post office, National Park and against the VA hospital. If deaths occur in the post office, national park and VA hospital (including homicides) the local jurisdiction investigates.

Mass Transportation disasters 49 US code 1131

The **National Transportation Safety Board** NTSB has overall investigative jurisdiction in transportation accidents in which there is a fatality. This includes civilian aircraft accidents (commercial aircraft only); school, commercial, charter, tour, or church bus accidents; railroad accidents; pipeline accidents; major marine accidents; and selected highway accidents (heavy truck accidents resulting in more than 3 fatalities, any accident involving 5 or more fatalities, and any grade crossing accident involving a hazardous materials carrier, school bus, passenger bus or van, or emergency vehicles 202-314-6100. 630-377-8177

Federal Aviation Administration

FAA has investigative jurisdiction in noncommercial aircraft.

Both FAA and NTSB can be reached via the **Regional Communication Center** 847-294-8400. The FAA local office is 612-713-4211 (not 24 hours/day).

Emergency Aviation Disaster 1-800-762-1457 or 847-294-8400

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

OSHA has concurrent jurisdiction and should be called to the scene prior to the body being moved. A place of employment is defined as an employer with 5 or more employees. 443 Lafayette Rd, St. Paul MN 55155 651-284-5050 or 1-800-DIAL-DLI

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

The state investigative unit invited in by local law enforcement for evidence collection, toxicology, and investigation. BCA, 1430 Maryland Ave E., St. Paul MN 55106 651-793-7000

US Consumer Product Safety Commission

The term 'consumer product' is defined as any article, or component part thereof, customarily produced or distributed for sale to a consumer for use in or around a residence, school, recreation area or otherwise. The USCPSC investigates deaths associated with such products. 1-800-638-8095 Federal Courts Bldg, 316 N Robert St, Rm 142, St. Paul MN 55101

Sudden Infant Death Center

It is mandatory to report all probable SIDS and any unexpected infant/toddler deaths to the MN Sudden Infant Death Center; the director is Kathleen Fernbach 612-813-6285. Children's Health Care-Mpls., 2525 Chicago Ave So., Mpls MN 55404 1-800-732-3812

Federal Marshals

Jurisdiction during the transport of federal criminals.

Minnesota State Patrol

Jurisdiction to investigate any on or off road vehicle death (snowmobile, ATV's tractor, etc) and has a separate commercial unit, accident reconstruction unit and grid system.

Carver/Scott, West Metro:	651-582-1502
Chisago/Dakota, East Metro:	651-582-1500
Fillmore/Houston:	507-285-7406
Goodhue:	507-285-7406

Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and Ammunition Tobacco and Firearms (ATF)

Jurisdiction based on threshold.

MN State Fire Marshal Division

All deaths resulting from a structure, grass or vehicle fire must be reported. MN Dept of Public Safety, 444 Cedar St. Suite 145, St. Paul MN 55104 651-215-0500

First Call For Help

This 24-hour service can be used for counseling purposes and as a source for other agencies that may help families cope with death related issues.

Carver, Scott, Chisago, and Dakota: 651-291-0211 or 211

Goodhue: 507-287-7111

Houston and Fillmore: 608-775-4344

Office of Health Facility Complaints

OHFC must be notified when a death occurs in a licensed health care facility and abuse or neglect is suspected as a contributing factor. 393 North Dunlap Street, P.O. Box 64970, St. Paul MN 55164-0970, 651-215-8702

MN Department of Health Chronic Disease and Environment Epidemiology Division

This agency investigates deaths due to a home heating malfunction. 717 Delaware Street SE, Mpls MN 55415 612-676-5414

Licensing Department of Human Services

This agency provides licensing information on foster care and day care providers/facilities. 444 Pine, St. Paul MN 55155 651-296-3971

MN Indian Affairs Council

MIAC should be contacted if human remains that may be Native American are found. 161 St. Anthony St. Suite 924, St. Paul MN 55108 651-296-0041

Immigration and Naturalization Service

This agency may be helpful in the deaths of non-citizens. 952-853-2940 (?) The green card or ID card should be mailed to USINS, 2901 Metro Drive, Bloomington, MN 55425

Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA)

This agency must be contacted any time remains that are more than 50 years old are found. Mark Dudzik Fort Snelling History Center, St. Paul, MN 55111 612-725-2411