

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Prevention and Community Health

Office of Healthy Communities

Post Office Box 47855

Olympia, Washington 98504-7855

Date

To:

Re: Request for coroner reports, autopsy reports, or medical examiner reports for Washington State Maternal Mortality Review

Attn: Coroner or Medical Examiner

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) is creating the Maternal Mortality Review Panel under [RCW 70.54.450](http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=70.54.450) which was passed by the legislature in March 2016. This law calls for “comprehensive, multidisciplinary reviews of maternal deaths in Washington to identify factors associated with those deaths and make recommendations for system changes to improve health care services for women in this state.”

In accordance with the new law, the Maternal Mortality Review Panel will be reviewing cases of deaths of women who died within a year of pregnancy or child birth. To conduct the review, the bill gives the Department of Health the authority to obtain records and data from a variety of sources, including health care providers and facilities, local health departments, coroner and medical examiners offices, and other medical and professional facilities licensed by the state of Washington. Information, documents, and records obtained by the Department of Health for the purposes of this review are protected by law and will remain confidential and are not subject to public inspection, copying, or introduction into evidence in any civil or criminal court proceedings.

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| **Please send all available records on the following patients:** | **Send all records via Fed Ex to:****Maternal Mortality Review****Department of Health****Attn: Alexis Bates****PO Box 47880****310 Israel Rd SE****Tumwater, WA 98501** |
| Name | DOB/DOD |
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**DO NOT FAX RECORDS**

For questions or more information please contact Alexis Bates, Perinatal Health Coordinator at the Office of Health Communities by email at alexis.bates@doh.wa.gov or by phone at (360)-236-3510. Information can also be found at our website [www.doh.wa.gov/maternalmortality](http://www.doh.wa.gov/maternalmortality)

Thank you for your assistance with this important health measure,

Alexis Bates, MA

Perinatal Health Coordinator

Office of Healthy Communities

Washington State Department of Health