



Funeral Consumers Alliance of Rhode Island

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NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2022

FEMA FUNDS STILL AVAILABLE FOR COVID DEATHS

FEMA funeral assistance for families with a death from Covid-19 has been available since April 2021, yet less than half of eligible families have applied for FEMA funeral reimbursement. FEMA authorized \$2 billion toward financial assistance for families who paid funeral costs specifically related to Covid-19. This applies to funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020. Claims are capped at \$9,000. Why aren't the funds claimed? It's possible that some families have not heard about this national program due to Covid news overload. And some funeral homes may neglect sharing the information with their clients. Perhaps the funeral home isn't up-to-date on the process or doesn't have easy access to the information from FEMA. Importantly, funeral homes do not apply for the funds for families, It is the family's responsibility. When families do provide information about the death to FEMA, FEMA will likely contact the funeral home for invoices related to the funeral.

The reimbursement process: Start by making a phone call to FEMA at 844-684-6333. Call from Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

FULL BODY DONATION: SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATION - 2022

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Full Body donation is different in several ways from Organ Donation. In both cases however, it is important that you discuss your final wishes with family and or anyone who will be involved in the after-death management of your final wishes. This article is written with the intention of clarifying for purposes of assisting anyone considering donation of their full body after death for the purpose of helping science, safety industries, or furthering the education of research and medical school students. The article is composed from various internet articles and sources such as the Mayo Clinic, Funeral Home articles, RI health and environmental regulation information and others.

BODY DONATION AND ORGAN DONATION.

Body Donation is not the same as organ donation. Organ donation is the designation you put on your driver's license: "I want to donate my kidney at time of death. I want to donate my cornea or my lungs." Organ donation does not affect funeral services. You can still be cremated, still have a traditional funeral, and still do all the things that you want to do. Body Donation is donating your entire body to science. There are several common misconceptions about donating your body to science (a.k.a. anatomical donation). Which organizations accept bodies for donation? There are three types of organizations that accept bodies for donation:

- Medical schools
- Medical research firms
- For-profit companies that

resell your body.

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