



## OKLAHOMA FUNERAL BOARD

April 9, 2020

Dear Colleague,

Obtaining PPE has been difficult if not impossible. Effective immediately, the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) and the Regional Medical Response System (RMRS) has identified Funeral Directors as supported in the state RMRS plan. This will allow Funeral Directors across Oklahoma access to PPE.

To engage RMRS please follow the link to contact your local RMRS Station to request your PPE. Please remember that the PPE is being managed to meet the needs of many direct care providers so please order exactly what you need. OSDH and the RMRS continues to monitor the needs for PPE across the state and manage the distribution carefully.

With respect to Funeral Directors being notified of a COVID-19 infected individual, the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) and the Public Health Commissioner is working on a Public Health Order as I type this email that will require hospitals, nursing homes and retirement centers to inform the attending Funeral Director and staff of the infection. For in-home deaths, this order will require Funeral Directors be informed that the physical address the death has occurred at has been identified by the Oklahoma State Department of Health as a COVID-10 positive residence. Further, this order requires law enforcement to be present at the residence and to inform the Funeral Director upon arrival.

Please remember these issues are to be resolved today. I will update you once this order is confirmed and filed.

Here is the link from RMRS to obtain order forms requesting PPE:

<https://www.okrmrs.com/map.cfm>

Please submit your questions to: [info@funeral.ok.gov](mailto:info@funeral.ok.gov) and regularly check the funeral board website [www.ok.gov/funeral](http://www.ok.gov/funeral) for updated information.

In closing I want to recognize and appreciate Governor Stitt, Michael Junk, the Governor's Chief of Staff; Chase Bowker, Office of the Governor; Mark Gower, Director, Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management; and Gordon Welch, Executive Director of OFDA for their tireless effort to bring resolution to many of the issues that threatened the well being of our death care professionals. Taking precautionary measures to protect the funeral director is vital in protecting our communities. Be smart and be safe.

Sincerely,

**Chad Vice**  
**President**  
**Oklahoma Funeral Board**