

Electronic Death Registration

ROVER to Begin January 3rd, 2011

We've heralded the coming of ROVER many times over the years. Dare we say it again? The arrival of ROVER is close at hand. We are in the final stages of development to make sure the system works as it should. We are currently testing the system internally and will soon begin external pilot testing. Our target date for going live with ROVER is January 3rd, 2011.

You may have wondered what has taken so long. As you know, the death registration process can be very complex depending on a variety of circumstances. The record can travel back and forth between the funeral home and the medical certifier, the Medical Examiner's Office, and the Vital Records Division. Funeral homes can change, medical certifiers can change, all sorts of things can happen. We want to make sure that ROVER can accommodate all of these different contingencies before we make it available to the industry at large.

Our rollout process for ROVER will be controlled and

gradual. We will do this in an effort to make sure there are no major "bugs" in the system. We will begin ROVER implementation in the Oklahoma City Metro area. As we become comfortable with ROVER's performance, we will roll it out to the Tulsa Metro, then to the other metropolitan areas (Lawton, McAlester, Enid). This will include as many of the surrounding facilities as possible. We will continue the implementation process until all facilities are registered and ready to use the system.

We are excited about the improvements that ROVER will bring to death registration speed, accuracy, and efficiency. If all of the participants in the death registration process happen to be available at the same time, a death certificate could literally be completed and registered with the State Department of Health in minutes! At the very least, the three-day time limit mandated by state law should not be a consistent problem anymore. Families of decedents should receive their certified copies of death certificates faster, allowing them to take care of critically

important final affairs and secure needed resources to move forward with their lives. And that is the greatest service that any of us can provide during such a difficult time.

We are currently conducting internal testing of the system. We're preparing to conduct pilot testing with selected funeral homes and the Medical Examiner's Office. We'll let you know how it goes.



Funeral Directors' Names, Funeral Home Numbers

As part of our internal testing of ROVER, we must be able to read the funeral director's name on the certificate. To facilitate this, we ask that the name of the funeral director who is signing the death certificate be typed or neatly printed either under the signature or in the left hand

margin of the certificate.

Our internal testing involves our staff taking the death certificates as we receive them and entering its information into ROVER. This includes entering the name of the funeral director who signed the certificate. As you can imagine, the more artful and stylish the signature, the less

legible it tends to become.

Also, please be sure that the funeral home establishment license number is entered in Item 24. We find this is omitted on occasion. This helps to identify further the name and location of the funeral home. Thank you for your help.

ROVER Training and Enrollment Team

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ROVER System Requirements

For the system to run at optimal performance, your computer should have the following features:

- Internet Explorer 6.0 or later
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Laser Printer
- Broadband Internet Connection



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We Collect, Analyze, and Disseminate
Health Statistics to Help Create a State of
Health.

Please Send Us Your E-mail Address

To be as efficient and inclusive as possible, we are collecting as many e-mail addresses as we can from funeral homes and physicians. This will allow us to broadcast mass communications, such as this newsletter. We're anticipating some 1000 users eventually being registered to use ROVER to complete death certificates. We must be able to disseminate information as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Please send your e-mail address to AskROVER@health.ok.gov. Also, please let us know if the e-mail address we may have for you needs to be changed and/or updated. This will be a constant "work in progress" and we thank you for your help.

Field Services Update

During this past fiscal year, Field Services made over 200 visits to funeral homes and physicians' offices across the state. Below is a map showing the frequency of our visits by community. Almost every one of these visits included discussion about ROVER, and many of them were dedicated to ROVER exclusively. We actively sought out opportunities to provide demonstrations of the ROVER Death system. We're still seeking these opportunities. Please let us know if you're interested.

Field Services personnel are committed to providing ROVER training and support. As we release ROVER across the state, we will contact funeral homes and physician offices to schedule ROVER registration, setup, and training. Please note to the left of this page that Vital Records has a ROVER Help Desk established with telephone and e-mail access. Please use these contacts whenever you have problems with ROVER, but PLEASE do not give them to the public.

It's the Law!

HB 3171 The passage of this bill created a new section in State Law, 63 OS 1-317a. This section stipulates that, no later than July 1, 2012, funeral directors licensed in this state will be required to use ROVER. The Health Department is required to train funeral directors and physicians how to use ROVER . . . at no cost!



ROVER Death Certificates Look Different

The ROVER death certificate will look different on paper from what you are used to.

Each certificate will have a bar code printed on it. This is a unique identifier for each ROVER record.

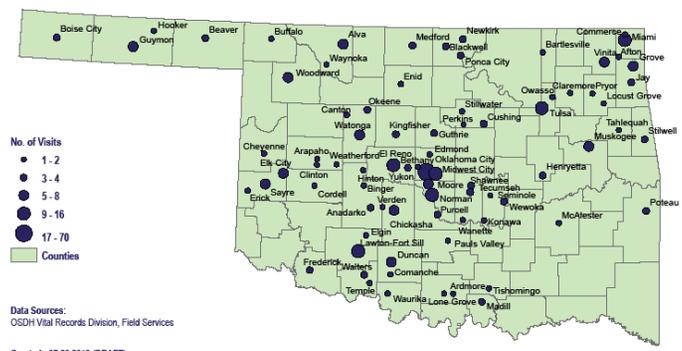
Item 1a, "Last Name Prior to First Marriage," has been added. This asks for what is commonly known as the maiden name. This name is useful because it remains constant throughout life. It is NOT sex specific. Husbands sometimes take the name of their wives. Keep that in mind when completing this item.

Item 51 is missing. This item recorded the date the Local Registrar received the certificate.

ROVER will effectively eliminate the Local Registrar from the process. Therefore, Item 51 isn't needed. However, if you use a hard copy of the ROVER certificate, and if you use the Local Registrar option, simply remind them to put the date they received the certificate next to their signature in Item 50.

"Real" certificates in ROVER will have name blocks for the decedent and physician located vertically in the left margin along with the aforementioned bar code. "Draft" copies provided by ROVER will not have this left-margin information and will have a "DRAFT" watermark printed in the center.

Training and Education Visits by Field Services Staff
SFY 2010



Data Sources:
OSDH Vital Records Division, Field Services

Created: 07.26.2010 (DRAFT)

Projection/Coordinate System: USGS Albers Equal Area Conic
0 40 80 160
Miles

Disclaimer: This map is a compilation of records, information and data from various city, county and state offices and other sources, showing the area shown, and is the best representation of the data available at the time. The map and data are to be used for reference purposes only. The user acknowledges and accepts all inherent limitations of the map, including the fact that the data are dynamic and in a constant state of change.

