

Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important.

**MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS**  
**CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

PLACE OF DEATH

County Howell

1535

Township \_\_\_\_\_

Registration District No. 384

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Village \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Registration District No. 4227

Registered No. 69

City West Plains, (NO. \_\_\_\_\_)

St. \_\_\_\_\_ Ward \_\_\_\_\_

(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number)

FULL NAME John Potts,

**PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS**

**MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

SEX Male COLOR OR RACE White SINGLE MARRIED WIDOWED OR DIVORCED Single,  
(Write the word)

DATE OF DEATH January 3rd, 1911.  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

DATE OF BIRTH Jan. 18, 1890  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that I attended deceased from Jan 3rd, 1911 to Jan. 3rd 1911,  
never saw him alive to know him.  
that I last saw him alive on Jan. 3rd, 1911

AGE 20 yrs. 11 mos. 15 ds. If LESS than 1 day, \_\_\_\_\_ hrs. or \_\_\_\_\_ min.?

and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 7:15 P.M.

OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work Laborer,  
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) Ordinary work, 3-07

The CAUSE OF DEATH\* was as follows:  
Suicide, by drinking Carbolic Acid, with Suicidal Intent. Was dead when I got to him. 163-0

BIRTHPLACE (City or town, State or foreign country) Howell Co., Mo.

Contributory \_\_\_\_\_ (SECONDARY) \_\_\_\_\_ (Duration) \_\_\_\_\_ yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ mos. \_\_\_\_\_ ds.  
(Signed) Albert H. Thornburgh, M. D.  
Jan. 6th 1911 (Address) West Plains, Mo.

PARENTS NAME OF FATHER Andrew Potts, BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER Anderson Co. Ky.  
MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Alicence Potts, BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER Anderson Co., Ky.  
(City or town, State or foreign country)

\*State the Disease Causing Death, or, in deaths from Violent Causes, state (1) Means of Injury; and (2) whether Accidental, Suicidal, or Homicidal.  
LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (FOR HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRANSIENTS, OR RECENT RESIDENTS)  
At place of death \_\_\_\_\_ yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ mos. \_\_\_\_\_ ds. In the State \_\_\_\_\_ yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ mos. \_\_\_\_\_ ds.  
Where was disease contracted if not at place of death? \_\_\_\_\_  
Former or usual residence \_\_\_\_\_

THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE  
(Informant) J. M. Riley,  
(ADDRESS) West Plains, Mo.

PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL Oak Grove Cemetery, DATE OF BURIAL Jan. 5th, 1911.  
UNDERTAKER J. H. McFarland ADDRESS West Plains, Mo.

Filled Jan 6 1911, D. G. Nichols REGISTRAR

By O. P. A. Heinrich, D.R.

# Revised United States Standard Certificate of Death

[Approved by U. S. Census and American Public Health  
Association]

**Statement of occupation.**—Precise statement of occupation is very important, so that the relative healthfulness of various pursuits can be known. The question applies to each and every person, irrespective of age. For many occupations a single word or term on the first line will be sufficient, e. g., *Farmer* or *Planter*, *Physician*, *Compositor*, *Architect*, *Locomotive engineer*, *Civil engineer*, *Stationary fireman*, etc. But in many cases, especially in industrial employments, it is necessary to know (a) the kind of work and also (b) the nature of the business or industry, and therefore an additional line is provided for the latter statement; it should be used only when needed. As examples: (a) *Spinner*, (b) *Cotton mill*; (a) *Salesman*, (b) *Grocery*; (a) *Foreman*, (b) *Automobile factory*. The material worked on may form part of the second statement. Never return "Laborer," "Foreman," "Manager," "Dealer," etc., without more precise specification, as *Day laborer*, *Farm laborer*, *Laborer—Coal mine*, etc. Women at home, who are engaged in the duties of the household only (not paid *Housekeepers* who receive a definite salary), may be entered as *Housewife*, *Housework*, or *At home*, and children, not gainfully employed, as *At school* or *At home*. Care should be taken to report specifically the occupations of persons engaged in domestic service for wages, as *Servant*, *Cook*, *Housemaid*, etc. If the occupation has been changed or given up on account of the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, state occupation at beginning of illness. If retired from business, that fact may be indicated thus: *Farmer (retired, 6 yrs.)*. For persons who have no occupation whatever, write *None*.

**Statement of cause of death.**—Name, first, the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH (the primary affection with respect to time and causation), using always the same accepted term for the same disease. Examples: *Cerebrospinal fever* (the only definite synonym is "Epidemic cerebrospinal meningitis"); *Diphtheria* (avoid use of "Croup"); *Typhoid fever* (never report "Typhoid pneumonia"); *Lobar pneumonia*; *Bronchopneumonia* ("Pneumonia," unqualified, is indefinite); *Tuberculosis of lungs, meninges, peritoneum*, etc., *Carcinoma*, *Sar-*

*coma*, etc., of ..... (name origin; "Cancer" is less definite; avoid use of "Tumor" for malignant neoplasms); *Measles*; *Whooping cough*; *Chronic valvular heart disease*; *Chronic interstitial nephritis*, etc. The contributory (secondary or intercurrent) affection need not be stated unless important. Example: *Measles* (disease causing death), 29 ds.; *Bronchopneumonia* (secondary), 10 ds. Never report mere symptoms or terminal conditions, such as "Asthenia," "Anaemia" (merely symptomatic), "Atrophy," "Collapse," "Coma," "Convulsions," "Debility" ("Congenital," "Senile," etc.), "Dropsy," "Exhaustion," "Heart failure," "Haemorrhage," "Inanition," "Marasmus," "Old age," "Shock," "Uraemia," "Weakness," etc., when a definite disease can be ascertained as the cause. Always qualify all diseases resulting from childbirth or miscarriage, as "PUERPERAL septicæmia," "PUERPERAL peritonitis," etc. State cause for which surgical operation was undertaken. For VIOLENT DEATHS state MEANS OF INJURY and qualify as ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, or HOMICIDAL, or as probably such, if impossible to determine definitely. Examples: *Accidental drowning*; *Struck by railway train—accident*; *Revolver wound of head—homicide*; *Poisoned by carbolic acid—probably suicide*. The nature of the injury, as fracture of skull, and consequences (e. g., *sepsis*, *tetanus*) may be stated under the head of "Contributory." (Recommendations on statement of cause of death approved by Committee on Nomenclature of the American Medical Association.)

