

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

Further statements may be used only when necessary. As examples: (a) *Salesman*, (b) *Cotton mill*; (a) *Salesman*, (b) *Automobile factory*. The information on may form part of the second statement on return "Laborer," "Foreman," "Manager," "Dealer," etc., without more precise specification. *Day laborer*, *Farm laborer*, *Laborer—Cannery*. 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* or *At home*, and children, not gaining their living at school or at home. Care should be taken to report specifically the occupations of persons engaged in domestic service, such as *Servant*, *Cook*, *Housemaid*, etc. If the occupation has been changed or given up on account of the disease, the former State occupation at beginning of illness, or retired from business, that fact may be indicated by "Farmer (retired 6 yrs.)" Partisans who have been whatever, etc.

Statement of Cause of death.—Name, first; **DISEASE CAUSING DEATH** (the primary affection with respect to time of 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*, *Sarcoma*, 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," "Anemia" (merely symptomatic), "Atrophy," "Collapse," "Coma," "Convulsions," "Debility" ("Congenital," "Senile," etc.), "Dropsy," "Exhaustion," "Heart failure," "Hemorrhage," "Inanition," "Marasmus," "Old age," "Shock," "Uremia," "Weakness," etc., when a definite disease can be ascertained as the cause. Always qualify all diseases resulting from child birth or miscarriage, as "PUERPERAL septicemia," "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.)

NOTE.—Individual offices may add to above list of undesirable terms and refuse to accept certificates containing them. Thus the form in use in New York City states: "Certificates will be returned for additional information which give any of the following diseases, without explanation, as the sole cause of death: Abortion, cellulitis, childbirth, convulsions, hemorrhage, gangrene, gastritis, erysipelas, meningitis, miscarriage, necrosis, peritonitis, phlebitis, pyemia, septicemia, tetanus." But general adoption of the minimum list suggested will work vast improvement, and its scope can be extended at a later date.

ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR FURTHER STATEMENTS BY PHYSICIAN.

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

1. PLACE OF DEATH
 County Lincoln Registration District No. 494 File No. _____
 Township Ninearch Primary Registration District No. 5658 Registered No. _____
 City _____ (No. _____) _____ St. _____ Ward _____

2. FULL NAME Henry A. Trower
 (a) Residence No. _____ St. _____ Ward _____
 (Usual place of abode)
 Length of residence in city or town where death occurred yrs. mos. ds. How long in U.S., if of foreign birth? yrs. mos. ds.
 (If nonresident give city or town and State)

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3. SEX M **4. COLOR OR RACE** W **5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED** (write the word) W

5A. IF MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED HUSBAND OF (OR) WIFE OF _____

6. DATE OF BIRTH (MONTH, DAY AND YEAR) _____

7. AGE YEARS _____ MONTHS _____ DAYS _____ If LESS than 1 day, _____ hrs. or _____ min.

8. OCCUPATION OF DECEASED
 (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work _____
 (b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) _____
 (c) Name of employer _____

9. BIRTHPLACE (CITY OR TOWN) _____ (STATE OR COUNTRY) _____

10. NAME OF FATHER _____

11. BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (CITY OR TOWN) _____ (STATE OR COUNTRY) _____

12. MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER _____

13. BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (CITY OR TOWN) _____ (STATE OR COUNTRY) _____

14. INFORMANT _____ (Address) _____

15. FILED _____ 19 1919 W. Riddle REGISTRAR

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

16. DATE OF DEATH (MONTH, DAY AND YEAR) Oct 19 1922

17. I HEREBY CERTIFY That I attended deceased from _____, 19____, to _____, 19____, that I last saw him _____ alive on _____, 19____, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at _____.

THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS AS FOLLOWS:
Strangled by Rope around Neck
 (duration) _____ yrs. _____ mos. _____ ds.

CONTRIBUTORY (SECONDARY) _____ (duration) _____ yrs. _____ mos. _____ ds.

18. WHERE WAS DISEASE CONTRACTED
 IF NOT AT PLACE OF DEATH? _____
 DID AN OPERATION PRECEDE DEATH? _____ DATE OF _____
 WAS THERE AN AUTOPSY? _____
 WHAT TEST CONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS? _____
 (Signed) _____, M. D.
 _____, 19____ (Address)

*State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES, state (1) MEANS AND NATURE OF INJURY, and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, or HOMICIDAL. (See reverse side for additional space.)

19. PLACE OF BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL _____ **DATE OF BURIAL** _____ 19____

20. UNDERTAKER _____ **ADDRESS** _____

SUPPLEMENTARY

N. B.—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. REGISTRARS SHALL NOT RECEIVE A FEE FOR CERTIFICATE OF DEATH. THIS IS COMPLETE AS PRESCRIBED BY LAW.

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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, Sarcoma*, etc., of.....(name origin; "Cancer" is less definite; avoid use of "Tumor" for malignant neoplasma); *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 "Asthemia," "Anemia" (merely symptomatic), "Atrophy," "Collapse," "Coma," "Convulsions," "Debility" ("Congenital," "Senile," etc.), "Dropsy," "Exhaustion," "Heart failure," "Hemorrhage," "Inanition," "Marasmus," "Old age," "Shock," "Uremia," "Weakness," etc., when a definite disease can be ascertained as the cause. Always qualify all diseases resulting from childbirth or miscarriage, as "PUERPERAL septicemia," "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.)

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