



Death Investigations and Search Warrants

Policy# 14-0213-1 Search Warrants. **Total pages=** 1

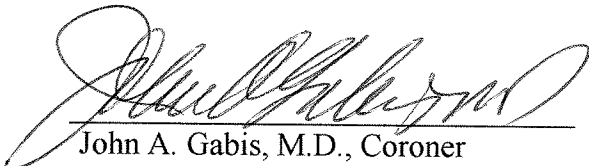
Purpose: To have a standardized policy for doing death investigations when a search warrant has been requested or needed.

Justification: The opinion based on the language of the Ohio Revised Code 313, is the coroner does not need a search warrant to investigate a death that falls under his/her jurisdiction; however, the importance of the proper collection of evidence in a criminal case makes a search warrant necessary in some cases.

Policy:

1. If a search warrant is being or already has been requested by law enforcement prior to our arrival and as long as the scene has been cleared and properly secured we will wait on the search warrant to be issued prior to entering the scene.
2. At any point during a death investigation if evidence of a crime is discovered then the situation will be discussed with LE and/or prosecutor's office on whether or not a search warrant should be attained prior to collecting such evidence and removal of the body.
3. Once a search warrant has been issued, the death investigation will proceed as normal.

This policy has been approved and is in effect until further notice:


John A. Gabis, M.D., Coroner

Feb 20, 2014
Date