

Death Certificates

How many do I need?

Death certificates are necessary for each asset owned by the decedent which lists a beneficiary or is held as joint tenants with rights of survivorship. You will need a death certificate for each asset transfer.

Some institutions such as banks may make a copy of the death certificate, but others require an original which might not be returned.

You will need a death certificate for the following types of assets:

- Bank accounts, savings bonds, stocks, and brokerage accounts, if these accounts are titled in survivorship, as transfer-on-death, or as pay-on-death
- Real estate, if it is held in survivorship or if it has a transfer-on-death designation
- Life insurance policies
- IRAs, 401(k)s, employer death benefits
- Annuities

Having several extra death certificates can be useful for unexpected requests. You can obtain additional death certificates in Hamilton County by calling Vital Statistics. If the death occurred within Cincinnati city limits, call (513) 352-3120. If the death occurred outside of Cincinnati city limits, call (513) 946-7898.

At Niehaus Law Office, LLC, our mission is to provide peace of mind to our clients for their estate planning, estate administration, and nursing home Medicaid planning needs.

If you would benefit from any of our services, please feel free to call our office to set an appointment.



Francis J. Niehaus



David D. Kammer



Anne M. Niehaus



4820 Glenway Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45238
(513) 251-4900
www.niehaus-law.com