

SECTION 12. COMMUNITY SERVICES**12.5. BURIALS AND CREMATIONS POLICY**

A. PURPOSE. The purpose of this policy is to establish appropriate procedures for cremation or burials of bodies of deceased indigent Seminole County residents and people who die in Seminole County who have unknown identity and/or whose body is unclaimed.

B. FINANCIAL LIMITATION. A cap of payment to Seminole County funeral homes of \$950.00 per burial and \$400.00 per cremation has been established by the BCC. The County also provides a burial plot at the County owned cemetery at Five Points.

C. RESPONSIBILITY. Community Services is responsible for administration of the burial/cremation services.

D. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.

(1) Indigent* Seminole County residents who die in Seminole County.

(2) Indigent* Seminole County residents who die outside of Seminole County but are transported back to Seminole County for burial or cremation (including indigent nursing home patients who were Seminole County residents when they were admitted to a nursing home and were placed in a home outside of Seminole because there was no space available in Seminole County).

(3) Seminole County residents who are indigent and who die outside of Seminole County and transportation of the body to Seminole County is not feasible, are still considered a Seminole County resident, (according to Medicaid criteria), and the County takes responsibility for the burial or cremation.

(4) Indigents* who are not Seminole County residents but who die in Seminole County and whose bodies are not transported to their home county for burial or cremation.

(5) People with unknown identity who die in Seminole County.

(6) People with known or unknown identity who die in Seminole County and whose body is unclaimed.

In the case where the body of the deceased is claimed, the person claiming the body (relative or friend) as well as the deceased must be low income in order for a funeral home to qualify for County funding.

* Indigent refers to individuals who are at or below the current Federal poverty level.



E. GENERAL ISSUES:

(1) Cremation. Cremation will be approved for eligible cases only with written authority of next of kin or persons with power of attorney.

(2) Reimbursement. Community Services will not authorize a Certified Death Certificate to release life insurance payments to next of kin until the cost of burial has been reimbursed in full to the County.

F. AUTHORITY. Approved by the BCC October 5, 1982
Chapter 406, Florida Statutes