**Vermont Statutes Regarding Family Led After Death Care**

[**Title 18 : Health**](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/title/18)

[**Chapter 107 : Deaths, Burials, Autopsies**](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/18/107)

**Subchapter 001 : General Requirements**

(Cite as: 18 V.S.A. § 5207)

* [Section 5207 effective until July 1, 2018; see also section 5207 effective July 1, 2018 set out below.]

**§ 5207. Certificate furnished family; burial permit**

The physician or person filling out the certificate of death, within 36 hours after death, shall deliver the same to the family of the deceased, if any, or the undertaker or person who has charge of the body. Such certificate shall be filed with the person issuing the certificate of permission for burial, entombment, or removal obtained by the person who has charge of the body before such dead body shall be buried, entombed, or removed from the town. When such certificate of death is so filed, such officer or person shall immediately issue a certificate of permission for burial, entombment, or removal of the dead body under legal restrictions and safeguards.

* [Section 5207 effective July 1, 2018; see also section 5207 effective until July 1, 2018 set out above.]

**§ 5207. Certificate furnished family; burial-transit permit**

Within 24 hours after death, the death certificate shall be made available upon request to the family of the deceased, if any, or the undertaker or person who has charge of the body. The certificate shall be filed with the person issuing the burial-transit permit obtained by the person who has charge of the body before such dead body shall be buried, entombed, or removed from the town. When the death certificate is so filed, the officer or person shall immediately issue a burial-transit permit under legal restrictions and safeguards. (Amended 2017, No. 46, § 53, eff. July 1, 2018.)

* **Subchapter 3: Rights Of Family Members And Other Interested Persons, Funeral Directors, And Crematory Operators**
* [§ 5226. Definitions](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/107/05226)
* [§ 5227. Right to disposition](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/107/05227)
* [§ 5228. Forfeiture](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/107/05228)
* [§ 5229. Cost of disposition](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/107/05229)
* [§ 5230. Rights of funeral director or crematory operator](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/107/05230)
* [§ 5231. Civil action](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/107/05231)
* [§ 5232. Procedures generally](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/107/05232)
* [§ 5233. Limited liability](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/107/05233)
* [§ 5234. Organ Donation Special Fund](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/107/05234)

## [Title 26 : Professions And Occupations](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/title/26)

### [Chapter 021 : Funeral Directors](http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/26/021)

#### Subchapter 001 : General Provisions

(Cite as: 26 V.S.A. § 1211)

* **§ 1211. Definitions**

(4) "Practice of funeral service" means arranging, directing, or providing for the care, preparation, or disposition of dead human bodies for a fee or other compensation. This includes:

(A) meeting with the public to select a method of disposition or funeral observance and merchandise;

(B) entering into contracts, either at-need or pre-need, for the provision of dispositions, funeral observances, and merchandise;

(C) arranging, directing, or performing the removal or transportation of a dead human body;

(D) securing or filing certificates, permits, forms, or other documents;

(E) supervising or arranging a funeral, memorial, viewing, or graveside observance;

(F) holding oneself out to be a licensed funeral director by using the words or terms "funeral director," "mortician," "undertaker," or any other words, terms, title, or picture that, when considered in context, would imply that such person is engaged in the practice of funeral service or is a licensed funeral director.

(5) "Removal" means the removal of dead human bodies from places of death, hospitals, institutions, or other locations, for a fee or other compensation.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit:

(3) immediate family members of the deceased from providing for the care, preparation, or disposition of dead human bodies