

Arranging- Funeral Services

Whether a death occurs at home, in hospital or in a public place, the first person who should be contacted is generally the person's doctor. A doctor must certify that death has occurred. Normally funeral arrangements cannot be completed until the doctor has signed and issued a Death Certificate. The Funeral Director can then take the deceased into their care.

In Australia the great majority of deaths occur in hospital or other care facilities, in which case those authorities take care of the medical formalities.

In certain instances it may not be legally possible for the doctor to issue a Death Certificate and there is necessity for police and coronial involvement.

We would advise that you contact the relevant authorities for full details as regulations do vary from state to state.

The Funeral Arrangement - The Funeral Service

The funeral arrangement is the initial meeting you have with the funeral director and can be at their offices or in your home, whichever you prefer.

In most instances, the Next of Kin is responsible for arranging the funeral of the deceased, for example: spouse, child, parent, legal partner or sibling.

In the instance of dispute, where it is known a Will exists, the arbiter of arrangements is deemed to be the nominated Executor. The Executor may in his/her discretion appoint a person to make necessary arrangements with a Funeral Director. Such occasions however, are infrequent and most arrangements are made by the Next of Kin.

In some cases authorities in institutions where a person may not have any known relatives may need to make necessary arrangements. This is usually done by the Social Worker or another authorised officer.