

The Coroner / Funeral Home Conflict of Interest

Unexpected deaths in every state need to be investigated. Some states have medical examiners for this purpose, people who are medically trained. In other states, the law assigns this task to a coroner who is elected and who is sometimes a mortician affiliated with a funeral home. It will then be up to that coroner to decide whether or not to have the body sent to a medical facility for further examination. There is an inherent conflict of interest in serving the state's investigative interest while wanting to promote a business transaction (as quickly as possible). With many Pennsylvania funeral homes doing fewer than one funeral a week, they may be sweating their mortgage payments.

To avoid the appearance of misuse of office, ethical coroners should consider various options. In some areas, alternating or rotating deputies assigned to calls would work well. The website of the Susquehanna coroner lists eight funeral homes in that county and states—

NOTICE

The Susquehanna County Coroner's Office does not and may not recommend any Funeral Home over another. The list is provided only as a reference to the Funeral Homes located in Susquehanna County. If the Funeral Home has a known web site a link is provided.

A similar printed version should be available to hand to next-of-kin as is the case in Indiana County. Wrote that coroner, "Our personnel are expressly forbidden to recommend or suggest funeral homes or clean-up companies. If we are asked to provide such information, we provide a pre-printed, alphabetical list of them to the family, with very specific language about our policies against recommendations or preferences. We are extremely careful about that sort of thing."

Unfortunately, there are no ethical standards on the website of the state coroners association. Not all coroners are as ethical as the ones mentioned above and will take advantage of their office for personal gain. **Consumers need to know that even if the body is picked up by one funeral home's staff acting as coroners that the family members have every right to have the body moved to a funeral home of their own choice. The consumer owes nothing to the funeral home acting as the coroner unless the consumer agrees to or asks for services.**

One has to be concerned that consumers in counties with an excessive number of part-time deputies (Fayette and Luzerne, especially) may not be well-served. Part-time deputies do not need to take a course or pass an exam and are exempt from continuing education by statute. Northampton County, to its credit, does require continuing ed of all deputies.

In addition to county funding for the coroner's office, three dollars from each death certificate fee collected is returned to the county in June each year by the Commonwealth for the purpose of "laboratory or necropsy room modernization, including supplies, equipment, training and office and laboratory facility improvement or the modernization of equipment used for forensic investigation." The ethical coroners know this can't be used for general operating purposes and respect the limitations. Unfortunately, at least some of the local controllers or auditors have no idea there are limitations on its use. The website for the state coroners association mentions that these funds can be used for continuing education. The cost for those classes at the next conference is \$150. But registration for this golf-happy conference is an additional \$600 which would not be a legitimate use of these funds. Counties funds would pay this only for elected officials, not typically the deputies.

Of the 67 counties in Pennsylvania, at least 22 coroner's offices have staff with no funeral home affiliation.

Adams County: 91,292 population; death rate: 749

Funeral Homes: 9 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)

Calls per year: 85-100

Coroner: Patricia Felix

Chief Deputy: Francis Dutrow

Deputy: Dan Small and Steve Straub

None affiliated with a funeral home

Allegheny County: 1,281,666 population; death rate: 10, 509
Funeral Homes: 244 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
This county abolished the position of elected coroner in 2005. It now operates with an appointed physician as Medical Examiner.

Armstrong County: 72,392; death rate: 594
Funeral Homes: 19 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 225
Coroner: Robert T. Bower
Chief Deputy: Alan Thomas
One deputy affiliated with a funeral home.

Beaver County: 181,412 population; death rate: 1,487
Funeral Homes: 41 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 185
Coroner: Terri Tatalovich-Rossi, TATALOVICH FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATATIONS
Three deputies, one of whom is affiliated with a funeral home.
Other FH in same town: "No way to avoid a conflict. I don't see a change happening politically."

Bedford County: 49,984 population; death rate: 410
Funeral Homes: 9 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 70-80
Coroner: Sam Gordon, paramedic
Deputy: Russell Styer, LOUIS GEISEL FUNERAL HOME
Deputy: Wilma Gordon
Nearby funeral home: "Hasn't been a problem."

Berks County: 373,638 population; death rate: 3,064
Funeral Homes: 39 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)
Calls: 3,000
Coroner: Dennis Hess
Fourteen deputies, none affiliated with a funeral home

Blair County: 129,144 population; death rate: 1,059
Funeral Homes: 27 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: ?
Coroner: Patricia Ross
Five or six deputies, one of whom is affiliated with a funeral home.

Bradford County: 62,761 population; death rate: 515
Funeral Homes: 11 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 325
Coroner: Thomas M. Carman
Two deputies: one affiliated with a funeral home.

Bucks County: 597,635 population; death rate: 4,900
Funeral Homes: 35
Calls: 550
Coroner: Dr. Joseph Campbell
Eight deputies, two are affiliated with a funeral home.

Butler County: 174,083 population; death rate: 1,428
Funeral Homes: 21 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)
Calls: 500
Coroner: William Young III, YOUNG FUNERAL HOME
Chief Deputy: Dennis Trzeciak
Deputy: Lawrence Barr, YOUNG FUNERAL HOME
“Possibly a conflict of interest.” “Could be.” “I’ve never had a problem with him.”

Cambria County: 152,593 population; death rate: 1,251
Funeral Homes: 37 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 700
Coroner: Dennis Kwiatkowski
Chief Deputy Coroner: James Zangaglia
Deputy: Jeffrey Lees
Deputy: Beverly Sherwood Burns
Deputy: Brian Moriconi, MORICONI FUNERAL HOME INC
Deputy: Herman Long
Deputy: Tisha Gomolka
Deputy: Wendy Wright

Cameron County: 5,974 population; death rate: 49
Funeral Homes: 2 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 25.)
Calls: 10
Coroner: Theodore Walters BARNETT FUNERAL HOME
Deputy: Darlene Sherry
Deputy: Bill Hennington
Deputy: Tom Barton
Deputy: Rick Copp

Carbon County: 58,802 population; death rate: 482
Funeral Homes: 12 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 300-400 counting cremation authorizations
Coroner: Bruce A. Nalesnik, BRUCE A NALESNIK FUNERAL HOME
Chief Deputy: James Hauser Sr.
Deputies: 20-25 unpublished, five to seven affiliated with funeral homes

Centre County: 144,658 population; death rate: 1,187
Funeral Homes: 12 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is just under 100.)
Calls: 564 counting cremation authorization
Coroner: Scott Sayers (DEAN K WETZLER FUNERAL HOME but not active)
Chief Deputy and three part-time

Chester County: 433,501 population; death rate: 3,555
Funeral Homes: 27
Calls: 500-600
Coroner: Dr. Steven Dickter
Chief Deputy: Dr. Norman Goodman
Deputy: Walt Bohn, EMT; Deputy: April Breniser, EMT
Deputy: Chad Cook, EMT; Deputy: David J. Garver, EMT
Deputy: Michael Groff, EMT; Deputy: Gary Hartung, EMT
Deputy: Dr. Erica Williams
(Any affiliated with a funeral home? “Never!”)

Clarion County: 41,765 population; death rate: 343

Funeral Homes: 14 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 30.)

Calls: 75 or so

Coroner: Terry Shaffer

Three deputies: one affiliated w. a funeral home

Clearfield County: 83,382 population; death rate: 684

Funeral Homes: 20 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)

Calls: 400

Coroner: Joel Heath, BEEZER-HEATH FUNERAL HOME

Deputy: Deneen Hanes

Deputy: Kim Snyder

Deputy: Michael Polachek

Deputy: John Bakaysa

Clinton County: 37,914 population; death rate: 311

Funeral Homes:3

Calls: 300+

Coroner: Donald Walker, DONALD G WALKER FUNERAL HOME

Deputy: John V Hanna Sr. DONALD G WALKER FUNERAL HOME

Columbia County: 64,151 population; death rate: 526

Funeral Homes: 12 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)

Calls: 100+

Coroner: Dr. Lori Maspeller

Chief Deputy: Linda Kessler

Deputy: Ron Taylor

Deputy Lucy Curio

Deputy: Rodger Bunnell, BUNNELL FUNERAL HOME

Crawford County: 90,366 population; death rate: 741

Funeral Homes: 9 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)

Calls: 300

Funeral homes: 15

Coroner: Patrick McHenry

Five deputies, two affiliated with a funeral home

Cumberland County: 213,674 population; death rate: 1,752

Funeral Homes: 13

Calls: 300

Coroner: Todd C. Eckenrode

Chief Deputy: Matthew Stoner

Deputy: Richard Middlekauf

Deputy: Barry Horn, Jr.

None affiliated with a funeral home.

Dauphin County: 251,798 population; death rate: 2,065

Funeral Homes: 35 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is just under 60.)

Calls: 500

Coroner: Graham Hetrick, (sold HETRICK-BITNER FUNERAL HOME but hangs license there)

Four full-time deputies, one pathologist.

Delaware County: 550,864 population; death rate: 4,517
Funeral Homes: 69 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)
Calls: 1,200-1,300
ME: Dr. Frederic Hellman. Delaware County changed to a medical examiner's system with physicians in 1979.

Elk County: 35,112 population; death rate: 288
Funeral Homes: 6 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 75
Coroner: Louis Radkowski, LYNCH-RADKOWSKI FUNERAL HOME
Deputy: two, one is a funeral director
From another FH, "Absolutely takes advantage."

Erie County: 280,843 population; death rate: 2,303
Funeral Homes: 36 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)
Calls: 419
Coroner: Lyell P. Cook, GLUNT FUNERAL HOME
Two full-time deputies, eight part-time; three part-timers are affiliated with funeral homes

Fayette County: 148,644 population; death rate: 1,219
Funeral Homes: 32 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 250; 798 sq. mi., with 46 deputies, that one for every 9-mile radius
Coroner: Phillip Reilly, MD
Deputies:
Marisa Springer
Ross Rock
Jessie Langer
Samantha Victor
Paul Kondrla
Muriel Lantz, LANTZ FUNERAL HOME
Bobby Furin
Alvin Sapp
Jimmy Bitner
Myles Reilly
Clint Westcoat
Margaret Reilly
Rodney Kozy
Elsie Dvorchak
E. James Eley, Jr., ELEY-MCCRORY FUNERAL HOME
Mark Reilly
plus 30 more some of which are affiliated with funeral homes.

Forest County, 4,946 population; death rate: 40
Funeral Homes: 1
Calls: 35
Coroner: Norman Wimer, NORMAN J WIMER FUNERAL HOME
Deputy: Robert Mast
Deputy: Ronald McDonald, RONALD MCDONALD II FUNERAL HOME

Franklin County: 129,313 population; death rate: 1,060
Funeral Homes: 12 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)
Calls: 150
Coroner: Jeffrey Conner
Deputy: Paul T. (Ted) Reed
Three part-time deputies.
None affiliated with a funeral home

Fulton County: 14,261 population; death rate: 116

Funeral Homes: 2 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is just over 50.)

Calls: 20-25

Coroner: Berley Souders

Four deputies, one a funeral director

Greene County: 40,672 population; death rate: 334

Funeral Homes: 5 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)

Calls: 150

Coroner: Greg Rohanna, BEHM FUNERAL HOMES

Chief Deputy: Mary Lewis

Chief Deputy: William Lewis, Jr., (part-time)

Huntingdon County: 45,586 population; death rate: 374

Funeral Homes: 10 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)

Calls: ?

Coroner: Dave McGarvey

Deputies are EMTs, none affiliated with a funeral home.

Indiana County: 89,605 population; death rate: 735

Funeral Homes: 10 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)

Calls: 200

Coroner: Michael A. Baker

One part-time, ten casual deputies, none at present affiliated with a funeral home.

“Our personnel are expressly forbidden to recommend or suggest funeral homes or clean-up companies. If we are asked to provide such information, we provide a pre-printed, alphabetical list of them to the family, with very specific language about our policies against recommendations or preferences. We are extremely careful about that sort of thing.”

Jefferson County: 45,932 population; death rate: 376

Funeral Homes: 10 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)

Calls: 60

Coroner: Bernie Snyder, SNYDER FUNERAL HOMES

Four deputies.

Juniata County: 22,82 population; death rate: 187

Funeral Homes: 6 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)

Calls: ?

Coroner: Lee Snyder

Deputies: one or two, none affiliated with a funeral home

Lackawana County: 208,801 population; death rate: 1,712

Funeral Homes: 86 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 20.)

Calls: 160+

Coroner: Joseph Brennan, BRENNAN AND BRENNAN FUNERAL HOME

Chief Deputy: Joseph Swoboda, JOSEPH C NOREIKA FUNERAL HOME

Deputy: Timothy Rowland

Lancaster County: 470,658 population; death rate: 3,860

Funeral Homes: 40 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is just under 100.)

Calls: ?

Coroner: Steve Diamantoni, MD

Chief deputy plus 14 deputies, none affiliated with a funeral home.

Lawrence County: 94,643 population; death rate: 776

Funeral Homes: 19 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)

Calls: ?

Coroner: Russell Noga, NOGA FUNERAL HOME

Four deputies, one other affiliated with a funeral home. Bodies are taken to a hospital, so no conflict of interest.

Lebanon County: 120,327 population; death rate: 986

Funeral Homes: 14 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)

Calls: staff didn't know

Coroner: Dr. Jeffrey A. Yocum

Deputies four, one affiliated with a funeral home

Lehigh County: 312,090 population; death rate: 2,559

Funeral Homes: 29 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)

Calls: 2,500, 349 sq. mi.

Coroner: Scott Grim

Deputy: Paul Zondlo

Ten full-time and eight part-time deputies, none affiliated with a funeral home.

Luzerne County: 319,250 population; death rate:2,618

Funeral Homes: 112 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 25.)

Calls: 1,300; 907 sq. mi.; with 40 deputies, there's a 10+ mile radius to serve if geographically distributed.

Coroner: John P. Corcoran, CORCORAN FUNERAL HOME ("deputies are based on geography / I refused one who requested, we don't alternate, no conflict of interest, no complaints, done professionally." Bill Lisman.)

Chief Deputy Coroner: William Lisman, MJ MCLAUGHLIN CO

Asst Chief Deputy Coroner: Thomas Moran

Deputy Field Investigator: Daniel Hughes, KIESINGER FUNERAL SERVICES INC

Active Deputy Coroners

Peter J. Adonizio, PETER ADIBUZUI FUNERAL HOMES

Karl Blight, KARL BLIGHT FUNERAL HOME

Charles Cease, CHARLES CEASE FUNERAL HOME

James Desiderio, PISZCZEK-DESIDERIO FUNERAL HOME INC

Carl Gentileco, MCCUNE FUNERAL SERVICE INC

Marianne Gregory, LEHMAN/GREGORY FUNERAL HOME

Marilyn Gubbiotti, GUBBIOTTI FUNERAL HOME

Mark Harman, HARMAN FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY INC

Brian Harman, HARMAN FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY INC

Jason Harmon, HARMAN FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY INC

Daniel Hinchcliff, MAYO FUNERAL HOME INC

Joseph Jacobs, A J KOPICKI FUNERAL HOME INC

Robert Jastremski, BETZ-JASTREMSKI FUNERAL HOME INC

Joseph Jendrzewski, JENDRZEJEWSKI FUNERAL HOME

Gerald Jones, EMT

Mary Jones, EMT

William Kearney, KEARNEY FUNERAL HOME INC

Mark Kiesinger, KIESINGER FUNERAL SERVICES INC

Joseph Kopcza, METCALFE AND SHAVER FUNERAL HOME INC

Katherine Malig, GRONTKOWSKI FNRL HOME PC

Drew Mamary, MAMARY & DURKIN FUNERAL HOME

Joseph Mikelski, MICHAEL J MIKELSKI FUNERAL HOME

John Paletski, FRANK BONIN FUNERAL HOME

Clark Piatt, CLARKE PIATT FUNERAL HOME

Bernard Piontek, BERNARD J PIONTEK FUNERAL HOME INC

Michelle Pointek, BERNARD J PIONTEK FUNERAL HOME INC

Andrew Piskel, FIERRO FUNERAL SERVICE INC
Mary Ruth Schwartz, CURTIS L SWANSON FUNERAL HOME INC
Gregory Shankom NAT & GAWLAS FUNERAL HOME
Jeff Stock, FRANK BONIN FUNERAL HOME
George Strish, GEORGE A STRISH FUNERAL HOME INC
George Strish III, GEORGE A STRISH FUNERAL HOME INC
Eric Strish, GEORGE A STRISH FUNERAL HOME INC
Curt Swanson, CURTIS L SWANSON FUNERAL HOME INC
Doug Thomas, BEDNARSKI & THOMAS FUNERAL HOME
Stanley Wilczek, MCHUGH-WILCZEK
Michael Yeosock YEOSOCK FUNERAL HOME

Lycoming County: 120,044 population; death rate: 984
Funeral Homes: 22 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 320
Coroner: Charles E. Kiessling Jr.. RN
Eight deputies, none affiliated with a funeral home.

McKean County: 45,936 population; death rate: 376
Funeral Homes: 12 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 60
Coroner: Michael F. Cahill, HOLLENBECK-CAHILL FUNERAL HOMES
Six very part-time deputies

Mercer County: 120,293 population; death rate: 986
Funeral Homes: 33 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 130
Coroner: Brad McGonigle, MCGONIGLE FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY
Seven deputies, two of which are affiliated with a funeral home. In the past, Brad asked one funeral director to resign when he found he was abusing his office. Does not belong to the PA Coroners Association, as it is an "abuse of taxpayer money."

Mifflin County: 46,486 population; death rate: 381
Funeral Homes: 3
Calls: 200
Coroner: Daniel P. Lynch
Four deputies, one affiliated with a funeral home.

Monroe County: 174,579 population; death rate: 1,432
Funeral Homes: 12
Calls: 500-600
Coroner: Dave Thomas, THOMAS FUNERAL HOME
Chief Deputy Coroner: Jody Hutton
Office Manager/Deputy Coroner: Cindy Skrzypek
Deputy Coroner: Elwood "Sparky" Longyhgore

Montgomery County: 750,097 population; death rate: 6,151
Funeral Homes: 76 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)
Calls: 610-278-3057
Coroner: Dr. Walter Hofman
Six medical investigators, none affiliated with a funeral home.

Montour County: 18,236 population; death rate: 149
Funeral Homes: 3 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: ?
Coroner: Scott Lynn
One deputy; none affiliated with a funeral home.

Northampton County: 267,066 population; death rate: 2,190
Funeral Homes: 39 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 60.)
Calls: 1612
Coroner: Zachary Lysek
Three full-time deputies and ten part-time; none affiliated with a funeral home.

Northumberland County: 94,556 population; death rate: 776
Funeral Homes: 25 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 400-475
Coroner: Jim Kelley, JAMES KELLEY FUNERAL HOME
Deputy is also a funeral director

Perry County: 43,602 population; death rate: 358
Funeral Homes: 4 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)
Calls: 50
Coroner: Michael Shalonis, MICHAEL J SHALONIS FUNERAL HOME
Three deputies, one also affiliated with a funeral home

Philadelphia County: 1,517,550 population; death rate: 12,444
Funeral Homes: 252 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Medical Examiner: Sam Gulino, MD

Pike County: 59,664 population; death rate: 490
Funeral Homes: 2
Calls: 125-150
Coroner: Kevin Stroyan, STROYAN FUNERAL HOME
Five deputies, one of whom is also affiliated with this funeral home.

Potter County: 18,080 population; death rate: 148
Funeral Homes: 5 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 30.)
Calls: 40-45
Coroner: Kevin Dusenbury, VIRGIL L HOWARD FUNERAL HOME
Four deputies, two affiliated with this funeral home also.

Schuylkill County: 150,336 population; death rate: 1,233
Funeral Homes: 42 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 30.)
Calls: 600
Coroner: Joseph Lipsett
Several deputies, none affiliated with a funeral home.

Snyder County: 37,546 population; death rate: 308
Funeral Homes: 7 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 40
Coroner: Bruce Hummel, HUMMEL FUNERAL HOME
Two deputies, one also affiliated with a funeral home.

Somerset County: 80,023 population; death rate: 656

Funeral Homes: 20 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)

Calls: 250

Coroner: Wallace Miller owns a funeral home

Deputy: two part-time

Neighboring FD says there's no problem, no conflict of interest, does a good job

Sullivan County: 6,556 population; death rate: 54

Funeral Homes: 2 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 30.)

Calls: 15-20

Coroner: Wendy Hastings

One deputy, none affiliated with a funeral home.

Susquehanna County: 42,238 population; death rate: 346

Funeral Homes: 8 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)

Calls: 115-120

Coroner: Anthony Conarton

Chief Deputy: Richard Hennessey, HENNESSEY'S FUNERAL HOME

Deputy: Robert Bartron, BARTRON-MYER FUNERAL HOME

Deputy: Laura Conarton, Secretary

Deputy: Joseph Donovan

Deputy: Scott Lonzinski

Deputy: Alyssa Lonzinski

Has a list of 8 funeral homes in that county on its website along with this disclaimer--

NOTICE

The Susquehanna County Coroner's Office does not and may not recommend any Funeral Home over another.

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If the Funeral Home has a known web site a link is provided.

Tioga County: 41,373 population; death rate: 340

Funeral Homes: 6 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 60.)

Calls: 35

Coroner: Dr. James Wilson

Four deputies, none affiliated with a funeral home

Union County: 41,624 population; death rate: 341

Funeral Homes 5 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)

Calls: emailed, no phone -mailed again 8/10

Coroner: Wanda Walters

Deputy, EMTs. None affiliated with a funeral home.

Venango County: 57,565 population; death rate: 472

Funeral Homes: 9 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is just over 50.)

Calls 100

Coroner: Tyler Best, Hile-Best Funeral Home

Five deputies, one affiliated with Hile-Best Funeral Home

Warren County: 43,863 population; death rate: 360

Funeral Homes: 8 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)

Calls: 45-50

Coroner: Jerry Borden, (BORDEN-LLOYD FUNERAL HOME--partially retired)

Six deputies, one buying Borden's funeral home, another is a funeral director at a different funeral home.

Washington County: 202,897 population; death rate: 1,664
Funeral Homes: 43 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 724-228-6785 left message 7242286745 faxed letter 8/10
Coroner: Timothy Warco, WARCO-FALVO FUNERAL HOME
Deputy:

Wayne County: 47,722 population; death rate: 391
Funeral Homes: 6 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 100.)
Calls: 68
Coroner: Carol Lienert, RN, MSN
Four deputies, one in mortuary school; has a printed list of area funeral homes.

Westmoreland County: 369,993 population; death rate: 3,034
Funeral Homes: 88 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 50.)
Calls: 750
Coroner: Kenneth Bacha, LEO M BACHA FUNERAL HOME
Chief Deputy: Paul B Cycak, Jr.
Deputy: Dennis A. Johns
Deputy: Gerald W. Fritz
Deputy: John A. Ackerman
Deputy: F. Christopher O'Leath

Wyoming County: 28,080 population; death rate: 230
Funeral Homes: 8 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is fewer than 30.)
Calls: 15-20
Coroner: Thomas Kukuchka, SHELDON-KUKUCHKA FUNERAL HOME
Two deputies, also at Sheldon-Kukuchka Funeral Home

York County: 381,751 population; death rate: 3,131
Funeral Homes: 33 (With this many funeral homes, average funerals per year is just under 100.)
Calls: 475-500
Coroner: Barry Bloss
Six deputies, all medical, none affiliated with a funeral home.

45 have some affiliation with a funeral home
22 have no affiliation with a funeral home