



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

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Volunteers sought to test new vital records system

Physicians are needed to help test Missouri's new electronic vital records system. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Bureau of Vital Records is asking for assistance from physicians to test the state's re-engineered death registration system this fall.

A pilot project testing the death registration component with several funeral homes throughout the state is planned for late September or early October. The Bureau of Vital Records is enlisting support from physicians that complete manner and cause of death information on the Certificate of Death to participate in the project with funeral directors.

In 2004, legislation was passed in Missouri that required the Bureau of Vital Records to develop and maintain an electronic system to register births and deaths. The deadline for the implementation of the electronic system is December 31, 2009.

According to the new law, a re-engineered vital records system should effectively address existing problems associated with a manual registration process. The electronic system will respond to multiple challenges. The system will register vital events more timely, improve quality of data, eliminate unnecessary corrections to records, provide a more complete and accurate legal document, and provide a more secure environment to strengthen security to prevent fraud. The system also will address emerging vital records issues such as integration with electronic health records, rapid response to bio-terrorism and pandemic health events.

The Bureau of Vital Records appreciates the assistance doctors can offer to help modernize the state's vital records system.

For more information about participating in the pilot project, contact:

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Bureau of Vital Records

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