

## Death Investigation

### 329.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The investigations of cases involving death include those ranging from natural cause to homicide. Some causes of death may not be readily apparent and some cases differ substantially from what they appeared to be initially. The thoroughness of death investigations cannot be emphasized enough.

[Reno Police Department Procedures Manual: 311.2 GUIDELINES](#)

### 329.2 INVESTIGATION CONSIDERATIONS

Death investigation cases require certain actions be taken. Emergency Medical Services shall be called in all suspected death cases unless the death is obvious. A supervisor shall be notified in all death investigations.

#### 329.2.1 CORONER REQUEST

The Coroner shall be called in any case of death to which an officer would normally respond.

#### 329.2.2 SEARCHING DEAD BODIES

The Coroner is generally the only person permitted to search a body known to be dead.

#### 329.2.3 DEATH INVESTIGATION REPORTING

All incidents involving a death shall be documented on the appropriate form.

#### 329.2.4 SUSPECTED HOMICIDE

If the initially assigned officer suspects that the death involves a homicide or other suspicious circumstances, the Investigation Division shall be notified to determine the possible need for a detective to respond to the scene for further immediate investigation.