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| Methodist Health Services Corporation UnityPoint Health- Proctor EMS | Page # 1 of 2 | Section: | Policy #: 5 |
| | Approved by:  | | Date: 02/2019 Review by: 2/2020 |
| | Supersedes: Date Revised: 6/2017, 2/2019 | | |
| | Primary Responsible Parties: Dr. Ashley N. Huff Secondary Responsible Parties: | | |
| | Joint Commission Standard: | | |
| SUBJECT: CORONOR NOTIFICATION | | | |

I. POLICY:
Coroner Notification

II. PURPOSE AND STANDARD:
To define when the coroner notification is required and when a deceased patient can be turned over to law enforcement.

III. POLICY SCOPE: Departmental

IV. GENERAL INFORMATION:
In accordance with Section 10.6, Chapter 31 of the Illinois Revised Statutes – Coroners:

A. Every law enforcement official, funeral director, prehospital provider, hospital director of administration or person having custody of the body of a deceased person, where the death is one subjected to investigation under Section 10 of this Act, and any physician in attendance upon such a decedent at the time of his death, shall notify the coroner promptly. Any such person failing to notify the coroner promptly shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor, unless such person has reasonable cause to believe that the coroner had already been notified.

B. Deaths that are subject to coroner investigation include:

1. Accidental deaths of any type or cause
2. Homicidal deaths
3. Suicidal deaths
4. Abortions – criminal or self-induced maternal or fetal deaths
5. Sudden deaths – when in apparent good health or in any suspicious or unusual manner including sudden death on the street, at home, in a public place, at a place of employment, or any deaths under unknown circumstances may ultimately be the subject of investigation.

- C. The coroner (or his/her designee) should be provided the following information:
1. Your name
 2. Your EMS service
 3. Location of the body or death
 4. Phone number and/or radio frequency you are available on
 5. Brief explanation of the situation
- D. Once this information has been provided, wait for the coroner (or his/her designee) to arrive for further instructions. EMS crews may clear the scene if law enforcement is on the scene and no other emergency exists.
- E. Law enforcement personnel are responsible for death scenes once the determination of death is established with Medical Control and the coroner has been notified.
- F. If a patient is determined to be dead during transport, note the time & location and record this information on the patient care report. Immediately contact the coroner to discuss death jurisdiction. If the patient has a valid DNR order and after transport has begun, if the patient expires, continue transport to the receiving hospital and contact the coroner.