

MAIL APPLICATION FOR **DEATH** RECORD

Copies of death certificates for deaths that occurred within the past 25 years can be requested only by immediate family members of the person whose name is on the certificate. See Section 181.1(13) of the Texas Administrative Code for who qualifies as an immediate family member. An immediate family member is the decedent's child, spouse, parent, sibling, or grandparent.

Applicants who are not immediate family members must provide legal documentation (such as an insurance policy listing the applicant as the beneficiary) that documents a direct, tangible interest in the death certificate.

The applicant must include a photocopy of his or her valid photo ID issued by a governmental entity. See Section 181.28 of the Texas Administrative Code for a complete list of acceptable forms of identification. You also can see VSS's page on acceptable identification in English (<http://www.dshs.texas.gov/vs/reqproc/Acceptable-IDs/>) and Spanish ([http://www.dshs.texas.gov/vs/reqproc/Acceptable-IDs-\(Spanish\)/](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/vs/reqproc/Acceptable-IDs-(Spanish)/)).

Applications for death certificates cannot be processed without a copy of a photo ID or alternate IDs and the signature of the applicant.

Verification Letter - A verification letter will include the decedent's name, the date of death, and the county where the death occurred. Verification letters are available for deaths that have occurred since 1903. Verification letters are not considered legal substitutes for certified copies of death certificates. The VSS strongly recommends that applicants ensure a verification will satisfy its intended use.

If a record is not on file, our office will issue a "not found" letter.

Customer Checklist

- Complete steps 1, 2, and 3 of the application. Please type or print clearly.
- Complete step 4 of the application and have it notarized, if requesting a birth certificate.
- Sign and date the application.
- Make sure the application is original and not a photocopy and there are no cross-outs or white-out.
- Enclose a copy of a current driver's license, passport or state identification. See complete ID list on our website.
- Enclose appropriate fees. **Make CASHIERS checks or money orders payable to:**

(NO PERSONAL CHECKS)

**Jackie Ensey, Stephens County Clerk
200 West Walker Street
Suite 116
Breckenridge, TX 76424**