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State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor

March 16, 2023

23-05

TO: LOCAL REGISTRARS OF BIRTH AND DEATHS  
CHIEF DEPUTY REGISTRARS OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS  
COUNTY CLERKS  
COUNTY RECORDERS

SUBJECT: State of Emergency to Support 43 Counties Impacted by Winter Storm

On March 1, 8, 12, and 14, 2023, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency to support storm response and relief efforts in 43 counties; Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Del Norte, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Humboldt, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Lake, Los Angeles, Madera, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Mono, Monterey, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Sierra, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, and Yuba. These Proclamations support impacted residents in all the counties under a storm state of emergency by waiving fees to replace certificates such as birth, death, marriage, and dissolution of marriage records, and provides flexibility to help hospitals and care facilities in impacted areas continue providing services.

Pursuant to these Proclamations of a State of Emergency, fees for certified copies of birth, death, marriage, and dissolution of marriage records are suspended for any individual who lost such records as a result of the winter storm. These Proclamations will remain in effect until the Governor terminates the State of Emergency. These Proclamations are available for viewing at:

- [GSS 9534-1E-20230301160031 \(ca.gov\)](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/GSS_9534-1E-20230301160031.aspx)
- [3.8.23-SOE-Storms-Additional-Counties.pdf \(ca.gov\)](#)
- [SOE-3-12-23-March-Storms-Additional-Counties.pdf \(ca.gov\)](#)
- [GSS 9320 2-20230314171904 \(ca.gov\)](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/GSS_9320_2-20230314171904.aspx)

When requesting free copies of a vital record, survivors of the winter storm should state on the application, “Winter Storm,” and complete the enclosed sworn statement declaring under penalty of perjury that they are a survivor. The sworn statement for winter storm survivors is a combined sworn statement which also includes the sworn statement required by Health and Safety Code Section 103526. For requests sent to the



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California Department of Public Health – Vital Records (CDPH-VR), survivors should additionally make the notation “Winter Storm” on the front of the mailing envelope, for faster processing.

The application and combined sworn statement must be submitted to complete the request.

Enclosed is a Monthly Transmittal of Fees form (VS 5), that includes a space to report the number of free copies issued by the county. The cell under “Total” for “Number of Free Copies Issued” has been shaded to avoid confusion when calculating the total fees owed.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the CDPH-VR, Quality Assurance and Production Section at (916) 552-8116.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Dana E. Moore, MPH, CPH  
State Registrar  
Acting Deputy Director  
Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

Enclosures