



Coroner Chaplain Response Workflow Map

1. DEATH OCCURS (Home / Public / Facility)



2. 911 DISPATCH / FIRST RESPONDERS ARRIVE

- Law enforcement secures scene
- EMS evaluates and may pronounce (depending on jurisdiction)
- Determination: "coroner jurisdiction" vs "natural death with physician"



3. CORONER NOTIFIED

- Deputy coroner / MDI is dispatched to scene
- Scene investigation begins (cause/manner of death process)



4. CHAPLAIN ACTIVATION DECISION POINT
(ONLY if needed—NOT automatic)

Trigger examples:

- Sudden/traumatic death
- Suicide / homicide / child death
- Highly emotional family presence
- Death notification requested
- Mass casualty or unusual scene



5. CHAPLAIN DISPATCH TO SCENE (or staging area)

- Reports to Incident Commander / Coroner lead
- Coordinates with deputy coroner + law enforcement



6. ON-SCENE ROLE OF CHAPLAIN

Emotional / Human Support Functions:

- Family support at scene
- Crisis stabilization (shock, grief)
- Quiet presence during investigation
- Assistance with death notification
- Cultural/religious support if requested



7. BODY REMOVAL / SCENE RELEASE

- Coroner completes initial investigation
- Funeral home transports decedent
- Law enforcement clears scene



8. FAMILY FOLLOW-UP (Hours to Days Later)

- Chaplain may:

- Re-contact family
- Provide grief resources
- Assist with clergy referrals
- Support first responders involved



9. EXTENDED SUPPORT ROLE

- Critical incident debriefs (deputies, investigators)
- Community outreach after traumatic events
- Anniversary follow-ups in some programs