

**641—97.11(144) Removal of a dead human body or fetus.**

**97.11(1)** A person assuming custody of a dead human body shall:

*a.* Contact the attending physician, physician associate, or advanced registered nurse practitioner and receive confirmation the death was from natural causes and that the physician, physician associate, or advanced registered nurse practitioner will assume responsibility for certifying the cause of death; or

*b.* Contact the medical examiner and receive authorization to remove the dead human body if the case is within the jurisdiction of the medical examiner.

**97.11(2)** A person assuming custody of a dead human fetus shall:

*a.* Contact the attending physician and receive confirmation the death was from natural causes and that the physician will assume responsibility for certifying to the cause of fetal death; or

*b.* Contact the medical examiner and receive authorization to remove the dead human fetus if the case is within the jurisdiction of the medical examiner.

**97.11(3)** A person other than a funeral director, medical examiner, or emergency medical service provider who assumes custody of a dead human body or fetus shall first contact the state registrar for instructions for registering the certificate of death or fetal death. After review and registration of the certificate of death or fetal death, the state registrar will issue a burial-transit permit pursuant to rule 641—97.12(144) prior to removal of the dead human body or fetus from the place of death.

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