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California Registered Cremated Remains Disposer No. 965

Procedures and Practices

A log is kept of each scattering request (date contacted, name of requester, name of decedent, funeral home, date available for collection of remains, date collected).

The cremated remains are collected from the Funeral Home and the details are logged (date of collection, name of decedent, funeral home, and amount paid).

One day prior to scattering, the cremated remains are prepared. Authorization forms and location are verified and the metal tag is removed and stored. The scattering location is written on the bag containing the ashes and placed in a container sorted for location. The decedents name is verified with the collection log.

The cremated remains are transported to the airport and loaded on board the aircraft. For logging and flight verification purposes, the aircraft is rented from an independent business. The flight is also logged in a pilot log book and a GPS track is recorded. Each flight is accompanied by a witness for logistical purposes to assist in managing flight responsibilities and scattering practices.

Once at the scattering location, an aerodynamic chute is lowered into the airflow below the aircraft. The ashes are poured into the chute and dispersed in a uniform way. If additional ashes are to be scattered, they are dispersed at intervals of approximately one mile from the preceding ashes to prevent co-mingling of the remains. Once the scattering is complete, photos of the location are taken to provide as a keepsake for the families and to the funeral homes as documentation.

Within 10 days of the scattering, urns are inspected and personal information removed and destroyed, photos and certificates are prepared and sent to the family and funeral home and the scattering log is verified. Disposition permits are then signed and mailed to the County of death and the E.P.A. is notified when applicable. Original Scattering Authorization forms and a copy of VS-9 forms are then filed, and our digital database is updated and verified.

We make every attempt to safeguard the dignity and professionalism of our services and each set of cremated remains is handled carefully and respectfully. Funeral Directors are welcome to accompany us at no additional cost (circumstances permitting) to learn more about our services and practices.

A licensed, instrument rated commercial pilot with a current medical certificate commands each flight. Airworthiness certificate, registration documents, weight and balance requirements, and a State of California Department of Consumer Affairs Cremated Remains Disposer permit are available for inspection upon request.