

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

1. This memorandum of understanding is made between the Ward County Coroner, Trinity Health, Ward County Sheriff's Department, Minot Police Department, Minot Fire Department, Ward County Commission, Thompson Larson Funeral Home, Thomas Family Funeral Home. This memorandum establishes procedures for dealing with coroner cases within Ward County North Dakota.
2. It establishes that Trinity morgue located inside of Trinity Hospital, be so designated as the morgue for use in Ward County Coroner cases. Use of Trinity's morgue shall be in accordance with Trinity's present policies or any subsequently adopted Trinity policy.
3. Trinity Health and Ward County Funeral Homes do not have to accept environmentally unsafe bodies for storage or autopsy.
4. The county morgue building located at 900 13th St SE Minot, North Dakota would be used for storage of all badly decomposed and environmentally unsafe bodies until such time as they are transported to the State Medical Examiner's Office in Bismarck, North Dakota.
5. Ward County Coroner cases needing transport to the state medical examiner's office would be accomplished by using an ambulance, local funeral homes, or local law enforcement. Bills for the transport of bodies shall be submitted to the County Coroner for approval. Law enforcement will consult with funeral directors and/or the coroner for proper transportation to the state medical examiner's office. Once the autopsy is complete the applicable funeral home will be responsible for the return and the final disposition of the body.
6. This MOU shall be effective as of the date each signatory signs his signature to the agreement. This MOU shall also terminate at the end of each Ward County Coroner's term.

Ward County Coroner

Date

Ward County Sheriff

Date

Minot Police Chief

Date

Minot Fire Chief

Date

Chairman
Ward County Commission

Date

Thomas Family Funeral Home

Date

Thompson-Larson Funeral Home

Date

President, Trinity Health

Date