



Institute for Plastination

## Guide for Survivors

### Body Donation for Plastination

The following is intended as a basic guide and general information regarding the procedures required after a body donor has died so that the body will reach the Institute for Plastination (IfP) in a timely manner. Details of the procedures will vary from country to country. In case of any questions, survivors of body donors should contact the IfP for assistance and clarification.

As a relative or trusted person of a body donor for plastination, you are being asked to help fulfill the last wishes of the deceased body donor and to complete the required paperwork, as well as to initiate rapid transportation of the body to an embalming facility approved by the IfP. This guide describes the required formal procedures and is intended to help you fulfill these tasks.

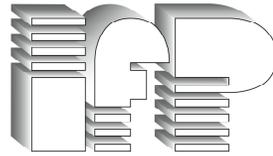
### IFP Contact Information

<p><b><i>In North and South America</i></b> Phone: +1 213 291 9572 or bodydonation@plastination.com</p> <p>Snyder's Embalming Office 606 West Fremont Street, Upland, CA 91784</p> <p>Snyder's Embalming and Care Center 9320 Santa Anita Ave #103, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730</p> <p>Phone: +1 909 985 0525 or +1 888.4.EMBALM Fax: +1 866 614 8320</p>	<p><b><i>In Europe and Rest of the World</i></b> German Body Donor Office Institute for Plastination Im Bosseldorn 17 69126 Heidelberg, Germany Mon.-Fri. between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. (GMT +1) Phone: +49 6221 3311 50 Outside of normal office hours, please call: +49 160 74 55 188 Fax: +49 6221 3311 45 or koerperspende@plastination.com</p>
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### Procedures Required Immediately after Death Has Occurred

If the donor died at home, you should call the primary physician of the deceased or another doctor on call, who will attest to the death and who will issue a written attestation of death. If the death occurred at a hospital or a care facility, that institution will take care of this task.

Next, contact a local mortuary of your choice to assist you with the arrangements to transport the body. Currently our facility to accept donors from North and South America is in California through a licensed embalming facility, Snyder's Embalming. The mortuary should notify Jon Snyder at Snyder's Embalming by phone as soon as possible to receive specific embalming instructions, if needed, and coordinate the transport of the body to his facility. Body donors from Europe and other continents shall be transported directly to the facility in Heidelberg, Germany. All costs due to any third party mortuary or for any transport to the respective embalming facilities must be paid for directly to the company transporting the remains and cannot be paid by the IfP.



Institute for Plastination

Until the body is picked up, you should take care that it is kept as cool as possible. This means:

- Avoid direct exposure to sunlight.
- Do not cover the body with warm blankets but only a simple sheet, at most.
- Turn off radiators/heating devices, when possible
- Open windows (in case of cool temperatures outside).

During warm seasons, transportation to the IfP embalming facility should not happen any later than 2 to 3 days after death has occurred unless kept refrigerated. During cold seasons, or if the body is temporarily kept at a refrigerated mortuary, transportation to the IfP embalming facility should occur no later than 10 to 12 days after death.

## Formal Procedures and Transportation

Transportation will only take place after the death has been documented and registered according to all legal requirements, and, if legally required, the body has been embalmed according to the requirements of the IfP.

An original, certified copy of the 'Certificate of Death' must be submitted to the IfP or the funeral home handling the transportation of the body. It will accompany the body to its final destination. The death certificate will remain with the IfP in our official records. The death certificate must be requested from your local office of vital records. Please note that you will need additional copies of the death certificate, e.g. for canceling the deceased's health insurance and retirement insurance. To obtain a death certificate, you must complete an application and submit it along with any other specified documents (e.g. the deceased's birth certificate). A local funeral home or mortuary may also assist you in obtaining a death certificate through the office of vital records. In most countries, states, or provinces, the person requesting the death certificate will need to present a government issued ID.

Any other required paperwork, such as a 'Pre-need Disclosure' or an 'Embalming Authorization' form, is provided by a mortuary at the time of death.

If you are unable to deal with these formal procedures yourself, you may choose to hire a local funeral home to do so. You will be responsible for the ensuing cost.

## Check List

- ✓ Call a physician who will attest to the death and issue a written attestation of the death.
- ✓ Notify a local mortuary of your choice that can coordinate the transport with the IfP/Snyder's.
- ✓ Keep the body as cool as possible until it is picked-up for transportation to the IfP or an IfP embalming facility.
- ✓ Obtain a certified copy of the 'Certificate of Death' from the local office of vital records.
- ✓ Submit the death certificate and attestation of death to the mortuary or the company responsible for picking up the body.
- ✓ Complete any other required paperwork such as the 'Pre-need Disclosure' or the 'Embalming Authorization' form.



## Costs

The IfP does not charge any fees. Until further notice, the IfP also will assume the cost of transporting bodies to the IfP in Germany from Snyder's Embalming. There are no burial costs nor costs of maintaining a grave. The survivors of the deceased will be responsible for:

- The administrative fees for filing and receiving the paperwork needed for the donation, including the issuing of the death certificate by the office of vital records.
- If necessary, the cost of temporarily transporting the body to a local mortuary.
- The cost of transporting the body to an IfP embalming facility.
- The cost for a memorial service if one is desired.

To help cover these expenses, it is advisable to inquire about insurance the body donor may have taken out to cover those expenses.

## Prerequisites for Body Donation

- The donor must have died a natural death, i.e., a death not caused by violence, or self-inflicted.
- The donor's written consent ('Donor's Consent') must be on file. This consent includes a burial waiver.
- No autopsy by an institute of pathology or of forensic medicine may have been conducted on a body donated to the IfP. Severely injured bodies from accidents cannot be accepted for plastination.
- Organ donation does **not** preclude plastination. Because organ donation is a live-saving or life-supporting measure, it takes precedence over body donation.
- The presence of an infectious disease (e.g., hepatitis, HIV) does *not* present an obstacle. However, it is absolutely necessary that the IfP is notified of such a condition prior to transportation.

*The donor's last will and testament, donating his/her body for Plastination, is not a contract, but rather a living will that can be revoked by either party at any time, without any cause. There are no fees to be paid for donating a body, nor will donors or their survivors receive any monetary compensation. The Institute for Plastination (IfP) does not have a legal claim to the body, nor is the Institute legally required to accept the body.*