

FINAL

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Title 10

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Subtitle 29 BOARD OF MORTICIANS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Notice of Final Action

[25-320-F]

On April 13, 2026, the Secretary of Health adopted amendments to:

- (1) Regulation **.02** under **COMAR 10.29.16 Crematories—Definitions**;
- (2) Regulations **.02—, .04, .06, and .07** under **COMAR 10.29.17 Crematories—Permit, Licensing, and Fees**;
- (3) Regulations **.02, .03, and .06** under **COMAR 10.29.18 Crematories—Complaints and Disciplinary Procedures**;
- (4) Regulations **.01—, .03, .05—, .08, and .10—, .12** under **COMAR 10.29.19 Crematories—Crematory Procedures**;
- (5) Regulation **.02** under **COMAR 10.29.20 Crematories—Code of Ethics**; and
- (6) Regulation **.01** under **COMAR 10.29.22 General Regulations**.

This action, which was proposed for adoption in 53:4 Md. R. 195—200 (February 20, 2026), has been adopted with the nonsubstantive changes shown below.

Effective Date: May 11, 2026.

Attorney General’s Certification

In accordance with State Government Article, §10-113, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Attorney General certifies that the following changes do not differ substantively from the proposed text. The nature of the changes and the basis for this conclusion are as follows:

COMAR 10.29.16.02B(5): This amendment clarifies the definition of consumer.

COMAR 10.29.16.02B(25): This amendment clarifies the definition of pulverization.

COMAR 10.29.18.02E(15): This amendment substitutes “unintentionally” for “prematurely” to more accurately encompass all events the safety device is intended to prevent.

COMAR 10.29.19.07A(3): This amendment is to clarify the timeline for when to begin cremation or alkaline hydrolysis after the time of death.

10.29.16 Crematories—Definitions

Authority: *Business Regulation Article, §5-101; Health-General Article, §5-508; Health Occupations Article, §§7-101, 7-102, and 7-205, Annotated Code of Maryland*

.02 Definitions.

A. (proposed text unchanged)

B. Terms Defined.

(1)—(4) (proposed text unchanged)

(5) **“Consumer” includes a funeral establishment contracting with a crematory or the [[designated next of kin]] *authorizing agent of a decedent contracting with a crematory.***

(6)—(24) (proposed text unchanged)

(25) **“Pulverization” means the process following cremation or alkaline hydrolysis of crushing, grinding, or milling [[human skeletal]] *cremated or hydrolyzed human* remains into fine particles or powder, leaving bone fragments reduced to 5 millimeters or less.**

(26)—(28) (proposed text unchanged)

10.29.18 Crematories—Complaints and Disciplinary Procedures

Authority: *Health-General Article, §§5-502—5-504, 5-508, and 5-511—5-514; Health Occupations Article, §§7-101, 7-102, 7-205, 7-316, 7-317, 7-319, and 7-406, Annotated Code of Maryland*

.02 Inspection by the Board.

A.—D. (proposed text unchanged)

E. A crematory shall maintain the following minimum standards:

(1)—(14) (proposed text unchanged)

(15) Within 6 months of the effective date of these regulations, cremators without safety devices that prevent the automatic door from dropping [[prematurely]] *unintentionally* shall be retrofitted with such safety devices:

(16)—(21) (proposed text unchanged)

F.—J. (proposed text unchanged)

10.29.19 Crematories—*Crematory Procedures*

Authority: *Health-General Article, §§5-502—5-504, 5-508, and 5-511—5-514; Health Occupations Article, §§7-101, 7-102, and 7-205, Annotated Code of Maryland*

.07 Crematory Services Authorization.

A. Except as otherwise provided in COMAR 10.29.18.02, a permit holder may not cremate *or hydrolyze* human remains until:

(1)—(2) (proposed text unchanged)

(3) The permit holder has documented that at least 12 hours have elapsed from the time of death of the individual [[whose remains are to be *processed*]] *prior to beginning cremation or alkaline hydrolysis.*

B.—H. (proposed text unchanged)

MEENA SESHAMANI, MD, PHD
Secretary of Health

PROPOSAL

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Title 10

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Subtitle 29 BOARD OF MORTICIANS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Notice of Proposed Action

[25-320-P]

The Secretary of Health proposes to amend:

- (1) Regulation **.02** under **COMAR 10.29.16 Crematories — Definitions;**
- (2) Regulations **.02—, .04, .06, and .07** under **COMAR 10.29.17 Crematories — Permit, Licensing, and Fees;**
- (3) Regulations **.02, .03, and .06** under **COMAR 10.29.18 Crematories — Complaints and Disciplinary Procedures;**
- (4) Regulations **.01—, .03, .05—, .08, and .10—, .12** under **COMAR 10.29.19 Crematories — Crematory Procedures;**
- (5) Regulation **.02** under **COMAR 10.29.20 Crematories — Code of Ethics;** and
- (6) Regulation **.01** under **COMAR 10.29.22 General Regulations.**

This action was considered by the Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors at public meetings held on May 14, 2025, August 28, 2025, November 12, 2025, and December 2, 2025, notice of which was given by publication on the Board's website at health.maryland.gov/bom/Pages/home.aspx pursuant to General Provisions Article, §3–302(c), Annotated Code of Maryland.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this action is to:

- (1) Make technical corrections; and
- (2) Update regulations pursuant to Chs. 599 and 600, Acts of 2024 to regulate an option for the final disposition of human remains to include alkaline hydrolysis.

Estimate of Economic Impact

The proposed action has no economic impact.

Economic Impact on Small Businesses

The proposed action has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses.

Impact on Individuals with Disabilities

The proposed action has no impact on individuals with disabilities.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Comments may be sent to Jordan Fisher Blotter, Director, Office of Regulation and Policy Coordination, Maryland Department of Health, 201 West Preston Street, Room 534, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, or call 410-767-0938, or email to mdh.regs@maryland.gov. Comments will be accepted through March 23, 2026. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

10.29.16 Crematories — Definitions

Authority: *Business Regulation Article, §5-101; Health-General Article, §5-508; Health Occupations Article, §§7-101, 7-102, and 7-205, Annotated Code of Maryland*

.02 Definitions.

A. (text unchanged)

B. Terms Defined.

(1) (text unchanged)

(2) *“Alkaline hydrolysis” means the process of reducing human remains using water, alkaline chemicals, and heat inside a watertight vessel to accelerate decomposition.*

[(2)] (3) *“Authorizing agent” means an individual [legally entitled to order the cremation of human remains or legally authorized to control] who has legal authority to arrange for and make decisions regarding the final disposition of human remains, including cremation or alkaline hydrolysis.*

[(3)] (4)—[(4)] (5) (text unchanged)

[(5)] (6) *“Cremated human remains” means [all human remains recovered after completion of cremation and the use of mechanical pulverizing equipment] the recoverable bone fragments of a deceased person that result from the completion of cremation.*

[(6)] (7) *“Cremation” means the [process of reducing human remains to bone fragments through intense heat and evaporation, including any mechanical or thermal process and may include pulverization] disposition of a dead human body by means of incineration.*

[(7) “Cremation container” means a readily combustible, rigid container in which human remains are sent to the crematory and then placed in the cremation chamber for cremation.]

(8) *“Cremator” means the machinery within which the process of cremation [of human remains] begins.*

(9) *“Crematory” means a building, portion of a building, or structure that houses the necessary appliances and facilities for cremation, alkaline hydrolysis, or both.*

[(10) “Crematory authority” has the same meaning as “permit holder”.]

(10) *“Crematory container” means a readily combustible, rigid container in which human remains are sent to the crematory and then placed in the cremator for cremation.*

(11) *“Crematory equipment” means either:*

(a) *A cremator; or*

(b) *A hydrolysis unit.*

(12) *“Decedent” means a dead human being.*

[(11)] (13)—[(12)] (14) (text unchanged)

[(13)] (15) *“Holding facility” means an area, within or adjacent to [the] a crematory, [establishment] designed for the retention of human remains before cremation or alkaline hydrolysis.*

[(14)] (16) *Human Remains.*

(a) *“Human remains” means [the]:*

(i) *The body of a deceased person[,]; or*

(ii) *A part of a body or limb that has been removed from a living person.*

(b) *“Human remains” includes the body or part of a body or limb in any state of decomposition.*

(17) *“Hydrolysis container” means a container, including a body bag, in which human remains are sent to the crematory for alkaline hydrolysis, but the human remains may be removed prior to the start of the process for alkaline hydrolysis.*

(18) *“Hydrolysis unit” means the watertight vessel in which the process of alkaline hydrolysis occurs.*

(19) *“Hydrolyzed human remains” means the recoverable bone fragments of a deceased person that result from the completion of alkaline hydrolysis.*

[(15)] (20) (text unchanged)

[(16)] (21) *“Permit” means a license issued by the Board to allow a person to operate a business which engages in the operation of a crematory or to act as a registered crematory operator.*

[(17)] (22) *“Permit holder” means the holder of a permit issued under Health Occupations Article, Title 7, Annotated Code of Maryland, to operate a crematory or to act as a registered crematory operator.*

[(18)] (23) (text unchanged)

[(19)] (24) *“Processed human remains” means the end result of pulverization[, where the residue from the cremation process is pulverized leaving only bone fragments reduced to 5 millimeters or less].*

(25) “Pulverization” means the process following cremation or alkaline hydrolysis of crushing, grinding, or milling human skeletal remains into fine particles or powder, leaving bone fragments reduced to 5 millimeters or less.

[(20)] (26) (text unchanged)

(27) “Responsible party” means a sole proprietor or the individual designated by a corporation, limited liability company, or partnership, which holds a permit to engage in the operation of a crematory, to be responsible for the operations of the crematory.

[(21)] (28) “Sealable container” means a container in which [cremated] *processed* human remains can be placed and sealed so as to prevent leakage of the *processed human remains* or the [entrance] *entry* of any foreign [materials] *material*.

10.29.17 Crematories — Permit, Licensing, and Fees

Authority: *Business Regulation Article, §§5-101, 5-204, and 5-303; Health Occupations Article, §§1-213, 7-101, 7-102, 7-205, 7-314—7-316, and 7-319, Annotated Code of Maryland*

.02 Permit — Issuing Agency.

A. (text unchanged)

B. A permit issued by the Office shall specify whether the crematory is authorized to offer and perform either cremation services, alkaline hydrolysis services, or both.

[B.] C. (text unchanged)

[C.] D. Before obtaining a permit from the Board, a crematory may cremate *or hydrolyze* the human remains of one decedent provided the:

(1) Cremation *or hydrolysis* is only performed as part of the manufacturer’s operator training course for the cremation machinery *or the hydrolysis unit* in which the cremation *or hydrolysis* takes place; and

(2) The person or persons with the right to final disposition of the decedent are notified and have given permission before the cremation *or the alkaline hydrolysis occurs*.

.03 Permit — Requirements for Permit.

A. (text unchanged)

B. A person shall:

(1) (text unchanged)

(2) Pay the [nonrefundable] *non-refundable* application fee and any other applicable fees set forth in [Regulation

.09] *Regulation .08* of this chapter;

(3) Be of good moral character[,] if the applicant is an individual;

(4)—(6) (text unchanged)

C.—D. (text unchanged)

.04 Requirements for Registration of a Registered Crematory Operator.

A. An individual may be registered by the Board as a [registered] crematory operator if the individual meets the requirements of this regulation.

B. The permit issued by the Board shall specify whether the individual’s training and registration required by this chapter permits the individual to operate a cremator, an alkaline hydrolysis unit, or both.

[B.] C. An individual shall:

(1) (text unchanged)

(2) Pay the [nonrefundable] *non-refundable* fee and any other applicable fee set forth in [Regulation .09] *Regulation .08* of this chapter;

(3)—(4) (text unchanged)

(5) Achieve certification as a crematory operator by the:

(a) Cremation Association of North America (CANA)[,];

(b) International Cemetery, Cremation, and Funeral Association (ICCFA)[,]; or

(c) [other] *Other* equivalent certification recognized jointly by the Board and the Office; and

(6) In the crematory with which the applicant is affiliated:

(a) Successfully complete the operator training course of the manufacturer of the cremator *or the alkaline hydrolysis unit located in the crematory with which the applicant is affiliated*; or

(b) Provide a notarized letter by the supervising crematory operator for which the individual is employed indicating the completion of training on the cremator *or the alkaline hydrolysis unit*]; and]

[(7) Provide evidence to the Board of the individual’s ability to read and write.]

[C.] D. To qualify as a trainer, the supervising crematory operator shall have a minimum of 3 [years] *years’* experience on the associated cremator *or alkaline hydrolysis unit*.

.06 Renewals.

A. Before the expiration date of the permit or registration, a permit holder or a registered crematory operator shall:

(1) [complete] *Complete* and return the renewal form[,];

(2) [pay] *Pay* the [nonrefundable] *non-refundable* renewal fee set forth in *Regulation .08 of this chapter* [,]; and

(3) [submit] *Submit* any required documentation to the Board.

B. A person who has a permit or registration as a permit holder or a registered crematory operator may renew the permit or registration every 2 years, beginning on a date specified by the Board, in the following manner:

- (1) (text unchanged)
- (2) Pay the [nonrefundable] *non-refundable* renewal fee set forth in [Regulation .09] *Regulation .08* of this chapter;
- (3)—(4) (text unchanged)

C.—D. (text unchanged)

E. If a permit holder or a registered crematory operator applies for renewal past the expiration date of the permit or registration, the individual shall pay the renewal fee plus the late renewal fee set forth in Regulation .08 of this chapter.

.07 Lapsed Permit.

A person who has been issued a permit and who has allowed the permit to lapse for at least 6 months may apply for a permit by doing the following:

- A. (text unchanged)
- B. Paying the permit fee and the late renewal fee set forth in [Regulation .09] *Regulation .08* of this chapter;
- C.—F. (text unchanged)

10.29.18 Crematories — [Inspections,] Complaints[, Investigations, Grounds for Discipline, and Penalties] and Disciplinary Procedures

Authority: *Health-General Article, §§5-502—5-504, 5-508, and 5-511—5-514; Health Occupations Article, §§7-101, 7-102, 7-205, 7-316, 7-317, 7-319, and 7-406, Annotated Code of Maryland*

.02 Inspection by the Board.

A.—B. (text unchanged)

C. The permit holder or any person responsible for day-to-day operation of the cremation machinery or *the alkaline hydrolysis unit* shall be available to accompany the inspector during the inspection and sign the initial inspection report.

D. A copy of the inspection report shall be provided to the permit holder or *the* registered crematory operator responsible for the day-to-day operation of the crematory.

[D.] E. A crematory shall maintain the following minimum standards:

- (1) (text unchanged)
- (2) Except by express written consent of the authorizing [agent] *agents to perform simultaneous, multiple cremations or alkaline hydrolyses*, there may not be more than one human body cremated or *hydrolyzed* simultaneously in a single cremator or *alkaline hydrolysis unit at a time*;
- (3) A cremator or an *alkaline hydrolysis unit* shall be completely cleaned after each cremation or *alkaline hydrolysis*;
- (4) There may not be co-mingling of human remains and pet remains in:
 - (a) [refrigeration] *Refrigeration* units [or cremation machinery];
 - (b) *Cremators; or*
 - (c) *Alkaline hydrolysis units*;
- (5) Separate cremators or *alkaline hydrolysis units* shall be dedicated for the cremation or *alkaline hydrolysis* of human remains and the cremation or *alkaline hydrolysis* of pets;
- (6) [There] *Except as provided in §E(2) of this regulation, there* may not be:
 - (a) Co-mingling of [cremated] *processed* human remains with other *processed* human *remains* or pet [cremated] *remains*;
 - (b) Scooping of [cremated] *processed* human remains from a bucket containing co-mingled [cremated] *processed* human *remains*; or
 - (c) Any form of misrepresentation in the return of [cremated] *processed* human *remains*;
- (7) Excluding a deceased person with a known communicable infection, human remains shall be properly identified before cremation or *alkaline hydrolysis* by verifying that the documentation accompanying the human remains is consistent with a visual observation of the human remains;
- (8) (text unchanged)
- (9) Each crematory shall have:
 - (a) A sink with hot and cold water within the [room] *work area* housing the [cremator] *crematory equipment*; and
 - (b) The [equipment] *tools* necessary to thoroughly clean the floor within the [room] *work area* housing the [cremator] *crematory equipment* with water and an appropriate sanitizing agent;
- (10) The name of the deceased shall be visible on the outside of the [cremation] *crematory* container;
- (11) Human remains shall be properly stored before cremation or *alkaline hydrolysis*;
- (12) Crematories shall:
 - (a) (text unchanged)
 - (b) Pulverize the [cremated] *processed* human remains with a mortar and pestle if the [cremated] *processed* human *remains* are not sufficient in amount for pulverizing in mechanical equipment;
- (13) Separate pulverizing drums shall be dedicated for [cremated] *processed* human remains and [cremated] *processed* pet *remains*;
- (14) [Cremated] *Processed* human remains may not be held pending payment of any fees;
- (15) (text unchanged)

(16) Portable fans may not be used in the area of the cremator [and pulverizer;]:

- (a) *Cremator*;
- (b) *Alkaline hydrolysis unit*; or
- (c) *Pulverizer*;

(17)—(19) (text unchanged)

(20) The permit holder or registered crematory operator shall be present at the crematory during [regular business hours;] *the operation of the*:

- (a) *Cremator*;
- (b) *Alkaline hydrolysis unit*; or
- (c) *Pulverizer*; and

(21) All individuals:

(a) [who] *Who* operate the cremator *or the alkaline hydrolysis unit* in a crematory shall be certified by the Cremation Association of North America (CANA), International Cemetery, Cremation, and Funeral Association (ICCF), or other equivalent certification recognized jointly by the Board and the Office[.]; *and*

(b) [Individuals receiving] *Receiving* training toward certification to operate a cremator *or an alkaline hydrolysis unit* shall be allowed to work under the supervision of a registered crematory operator who has the required certification for a period [not to exceed] *of at least 6 months*.

[E.] *F.* The following completed forms from previous cremations *or alkaline hydrolysis* shall be available at all times for inspection and copying and are subject to be pulled at random by the inspector:

- (1) [Cremation] *Crematory services* authorization form;
- (2)—(4) (text unchanged)
- (5) Record of cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis*;
- (6) Certificate of cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis*; and
- (7) Return of [cremated] *processed* human remains certificate.

[F.] *G.*—[H.] *I.* (text unchanged)

[I.] *J.* At the time of the Board inspection, the permit holder shall provide written documentation to the Board's inspector that:

- (1) The [cremator] *crematory equipment* has been inspected in accordance with manufacturer specifications;
- (2) (text unchanged)
- (3) The permit holder has requested that the manufacturer conduct an inspection of the [cremator] *crematory equipment*.

.03 Crematory Inspection Report, Deficiencies, and Penalties.

A. (text unchanged)

B. The Board shall notify the permit holder of the results of the inspection by providing a copy of the inspection report [to] *for* the permit holder.

C.—D. (text unchanged)

E. Correction of Deficiency.

- (1)—(5) (text unchanged)
- (6) Upon notification [by] *from* the permit holder, a representative of the Board shall re-inspect the crematory.
- (7)—(8) (text unchanged)

F. (text unchanged)

.06 Grounds for Discipline, Hearing, and Penalties.

A. Pursuant to the provisions of Health Occupations Article, §§7-316 and 7-319, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Board may:

- [(1) Deny a crematory permit or crematory operator registration to an applicant;
- (2) Reprimand any permit holder or registered crematory operator; or
- (3) Suspend or revoke a crematory permit or crematory operator registration.]

(1) *Deny an applicant*:

- (a) *A crematory permit*; or
- (b) *A crematory operator registration*;

(2) *Reprimand any*:

- (a) *Permit holder*; or
- (b) *Registered crematory operator*; or

(3) *Suspend or revoke*:

- (a) *A crematory permit*; or
- (b) *A crematory operator registration*.

B. (text unchanged)

10.29.19 Crematories — [Cremation] Crematory Procedures

Authority: *Health-General Article, §§5-502—5-504, 5-508, and 5-511—5-514; Health Occupations Article, §§7-101, 7-102, and 7-205, Annotated Code of Maryland*

.01 Scope.

This chapter governs the procedures to be followed in performing a cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis* in this State.

.02 Removal, Identification, and Transportation of Human Remains.

A. Upon receipt of human remains, a permit holder in the presence of the authorizing agent or representative of the funeral establishment engaging crematory services shall:

(1)—(3) (text unchanged)

(4) [Remove] *Ensure the removal* and properly dispose of any hazardous object or any other materials that the individual authorized under this subtitle deems should be removed from the human remains, [or cremation] *the crematory container, or the hydrolysis container*, in order to prevent harm to the public health or damage to the cremator *or alkaline hydrolysis unit*;

(5) Remove any jewelry:

(a) [on] *On* the human remains;

(b) [or in] *In* the [cremation] *crematory container; or*

(c) *In the hydrolysis container;*

(6)—(7) (text unchanged)

B.—C. (text unchanged)

D. A permit holder may not accept [for cremation] unidentified human remains *for cremation or alkaline hydrolysis*.

.03 [Cremation] Crematory and Hydrolysis Containers.

A. A [cremation] *crematory container*:

[A.] (1)—[G.] (7) (text unchanged)

[H.] (8) [If it] *Which* appears to be heavily coated with varnish, lacquer, or any other highly combustible substance, shall be:

[(1)] (a)—[(2)] (b) (text unchanged)

B. An *alkaline hydrolysis container*:

(1) *Shall consist of a completely enclosed covering for the human remains;*

(2) *Shall be resistant to leakage or spillage;*

(3) *Shall provide protection to the health and safety of the crematory establishment personnel and the public;*

(4) *Shall comply with all local, State, and federal emissions regulations; and*

(5) *Once inside the alkaline hydrolysis unit, may be removed prior to the start of the alkaline hydrolysis process as long as the human remains are covered to protect the dignity of the decedent.*

.05 Holding Remains.

A. *Unless prevented by emergency circumstances*, [Human] *human* remains that have been designated for cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis* shall be cremated *or hydrolyzed* by a permit holder within 48 hours after receipt.

B. A permit holder may not hold human remains for cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis* unless the human remains are contained within an individual, [rigid, stackable,] closed cremation *or hydrolysis* container *as required under Regulation .03 of this chapter*.

C. A permit holder may not accept a cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis* container from which there is any evidence of leakage of the body fluids from the human remains therein.

D. Whenever a *permit holder is unable to cremate or hydrolyze* human remains [are unable to be cremated] within 48 hours of taking custody thereof *due to emergency circumstances*, the permit holder shall maintain the human remains in a refrigerated holding facility, either on or off site, at 40°F or less, unless the remains have been embalmed.

.06 Identification of Human Remains Immediately Before Cremation or Alkaline Hydrolysis]; Simultaneous Cremation of Multiple Human Remains].

A. Immediately before being placed within the [cremation chamber] *cremator or the alkaline hydrolysis unit*, the individual authorized under this subtitle shall:

(1) (text unchanged)

(2) Place in *or on* the cremator *or the alkaline hydrolysis unit* the [circular] hard metal *or plastic* identification [tag] *disc* of the human remains being [cremated] *processed* where it shall remain in place until the cremation *or the alkaline hydrolysis* process is complete.

B. The permit holder's designee may not leave the:

(1) [immediate] *Immediate* area of the cremator during the cremation process[.]; *or*

(2) *Facility for the alkaline hydrolysis unit during the alkaline hydrolysis process.*

C. *The alkaline hydrolysis unit shall be monitored at all times during the alkaline hydrolysis process.*

[C.] D. (text unchanged)

.07 [Cremation] Crematory Services Authorization.

A. Except as otherwise provided in COMAR 10.29.18.02, a permit holder may not cremate *or hydrolyze* human remains until:

(1) (text unchanged)

(2) The permit holder crematory has received:

(a) A [cremation] *crematory services* authorization on a form approved by the Board and signed by an authorizing agent;

(b)—(c) (text unchanged)

(3) The permit holder has documented that at least 12 hours have elapsed from the time of death of the individual whose remains are to be [cremated] *processed*.

B. The [cremation] *crematory services* authorization form shall:

- (1) (text unchanged)
 - (2) Contain the following information:
 - (a) The identity of the [human remains] *decedent*;
 - (b)—(c) (text unchanged)
 - (d) Authorization for the permit holder to cremate *or hydrolyze* the human remains;
 - (e) *An indication of whether the decedent is:*
 - (i) *A veteran, as defined in State Government Article, § 9-901, Annotated Code of Maryland; or*
 - (ii) *An eligible dependent of a veteran, as defined in Business Regulation Article, §5-803, Annotated Code of Maryland;*
 - [(e)] (f) Authorization to verify that the following have been removed before cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis*:
 - (i)—(ii) (text unchanged)
 - [(f)] (g) A representation by the authorizing agent that radiologic implant treatment has not occurred within 5 days before cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis*;
 - [(g)] (h) A representation that the authorizing agent is aware of no objection to the human remains being [cremated] *processed* by any person who has a right to control the disposition of the human remains;
 - [(h)] (i) The name and address of the person authorized to claim the [cremated] *processed* human remains from the permit holder or to accept the [cremated] *processed* remains via [the current mailing standard approved by the U.S. Postal Service] *registered mail*; and
 - [(i)] (j) (text unchanged)
 - (3) (text unchanged)
- C. If an authorizing agent is not readily available to execute the [cremation] *crematory services* authorization form, the authorizing agent may transmit the document in writing with notary seal electronically:
- (1)—(2) (text unchanged)
- D. (text unchanged)
- E. A person signing a [cremation] *crematory services* authorization form is deemed to warrant the truthfulness of any facts set forth in the [cremation] *crematory services* authorization form, including the identity of the deceased whose remains are sought to be [cremated] *processed* and the authority of that person to order such a cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis*.
- F. A permit holder shall notify and obtain written consent of the authorizing agent before the cremation *or the alkaline hydrolysis* of human remains at a location other than the location named on the [cremation] *crematory services* authorization form.
- G. A permit holder shall maintain a copy of every [cremation] *crematory services* authorization form required under this regulation as permanent records.
- H. [Cremation] *Crematory services* authorization records are subject to inspection and copying by the Board.

.08 Record of Receipt of Remains.

- A. A permit holder shall provide to an individual who delivers human remains for cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis* a receipt signed by both the permit holder authority and the individual who delivered the human remains, that includes the:
- (1) (text unchanged)
 - (2) Name and address of the crematory [authority];
 - (3) (text unchanged)
 - (4) Gender of *the* deceased;
 - (5) Date of death of *the* deceased; and
 - (6) Verification of *the* authorized burial transit permit.
- B. The permit holder shall maintain a record of each cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis*, which shall include the:
- (1)—(2) (text unchanged)
 - (3) Gender of *the* decedent;
 - (4)—(5) (text unchanged)
 - (6) Date, time, and location of cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis*; and
 - (7) Name of the individual who performed the cremation *or the alkaline hydrolysis*.
- C. The permit holder shall provide a certificate of disposition of [cremated] *processed* human remains to the authorizing agent or funeral establishment that arranged for the cremation *or the alkaline hydrolysis* that includes the:
- (1)—(2) (text unchanged)
 - (3) Name and address of the person who received the [cremated] *processed* human remains from the [crematory authority] *permit holder*; and
 - (4) If ascertainable:
 - (a) (text unchanged)
 - (b) The manner and date of the disposition of the [cremated] *processed* human remains.
- D.—E. (text unchanged)

.10 Disposition of [Cremated] Processed Human Remains.

- A. On completion of the cremation *or the alkaline hydrolysis*, insofar as is possible:
- (1) All of the recoverable residue of the cremation *or the alkaline hydrolysis* process shall be:
 - (a) Removed from the cremator *or the alkaline hydrolysis unit*;
 - (b) Except for medical devices remaining after cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis*, [processed] *pulverized*; and
 - (c) Placed in a *sealable* container; and

(2) The identification disc required by Health Occupations Article, §7-411, Annotated Code of Maryland, shall be:

- (a) Removed from the cremator *or the alkaline hydrolysis unit*; and
- (b) Placed in the *sealable* container with the [cremated] *processed* human remains.

B. Medical devices which remain after the completion of the cremation *or the alkaline hydrolysis* process shall be treated as medical waste and disposed of accordingly.

C. (text unchanged)

D. If the [cremation] *sealable* container opening is not of adequate dimensions to accommodate a disc, it shall be affixed to the *exterior of the sealable* container and a record of the cremation number shall be placed in the *sealable* container.

E.—G. (text unchanged)

H. If processed human remains have been in the possession of a permit holder, as originally authorized by the authorizing agent without instructions for disposition for a period of 10 days or more from the date of cremation *or alkaline hydrolysis*, the permit holder may send the [cremated] *processed* human remains, using the current mailing standard approved by the U.S. Postal Service, return receipt requested, to the authorizing agent.

I. *Veteran and Eligible Dependent Decedents.*

(1) *Unless the authorizing agent directs otherwise, if a permit holder in possession of processed remains of a decedent veteran or a decedent eligible dependent, the permit holder shall provide the decedent's identifying information to a veterans service organization, as defined in Business Regulation Article, §5-803, Annotated Code of Maryland.*

(2) *The veterans service organization will notify the permit holder whether the decedent is a veteran or an eligible dependent eligible for burial in a veterans cemetery.*

(3) *If the unclaimed processed remains are those of a veteran or an eligible dependent, the permit holder may transfer the processed remains to a veterans service organization for the purpose of disposition of the processed remains.*

(4) *If a veterans service organization does not take possession of unclaimed processed remains that qualify for a plot in a State veterans cemetery under State Government Article, §9-906, Annotated Code of Maryland, within 10 days after the permit holder receives the notification required in this regulation, the permit holder shall:*

(a) *Notify the Department of Veterans and Military Families of the status of the processed remains for the purpose of the appropriate disposition of the processed remains; and*

(b) *Transfer the processed remains to the Department of Veterans and Military Families for the purpose of the appropriate disposition of the processed remains.*

.11 Tools.

A. A crematory offering cremation shall maintain, at its own expense, the following tool inventory:

[A.] (1) —[E.] (5) (text unchanged)

[F.] (6) High temperature protective gloves and [heat resistant] *heat-resistant* leather gloves;

[G.] (7)—[H.] (8) (text unchanged)

[I.] (9) [Dust masks] *National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health certified N95 filtering facepiece respirators.*

B. A crematory offering alkaline hydrolysis shall maintain, at its own expense, the following tool inventory:

(1) *Suitable tools for cleaning the alkaline hydrolysis unit;*

(2) *Brush with fine bristles for cleaning pulverizers;*

(3) *Mortar and pestle;*

(4) *Funnel;*

(5) *Hand magnet and metal detector wand to detect and remove metal from hydrolyzed human remains;*

(6) *Tweezers to remove nonmetal objects from hydrolyzed human remains;*

(7) *National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health certified N95 filtering facepiece respirators; and*

(8) *An emergency shower and eyewash combination unit meeting the criteria established under the American National Standards Institute and the International Safety Equipment Association Z358.1-2014 (R2020) or its successor.*

.12 Visitors.

A. The permit holder or *the* designated crematory operator shall:

(1) Submit to the Board the number of persons not affiliated with the operations of the crematory who can safely be within the same room and within 10 feet of the cremator door *or the alkaline hydrolysis unit*; and

(2) (text unchanged)

B. (text unchanged)

C. *Crematories providing alkaline hydrolysis shall construct a viewing room in the area of the alkaline hydrolysis unit if the crematory intends to have more than two visitors present in the area of the alkaline hydrolysis unit during the alkaline hydrolysis.*

10.29.20 Crematories — Code of Ethics

Authority: Health Occupations Article, §7-101, Annotated Code of Maryland

.02 General Professional Practices.

A.—B. (text unchanged)

C. A permit holder or a crematory operator may not:

(1) (text unchanged)

(2) Operate a crematory, or perform a cremation[,] or *alkaline hydrolysis* while under the influence of alcohol, an illegal drug, or a controlled dangerous substance, without the prescription of a physician.

10.29.22 General Regulations

Authority: Health-General Article, §5-513; Health Occupations Article, §7-205, Annotated Code of Maryland

.01 Temperature of Refrigeration Units.

A refrigeration unit used in the storage of human remains shall be kept at a temperature lower than [44] 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

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