

## **Cancellation Due to Death—Official Death Certificates**

Election Clearinghouse Notice

Issue #22-07

October 21, 2022

This Clearinghouse is issued to reflect a recent interpretation of state law.

Under [RCW 29A.08.510](#) and [WAC 434-324-090](#), County Auditors are authorized to cancel voter registrations due to death when verified by one of the following:

- Vital Statistics records.
- Records from other government agencies. This includes federal agencies and agencies in other states.
- Obituaries.
- Signed statements from registered voters.

Official death certificates are issued by government agencies. A copy of an official death certificate received in person, by mail, or via email may be used to cancel a voter registration. A signed statement from a registered voter is not required if a copy of the certificate is provided.

Documents used to cancel voter registrations must be retained according to the [County Auditor Records Retention Schedule](#) issued by the Washington State Archives.