

261.035 FUNERALS AT EXPENSE OF COUNTY.

When a person dies in any county without apparent means to provide for that person's funeral or final disposition, the county board shall first investigate to determine whether that person had contracted for any prepaid funeral arrangements. If arrangements have been made, the county shall authorize arrangements to be implemented in accord with the instructions of the deceased. If it is determined that the person did not leave sufficient means to defray the necessary expenses of a funeral and final disposition, nor any spouse of sufficient ability to procure the burial, the county board shall provide for a funeral and final disposition of the person's remains to be made at the expense of the county. Any funeral and final disposition provided at the expense of the county shall be in accordance with religious and moral beliefs of the decedent or the decedent's spouse or the decedent's next of kin. If the wishes of the decedent are not known and the county has no information about the existence of or location of any next of kin, the county may determine the method of final disposition.

History: (3176) *RL s 1503; 1984 c 534 s 28; 1986 c 444; 1991 c 292 art 3 s 32; 1992 c 513 art 8 s 50*