

# DECLARATION FOR DISPOSITION OF CREMATED REMAINS

I/We hereby declare (my remains) or (the remains of) \_\_\_\_\_ in  
the possession of \_\_\_\_\_, will be cremated by \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Person Arrangements are for  
Name of Funeral Establishment and Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_ and shall be disposed of in the  
following manner (Note 1): \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Crematory and Telephone Number  
Manner, Location and Other Details of Disposition

\_\_\_\_\_ Attach additional pages if necessary  
Name of person(s) with the legal right to control disposition (Note 2): \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Person(s) with legal right to control disposition or Self, if prearranging

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Person(s) with legal right to control disposition

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Person(s) with legal right to control disposition

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Person(s) with legal right to control disposition

Name of person(s) contracting for cremation services: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Person(s) contracting for cremation services

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Lic. # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Funeral Director, Employee, or Agent for Funeral Establishment If Funeral Director

Note 1: See Health & Safety Code Sections 7054, 7054.6, 7116, 7117 for legal dispositions of cremated remains.

Note 2: See Health & Safety Code Section 7100 for the list of person(s) with the legal right to control disposition of human remains.

**IMPORTANT: Business and Professions Code § 7685.2(b) requires Funeral Establishments to complete this form, provided by the Cemetery and Funeral Bureau, when making arrangements for cremation. Failure to complete this form may result in disciplinary action by the Bureau. This declaration does not replace the written authorization to cremate required by Health and Safety Code Sections 7110 and 7111.**

## NOTICE REGARDING CREMATED REMAINS

A person having the right to control disposition of cremated remains may remove the remains in a durable container from the place of cremation or interment, pursuant to Section 7054.6 of the Health and Safety Code.

If the cremated remains container cannot accommodate all cremated remains of the deceased, the crematory shall provide a larger cremated remains container at no additional cost, or place the excess in a second container that cannot easily come apart from the first, pursuant to Section 8345 of the Health and Safety Code.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTION 7100

7100. (a) The right to control the disposition of the remains of a deceased person, the location and conditions of interment, and arrangements for funeral goods and services to be provided, unless other directions have been given by the decedent pursuant to Section 7100.1, vests in, and the duty of disposition and the liability for the reasonable cost of disposition of the remains devolves upon, the following in the order named:

(1) An agent under a power of attorney for health care who has the right and duty of disposition under Division 4.7 (commencing with Section 4600) of the Probate Code, except that the agent is liable for the costs of disposition only in either of the following cases:

(A) Where the agent makes a specific agreement to pay the costs of disposition.

(B) Where, in the absence of a specific agreement, the agent makes decisions concerning disposition that incur costs, in which case the agent is liable only for the reasonable costs incurred as a result of the agent's decisions, to the extent that the decedent's estate or other appropriate fund is insufficient.

(2) The competent surviving spouse.

(3) The sole surviving competent adult child of the decedent, or if there is more than one competent adult child of the decedent, the majority of the surviving competent adult children. However, less than the majority of the surviving competent adult children shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section if they have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult children of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition to those instructions by the majority of all surviving competent adult children.

(4) The surviving competent parent or parents of the decedent. If one of the surviving competent parents is absent, the remaining competent parent shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section after reasonable efforts have been unsuccessful in locating the absent surviving competent parent.

(5) The sole surviving competent adult sibling of the decedent, or if there is more than one surviving competent adult sibling of the decedent, the majority of the surviving competent adult siblings. However, less than the majority of the surviving competent adult siblings shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section if they have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult siblings of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition to those instructions by the majority of all surviving competent adult siblings.

(6) The surviving competent adult person or persons respectively in the next degrees of kinship, or if there is more than one surviving competent adult person of the same degree of kinship, the majority of those persons. Less than the majority of surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kinship shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section if those persons have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kinship of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition to those instructions by the majority of all surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kinship.

(7) The public administrator when the deceased has sufficient assets.

(b) (1) If any person to whom the right of control has vested pursuant to subdivision (a) has been charged with first or second degree murder or voluntary manslaughter in connection with the decedent's death and those charges are known to the funeral director or cemetery authority, the right of control is relinquished and passed on to the next of kin in accordance with subdivision (a).

(2) If the charges against the person are dropped, or if the person is acquitted of the charges, the right of control is returned to the person.

(3) Notwithstanding this subdivision, no person who has been charged with first or second degree murder or voluntary manslaughter in connection with the decedent's death to whom the right of control has not been returned pursuant to paragraph (2) shall have any right to control disposition pursuant to subdivision (a) which shall be applied, to the extent the funeral director or cemetery authority know about the charges, as if that person did not exist.

(c) A funeral director or cemetery authority shall have complete authority to control the disposition of the remains, and to proceed under this chapter to recover usual and customary charges for the disposition, when both of the following apply:

(1) Either of the following applies:

(A) The funeral director or cemetery authority has knowledge that none of the persons described in paragraphs (1) to (6), inclusive, of subdivision (a) exists.

(B) None of the persons described in paragraphs (1) to (6), inclusive, of subdivision (a) can be found after reasonable inquiry, or contacted by reasonable means.

(2) The public administrator fails to assume responsibility for disposition of the remains within seven days after having been given written notice of the facts. Written notice may be delivered by hand, U.S. mail, facsimile transmission, or telegraph.

(d) The liability for the reasonable cost of final disposition devolves jointly and severally upon all kin of the decedent in the same degree of kinship and upon the estate of the decedent. However, if a person accepts the gift of an entire body under subdivision (a) of Section 7155.5, that person, subject to the terms of the gift, shall be liable for the reasonable cost of final disposition of the decedent.

(e) This section shall be administered and construed to the end that the expressed instructions of the decedent or the person entitled to control the disposition shall be faithfully and promptly performed.

(f) A funeral director or cemetery authority shall not be liable to any person or persons for carrying out the instructions of the decedent or the person entitled to control the disposition.

(g) For purposes of this section, "adult" means an individual who has attained 18 years of age, "child" means a natural or adopted child of the decedent, and "competent" means an individual who has not been declared incompetent by a court of law or who has been declared competent by a court of law following a declaration of incompetence.