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April 8, 2021

**DPHSS Guidance Memo 2021-11**

**Re: Minimum Requirements for Public Viewing of Decedents at Residences**

Outlined below are requirements for public viewing of decedents at residences so to minimize the potential for transmission of COVID-19. This DPHSS Guidance Memorandum is effective April 9, 2021 and is supplemented by all applicable requirements and restrictions set forth in the Governor's Executive Orders and DPHSS Guidance Memoranda, including DPHSS Guidance Memoranda 2020-30, 2020-33, and 2021-10.

**A. General Restrictions and Requirements**

1. Public viewing of decedents at residences is limited to no more than 50 persons within the household, including the members of the household, at any given time.
2. The head of household or assigned designee will ensure that attendees, in excess of 50 persons, will remain in their vehicles until called upon to pay their respects to the deceased.
3. Attendees who do not live in the same household must maintain a physical distance of at least 6 feet.
4. All attendees must wear face masks at all times, with exceptions provided only for those individuals who are exempt pursuant to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for face coverings for certain population and situations, including those with certain medical conditions, such as asthma and COPD (See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-cov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html#not-wear>).
5. Public viewing shall be limited to no more than four (4) hours.
6. Provide separate entrance and exit for attendees.
7. Discourage holding or shaking hands, hugging, or kissing.
8. Discourage the sharing of commonly used objects, such as religious aids and microphones.
9. Prepackaged meals in take-away boxes (to go boxes) may be provided to attendees only upon departure from the residence.
10. A written record is maintained by the head of household or designee for a period of 30 days, which provides the following information that must be readily available to DPHSS, when requested:
  - Name of attendee(s);
  - Date and time of the visit of each attendee; and
  - Contact number or email.

**B. Cleaning and Disinfection**

Prior to the start and the conclusion of the public viewing, the head of household and family members should thoroughly clean and disinfect the residence using disinfectant cleaning supplies according to CDC guidelines (See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>).

**C. Health and Hygiene**

1. Provide hand-washing stations (properly equipped with hand soap, water, and single-use paper towels) or hand sanitizers (containing at least 60% alcohol) for attendees to use upon entering and exiting the residence.
2. Provide and place disposable facial tissues within reach and bins for used tissues.
3. Practice extra precautions with high-touch areas that could be potential sources for contamination.
4. Put hand sanitizer next to the register book with a sign encouraging its use before signing.

**D. Prohibited Acts**

1. Mass or buffet feeding;
2. On-site consumption of prepackaged meals in take-away boxes (to go boxes); and
3. Congregational singing.

For further questions, please contact the Division of Environmental Health at 300-9579 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, excluding weekends and holidays, or email, [dphss-deh@dphss.guam.gov](mailto:dphss-deh@dphss.guam.gov).

  
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