

Coroners Regulations 1997

Compare between:

 $[04\ Jul\ 2016,\ 03\mbox{-}e0\mbox{-}04]$ and $[08\ Jul\ 2017,\ 03\mbox{-}f0\mbox{-}00]$

Western Australia

Coroners Act 1996

Coroners Regulations 1997

1. Citation

These regulations may be cited as the *Coroners Regulations* 1997¹.

2. Commencement

These regulations come into operation on the day on which the *Coroners Act 1996* comes into operation ¹.

3A. Terms used

In these regulations —

approved form means a form approved by the State Coroner; *eligible individual* means an individual referred to in regulation 23B(2);

eligible individual fee, in relation to a matter specified in an item in Schedule 3, means the fee, if any, shown in column B for that item;

fee, except in regulation 21, means a fee set out in Schedule 3.

[Regulation 3A inserted in Gazette 4 Sep 2009 p. 3491; amended in Gazette 14 Jun 2016 p. 1872.]

3. Pathologist

For the purposes of the Act a pathologist is a doctor with a qualification in pathology recognized by the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia.

4. State Coroner — form of oath of office

The oath or affirmation of office for the State Coroner referred to in section 9 of the Act is to be in the form of Form 1 or 2.

5. Restriction on delegation

The State Coroner is not to delegate the power to conduct an inquest to a coroner's registrar.

[Regulation 5 amended in Gazette 11 Mar 2008 p. 816.]

6. Form of record of investigation into a death

A record of investigation into a death to be kept under section 26(1) of the Act is to be in the form of Form 3.

7. Form of certificate of disposal of body

A certificate permitting burial, cremation or other disposal to be issued under section 29(1) of the Act is to be in the form of Form 4.

8. Request that post mortem be performed

A request to a coroner under section 36(1) of the Act to direct that a post mortem be performed on a body is to be made in writing and is to specify the reason why the post mortem is sought.

9. Direction to perform post mortem

Before giving a direction to a pathologist or doctor to perform a post mortem on a body under section 34(1) of the Act, the coroner is to take into account all of the medical information

then available concerning the last illness of the deceased person, if it appears that the illness may be relevant to the death.

10. Form of order for exhumation

An order by the State Coroner under section 38(1) of the Act that a body be exhumed, is to be in the form of Form 5.

11. Request not to exhume

A request under section 38(3) of the Act to the State Coroner asking that a body not be exhumed is to be made in writing and is to specify reasons why the body should not be exhumed.

12. Form of notice of restriction of access to area

A notice under section 32(4) of the Act is to be in the form of Form 6.

13. Form of agreement of coroner to restricted access to area

Agreement by a coroner under section 32(2) of the Act to a restriction imposed by a coroner's investigator is to be in the form of Form 7.

14. Form of authorisation, form of undertaking and requests for release of things

- (1) An authorisation to a coroner's investigator under section 33(3) of the Act is to be in the form of Form 8.
- (2) A request to a coroner to release any thing under section 33(5) of the Act is to be in writing and is to specify reasons why the release of the thing is sought.
- (3) An undertaking given under section 33(5) of the Act is to be in the form of Form 9.

15. Request for an inquest into a death

A request under section 24 of the Act to a coroner to hold an inquest into a death is to be made in writing and is to specify the reason why the inquest is sought.

16. Form of summons and warrant, and service of summons

- (1) A summons issued under section 46(1) of the Act requiring a person to attend as a witness or to produce any document or other material is to be in the form of Form 10.
- (2) A summons under section 46(1) of the Act is to be
 - (a) served personally; or
 - (b) left at the person's usual or last known place of abode with a person who is, or appears to be, over the age of 16 years.
- (3) A warrant of apprehension issued under section 46(4) of the Act is to be in the form of Form 11.

17. Interested persons for the purposes of section 44(3)

The following persons are interested persons for the purposes of section 44(3) of the Act —

- (a) a spouse, de facto partner, child, parent or other personal representative of the deceased person;
- (b) any of the deceased person's next of kin under section 37(5) of the Act;
- (c) a beneficiary under a policy of insurance issued on the life of the deceased person;
- (d) an insurer who issued such a policy of insurance;
- (e) a person whose act or omission, or the act or omission of an agent or servant of that person, may in the opinion of the coroner have caused, or contributed to, the death of the deceased person;

- (f) a person appointed by an organization of employees to which the deceased person belonged at the time of death, if the death of the deceased person may have been caused by an injury received in the course of employment or by an industrial disease;
- (g) the Commissioner of Police appointed under the *Police Act* 1892.

[Regulation 17 amended in Gazette 30 Jun 2003 p. 2600.]

18. Form of order of exclusion from an inquest

- (1) An order made under section 45(1) of the Act excluding persons from an inquest is to be in the form of Form 12.
- (2) Where a coroner makes an order under section 45(1) of the Act he or she is to notify the State Coroner that the order has been made.

19. Access to records

- (1) Before the completion of an investigation into a death, a coroner may direct that part or all of the record of the investigation of the death be made available to such persons or class of persons as the coroner directs.
- (2) After the completion of an inquest into a death the coroner's record of the investigation of the death is to be open to public access unless the coroner orders otherwise.

20. Form of oath or affirmation for witness

The oath or affirmation to be administered to witnesses at an inquest is to be in the form of Form 13 or 14.

21. Fees for post mortem services

(1) The fee to be paid to a doctor who carries out a service referred to in an item of Schedule 2 is as set out opposite the relevant item in that schedule.

(2) A doctor is not entitled to a fee set out in Schedule 2 if the doctor is in receipt of a salary from the State or is entitled to any other payment in respect of the service set out opposite the fee, unless the State Coroner agrees otherwise.

[Regulation 21 amended in Gazette 4 Sep 2009 p. 3491.]

22. Other fees

- (1) The fees set out in Schedule 3 are payable in respect of the matters specified in that Schedule.
- (2) In relation to a matter specified in an item in Schedule 3
 - (a) the fee payable by an individual who is not an eligible individual is the fee shown in column A for that item; or
 - (b) the fee payable by an eligible individual is the eligible individual fee for that item.

[Regulation 22 inserted in Gazette 14 Jun 2016 p. 1872.]

23A. Fee exemptions

A person is not required to pay a fee in respect of a matter if —

- (a) a written law provides that the person is not required to pay a fee in respect of a matter of that type; or
- (b) the person has not reached 18 years of age on the day the fee would otherwise be payable.

[Regulation 23A inserted in Gazette 14 Jun 2016 p. 1873.]

23B. Who is an eligible individual

(1) In this regulation —

Centrelink means the Commonwealth agency known as Centrelink.

- (2) An eligible individual is
 - (a) an individual who holds one or more of the following cards issued by Centrelink
 - (i) a health care card;

- (ii) a health benefit card;
- (iii) a pensioner concession card;
- (iv) a Commonwealth seniors health card;

or

- (b) an individual who holds any other card issued by
 Centrelink or the Department of Veterans' Affairs of the
 Commonwealth that certifies entitlement to
 Commonwealth health concessions; or
- (c) an individual who is in receipt of a youth training allowance, or an AUSTUDY allowance, as defined in the *Social Security Act 1991* (Commonwealth) section 23(1); or
- (d) an individual who is in receipt of benefits under the Commonwealth student assistance scheme known as the ABSTUDY Scheme; or
- (e) an individual who has been granted legal aid under the *Legal Aid Commission Act 1976* or a legal aid scheme or service established under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law in respect of the proceedings in relation to which a fee would otherwise be payable; or
- (f) an individual who a coroner or a coroner's registrar has directed is an eligible individual under regulation 23D(1)(b).

[Regulation 23B inserted in Gazette 14 Jun 2016 p. 1873-4.]

23C. Application to be recognised as eligible individual

- (1) A person may apply for a direction under regulation 23D(1) that the person is an eligible individual in respect of a matter specified in Schedule 3.
- (2) An application is to be in the approved form and is to specify the matter in respect of which the individual is seeking to pay the eligible individual fee.

(3) Despite anything else in these regulations, a fee is not to be charged in respect of an application under subregulation (1). [Regulation 23C inserted in Gazette 14 Jun 2016 p. 1874.]

23D. Recognition as eligible individual

- (1) A coroner or a coroner's registrar may, on an application under regulation 23C(1)
 - (a) direct that a person is an eligible individual described in regulation 23B(2)(a) to (e) in respect of the matter if satisfied that the person meets one or more of the requirements set out in those paragraphs; or
 - (b) direct that a person is an eligible individual described in regulation 23B(2)(f) if satisfied that the person should be required to pay only an eligible individual fee in respect of the matter for either, or both, of the following reasons
 - (i) financial hardship;
 - (ii) the interests of justice.
- (2) A coroner or a coroner's registrar may, before an application is determined, direct the applicant to provide to the coroner or the registrar further information relating to the application.
- (3) A direction to provide further information
 - (a) may be made in writing or orally; and
 - (b) may require that the information is provided either in writing or orally.

[Regulation 23D inserted in Gazette 14 Jun 2016 p. 1874-5.]

23E. False or misleading statements

(1) A person who makes a statement or representation in an application made under these regulations, or provides further information in relation to an application, that the person knows or has reason to believe is false or misleading in a material particular commits an offence.

- Penalty for this subregulation: a fine of \$1 000.
- (2) A coroner or a coroner's registrar may revoke a direction made under regulation 23D(1) if satisfied, having given the person an opportunity to make a written submission, that the person has contravened subregulation (1).
- (3) If a direction is revoked under subregulation (2), the coroner or coroner's registrar may
 - (a) order that the person in respect of whom the direction was made pay the difference between the fee the person paid and the fee that would otherwise have been payable by the person; and
 - (b) make an order to enforce the order for the payment.
- (4) An order under subregulation (3)(b) may include orders relating to the future conduct of the matter to which the fees relate or the effect of anything that has been done in respect of the matter until the sum ordered to be paid has been paid.

[Regulation 23E inserted in Gazette 14 Jun 2016 p. 1875-6.]

23. Refunds

- (1) A coroner or a coroner's registrar presiding in a proceeding may order the refund of the difference between the amount of a fee paid by a person in respect of the proceeding and the amount of the fee that the person was entitled to be charged under these regulations in respect of the proceedings.
- (2) A coroner's registrar may direct the refund to a person of the amount of a fee, or part of a fee, paid by the person if the amount was paid in error.

[Regulation 23 inserted in Gazette 14 Jun 2016 p. 1876.]

23A. Waiving fee for copy of document or transcript

The Court or a registrar may waive a fee referred to in Schedule 3 item 1 or 4 if the Court or registrar is satisfied that

the waiving of the fee would assist in the efficient operation of the Court.

[Regulation 23A inserted in Gazette 14 Jun 2016 p. 1876.]

24. Resolution of disputes as to fees

- (1) If a question arises as to the fee payable or applicable in a particular case, the question is to be determined by the State Coroner.
- (2) An application for a determination under subregulation (1) is to be in an approved form.

[Regulation 24 inserted in Gazette 4 Sep 2009 p. 3492.]

25. Recovery of unpaid fees

Any unpaid fee is a debt due to the State and may be recovered by action in a court of competent jurisdiction.

[Regulation 25 inserted in Gazette 4 Sep 2009 p. 3492.]

Schedule 1 — Forms

Form 1

[Reg. 4]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 9)

OATH FOR STATE CORONER

So help me God!

[Form 1 amended in Gazette 19 Apr 2005 p. 1295.]

[Reg. 4]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 9)

AFFIRMATION FOR STATE CORONER

[Form 2 amended in Gazette 19 Apr 2005 p. 1295.]

[Reg. 6]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 26(1))

RECORD OF INVESTIGATION INTO DEATH

I,, Coroner, having investigated:

Ref. No.

The death of
*Without holding an inquest.
*With an inquest held at
on
*Find that —
*The identity of the deceased person was and that death
occurred on / / at
from (state cause of death) in the following circumstances:
ments:
Coroner.
* Delete those not required.
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[Reg. 7]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 29(1))

CERTIFICATE PERMITTING BURIAL, CREMATION OR OTHER DISPOSAL

I,		, Co	oroner, PERMIT
*Burial.			
*Cremation.			
*Other disposal, namely		of the b	ody of
Dated at	. the	day of	20
			Coroner.

^{*} Delete those not required.

[Reg. 10]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 38(1))

ORDER FOR EXHUMATION OF BODY

Ref. No.

_	_	
П	Γ.	

10.				
			Po	ostcode:
Information about the decea	sed perso	n		
Name of				
Information about the death				
When Where	Time	Day	Month	Year
Information about the burial	of the bo	ody		
When Where	Day	Month		Year ostcode
Information about the making	ng of this	order		
The body must be exhumed may be buried again.	and taker	ı to	and held u	ntil I order that it
Information about the order				
Made by When Signature	Day	Month	l	State Coroner Year

[Reg. 12]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 32(4))

NOTICE RESTRICTING ACCESS TO AREA

RESTRICTED AREA

NO ENTRY WITHOUT CORONER'S AUTHORITY

PENALTY: \$2 000 FINE

[Reg. 13]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 32(2))

RESTRICTION OF ACCESS

Investigation into the death of
Description of area to which access has been restricted by Coroner's investigator —
Reasons for seeking restriction of access —
Is access being restricted at the present time: Yes No
If Yes, specify the time and date when the restriction first imposed
Period for which restriction is sought
Restriction agreed with
Restriction not agreed with
Signature of Coroner Date: / /

[Reg. 14(1)]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 33(3))

AUTHORISATION OF CORONER'S INVESTIGATOR

I,	, Coroner, reasonably believing
it ne	cessary for investigating —
the c	leath of
•••••	
	THORISE, a coroner's stigator —
*	to enter (specify place)
*	to inspect (specify place)
*	to take a copy of (specify documents or classes of documents)
*	to take possession of (specify things or classes of things) at or between the hours of
Date	ed at the day of
	Coroner.

[Reg. 14(3)]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 33(5))

UNDERTAKING TO COMPLY WITH CONDITIONS OF RELEASE

I,, Coroner, having taken possession of the certain things, or classes of things, pursuant to section 33 of the <i>Coroners Act 1996</i> for the purpose of an investigation into the death of
Authorise the release of: (description of thing/s)
To (name of person to whom thing/s are to be released)
I,
Signature of person entering undertaking.
I am satisfied that, before releasing the thing/s specified in this undertaking,
Undertaking entered on / / at in the State of Western Australia before me
Coroner.

[Reg. 16(1)]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 46(1))

SUMMONS TO GIVE EVIDENCE OR BRING DOCUMENTS

To:

	Postcode:			
An inquest is to be held into)—			
The death of Which happened on	Day	Month	Year	
What you must do				
		ast go to the in Give evidence Bring the follown aterials		ts and
Information about the inque	est			
Where you must go To be held at	The Coroner's Court of Western Australia			
When	Time	Day	Month	Year
Information about this sumi	mons			
Issued at By Signature	State Coroner Coroner			
If further information is req [Form 10 amende		•		

[Reg. 16(3)]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 46(4))

WARRANT OF APPREHENSION WHERE WITNESS FAILS TO APPEAR

In the Coroner's Court of Western Australia
at
INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF:
To all members of the Police Force of the State of Western Australia.
The witness who has failed to appear is
of
THE WITNESS has neglected to appear at the time and place appointed in and by a Summons to attend as witness or to produce documents or other materials and it is proved to me, the undersigned Coroner, upon oath, that the said Summons was served on the witness.
I AUTHORISE you to enter and search at any time with all force as may be necessary any dwelling-house, building, premises, ship, aircraft or any place where the witness is suspected to be present AND I ORDER that you apprehend the witness and bring the witness before the said Coroner's Court to answer the said Summons and to be further dealt with according to law.
Dated at day of
Coroner.
[Form 11 amended in Gazette 12 Feb 2013 p. 922.]

[Reg. 18(1)]

Coroners Act 1996

(Section 45(1))

ORDER EXCLUDING PEOPLE FROM AN INQUEST

This inquest is being held into-The death of Which happened on Day Month Year Information about this order Who does it apply to? The Coroner has ordered that the following people: must not enter the room where the inquest is being held. How long does it apply? This order applies— From Time Day Month Year To Time Day Month Year For the whole of the inquest. You must wait outside the room until you are What if I have been summoned? called in to give evidence or deliver documents or other materials. Information about the making of this order Made by State Coroner Coroner Where When Time Day Month Year

Signature

[Reg. 20]

Coroners Act 1996

OATH FOR WITNESS

So help you God!

[Reg. 20]

Coroners Act 1996

AFFIRMATION FOR WITNESS

Do you solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that the evidence that you give at this inquest touching the death (or suspected death) ofshall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

Schedule 2

Schedule 2 — Fees for post mortem services

		[r. 21]
	[Heading inserted in Gazette 4 Sep 2009 p. 3492-3.]	
Item	Service	Fee
1.	Post mortem by a pathologist	\$390
2.	Post mortem by a doctor who is not a pathologist	\$265
3.	Attendance by doctor, between the hours of 8.30 am and 6 pm, to state whether life is extinct	\$56
4.	Attendance by doctor, outside the hours referred to in item 3, to state whether life is extinct	\$72

Schedule 3 — Other fees

[r. 22]

[Heading inserted in Gazette 14 Jun 2016 Jul 2017 p. 1877.] 3737.]

Item	Matter	Column A Fee for individual	Column B Fee for eligible individual	
		\$	s \$	
1.	Copy of document or exhibit, for each page or part of a page	1. 65 <u>70</u>	0.50	
2.	Copy of record of investigation into a death —			
	(a) for one-1 copy on the request of a person who is an interested person under regulation 17(a) or (b)	Nil	Nil	
	(b) for each additional copy on the request of a person who is an interested person under regulation 17(a) or (b), for each page or part of a page	1.40	0.45	
	(c) for each copy on the request of any other person, for each page or part of a page	1.40	0.45	
3.	Certifying under seal that a document is a true copy	19. 60 95	5.90 6.00	

Item	Matter	Column A Fee for individual	Column B Fee for eligible individual \$
6.	Copy of transcript or notes of evidence not in electronic format if a fee has been paid under item 4 by the applicant for a copy of the transcript or notes of evidence, for each page or part of a page	1. 90 95	0.55

[Schedule 3 inserted in Gazette 14 Jun 2016 7 Jul 2017 p. 1877-83737-9.]

Notes

This is a compilation of the *Coroners Regulations 1997* and includes the amendments made by the other written laws referred to in the following table. The table also contains information about any reprint.

Compilation table

Citation	Gazettal	Commencement		
Coroners Regulations 1997	18 Mar 1997 p. 1551-74	7 Apr 1997 (see r. 2 and <i>Gazette</i> 18 Mar 1997 p. 1529)		
Equality of Status Subsidiary Legislation Amendment Regulations 2003 Pt. 10	30 Jun 2003 p. 2581-638	1 Jul 2003 (see r. 2 and <i>Gazette</i> 30 Jun 2003 p. 2579)		
Reprint 1: The <i>Coroners Regulation</i> listed above)	<i>is 1997</i> as at 16 Ja	an 2004 (includes amendments		
Courts and Legal Practice (Consequential Amendments) Regulations 2005 r. 3	19 Apr 2005 p. 1294-302	19 Apr 2005		
Coroners Amendment Regulations 2008	11 Mar 2008 p. 816	r. 1 and 2: 11 Mar 2008 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 12 Mar 2008 (see r. 2(b))		
Coroners Amendment Regulations 2009	4 Sep 2009 p. 3491-3	r. 1 and 2: 4 Sep 2009 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 5 Sep 2009 (see r. 2(b))		
Reprint 2: The <i>Coroners Regulations 1997</i> as at 6 Nov 2009 (includes amendments listed above)				
Coroners Amendment Regulations 2011	8 Mar 2011 p. 799-800	r. 1 and 2: 8 Mar 2011 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 9 Mar 2011 (see r. 2(b))		
Coroners Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2011	20 Dec 2011 p. 5392-3	r. 1 and 2: 20 Dec 2011 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 21 Dec 2011 (see r. 2(b))		
Coroners Amendment Regulations 2012	30 Nov 2012 p. 5801	r. 1 and 2: 30 Nov 2012 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 1 Dec 2012 (see r. 2(b))		

Citation	Gazettal	Commencement		
Coroners Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2012	12 Feb 2013 p. 921-2	r. 1 and 2: 12 Feb 2013 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 13 Feb 2013 (see r. 2(b))		
Coroners Amendment Regulations 2013	15 Nov 2013 p. 5252-3	r. 1 and 2: 15 Nov 2013 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 16 Nov 2013 (see r. 2(b)(ii))		
Reprint 3: The <i>Coroners Regulations 1997</i> as at 23 May 2014 (includes amendments listed above)				
Coroners Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2014	27 Jun 2014 p. 2337	r. 1 and 2: 27 Jun 2014 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 1 Jul 2014 (see r. 2(b)(i))		
Coroners Amendment Regulations 2015	19 Jun 2015 p. 2118-19	r. 1 and 2: 19 Jun 2015 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 1 Jul 2015 (see r. 2(b)(i))		
Attorney General Regulations Amendment (Fees) Regulations 2016 Pt. 4	14 Jun 2016 p. 1849-986	4 Jul 2016 (see r. 2(b))		
Attorney General Regulations Amendment (Fees and Charges) Regulations 2017 Pt. 4	7 Jul 2017 p. 3721-98	8 Jul 2017 (see r. 2(b)(ii))		