

# WHAT TO DO AFTER SOMEONE DIES

## SUMMARY

### Within 24 hours

- Call your doctor to declare the death and issue a death certificate(intégrale d'acte de décès)
- Contact a funeral service/undertaker to manage the burial, cremation or repatriation of the body
- Make declaration of the death at your local Mairie

### Within the first week

- Make arrangements for the funeral and burial or cremation

### Within the first month

- Get a copy of the death certificate (intégrale d'acte de décès) from the Mairie. This is free of charge
- Heirs need to request an inheritance certificate (certificat d'hérédité) from the deceased's local Mairie or from the heirs' local Mairie if they are resident in France. Proof of identity and relationship to the deceased are required and the Maire has the right to refuse if not satisfied.
- Get an "Act of recognition" (acte de notoriété héréditaire), which is a document issued by a notaire, providing proof of the right to inherit. This is needed by the deceased's spouse or immediate heir to close bank accounts
- With the "Act of recognition" (acte de notoriété héréditaire), change the ownership on the Carte Grise (vehicle log book) etc.
- Notify the deceased's bank and any organisations where insurance policies are held
- Notify the pension provider if the deceased was in receipt of a pension
- Notify the deceased CPAM health insurance office and submit the Carte Vitale, also any top-up insurance provider
- If the deceased was in a PACS relationship, this must be dissolved by the court (Greffier du tribunal d'instance) where the PACS was first registered.

### Within six months

- Contact a legal representative to manage the dissolution of the estate. This includes the release of inheritance and the declaration and payment of inheritance taxes