

AN ACT

relating to requiring that medical examiners and justices of the peace report certain deaths that result from a motor vehicle accident to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 550.081, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 550.081. ~~CORONER'S~~ REPORT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER OR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE. (a) A medical examiner or justice of the peace acting as coroner in a county that does not have a medical examiner's office or that is not part of a medical examiner's district ~~[other officer performing similar functions]~~ shall submit a ~~[, not later than the 10th day of each month,~~

~~[(1)]~~ report in writing to the department of the death of a person that was ~~[within the officer's jurisdiction during the preceding calendar month as]~~ the result of a traffic accident to which this chapter applies and that occurred within the jurisdiction of the medical examiner or justice of the peace in the preceding calendar quarter.

(b) The ~~[, and~~

~~[(2) include in the]~~ report must be submitted before the 11th day of each calendar month and include:

(1) the name of the deceased and a statement as to whether the deceased was:

1                   (A) the operator of or a passenger in a vehicle  
2 involved in the accident; or

3                   (B) a pedestrian or other nonoccupant of a  
4 vehicle;

5                   (2) the date of the accident and the name of the county  
6 in which the accident occurred;

7                   (3) the name of any laboratory, medical examiner's  
8 office, or other facility that conducted toxicological testing  
9 relative to the deceased; and

10                   (4) the results of any toxicological testing that was  
11 conducted [~~the time, place, and circumstances of the accident~~].

12                   (c) A report required by this section shall be sent to:

13                   (1) the crash records bureau of the department at its  
14 headquarters in Austin; or

15                   (2) any other office or bureau of the department that  
16 the department designates.

17                   (d) If toxicological test results are not available to the  
18 medical examiner or justice of the peace on the date a report must  
19 be submitted, the medical examiner or justice shall:

20                   (1) submit a report that includes the statement  
21 "toxicological test results unavailable"; and

22                   (2) submit a supplement to the report that contains  
23 the information required by Subsections (b)(3) and (4) as soon as  
24 practicable after the toxicological test results become available.

25                   (e) The department shall prepare and when requested supply  
26 to medical examiners' offices and justices of the peace the forms  
27 necessary to make the reports required by this section.

1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

David Dewhurst

President of the Senate

Jim Caddick

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 423 was passed by the House on March 28, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Robert Haney  
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 423 was passed by the Senate on May 1, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Betsy Spaw  
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 14 MAY '07  
Date

Rick Perry  
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
5:00 PM O'CLOCK  
MAY 14 2007

Roger Whinnif