

management, and capital construction. Coordination and technical assistance are provided statewide to maintenance and engineering projects.

DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS

Julia Davidson Randall, *State Registrar of Vital Records*

201 W. Preston St.
Baltimore 21201 Telephone: 225-5971
24-hour telephone: 225-5988
Toll free: 1-800-832-3277

Within the General Services Administration, the Division of Vital Records provides direct services to the public. All births, deaths, marriages, and divorces that occur in the State are registered. Copies of birth, death, and marriage records are issued to authorized persons for a fee of \$3.00 per copy (checks to be made payable to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene).

The Division has birth and death records for Baltimore City from January 1, 1875, and for the twenty-three counties of Maryland from August 1898. State marriage registration began on June 1, 1951, and divorce registration began in June 1961. For marriages prior to June 1951 and for all divorces, copies may be obtained from the clerk of the Circuit Court in the county where the marriage or divorce occurred.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

State Postmortem Examiners Commission

Chairperson: Benjamin Trump, M.D., *University of Maryland School of Medicine*

Robert H. Heptinstall, M.D., *Department of Pathology, The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine*; Susan R. Guarnieri, M.D., *Commissioner of Health of Baltimore City*; Vacancy, *Superintendent, Maryland State Police*; Vacancy, *designee of Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene*.

John E. Smialek, M.D., *Chief Medical Examiner*

111 Penn St.
Baltimore 21201 Telephone: 333-3250

In 1939, the Department of Postmortem Examiners was created to replace a decentralized system of local coroners (Chapter 69, Acts of 1939).

Upon adoption of the Health-General Article of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*, the Department was subsumed into the State Postmortem Examiners Commission in 1982 (Chapter 21, Acts of 1982).

The Commission appoints physicians as deputy medical examiners in each county. They investigate violent and suspicious deaths or deaths unattended by physicians. The deputy medical examiners file with the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner reports of all deaths investigated. Records of the Commission are open for inspection to the family of the deceased and are acceptable in court as evidence of the facts contained (Code Health—General Article, sec. 5-309).

The State Postmortem Examiners Commission is composed of four ex officio members and a representative of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene selected by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene. The Commission appoints all professional personnel (Code Health — General Article, secs. 5-302 through 5-312).

DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Vacancy, Deputy Secretary

201 W. Preston St.
Baltimore 21201 Telephone: 225-6540

The Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services is responsible for Health Program Support units and seven administrations: Local Health, AIDS Control, Mental Hygiene, Addictions, Community Health Surveillance, Family Health, and Developmental Disabilities.

The Deputy Secretary coordinates the development and implementation of policies, procedures, regulations, and standards that assure delivery of improved health services. The Deputy Secretary develops and promotes collaborative working relationships among the agencies and programs under the Deputy Secretary as well as with other units within the Department.

The Deputy Secretary develops and implements policies, procedures, regulations, and standards to ensure delivery of health services. The Deputy Secretary promotes collaborative working relationships within the Department. Twenty-four local health departments report directly to the Deputy Secretary.