

IS--RECEIVED--AT--HIS--OFFICE--AND--SHALL--REDUCE--ANY--PERTINENT
 FACTS--AS--THE--MEDICAL--EXAMINER--DEEMS--NECESSARY--TO--WRITING--AND
 FILE--THE--FACTS--IN--HIS--OFFICE. --A--POLICE--OFFICER--OR--SHERIFF
 PRESENT--AT--THE--SCENE--OF--DEATH--SHALL--TAKE--THE--NAMES--AND
 ADDRESSES--OF--AS--MANY--WITNESSES--TO--THE--CIRCUMSTANCES--OF--THE
 DEATH--AS--IT--MAY--BE--PRACTICABLE--TO--OBTAIN--AND,--IN--THE--ABSENCE
 OF--THE--NEXT--OF--KIN--OF--THE--DECEASED--PERSON,--TAKE--POSSESSION
 OF--ALL--PROPERTY--OF--VALUE--FOUND--ON--THE--DECEASED--PERSON,--MAKE
 AN--EXACT--INVENTORY--THEREOF--ON--HIS--REPORT,--AND--DELIVER--THE
 PROPERTY--TO--THE--POLICE--DEPARTMENT--IN--BALTIMORE--CITY--OR
 SHERIFF--OF--THE--COUNTY,--AS--THE--CASE--MAY--BE,--WHICH--SHALL
 SURRENDER--THE--PROPERTY--TO--THE--PERSON--ENTITLED--TO--ITS--CUSTODY
 OR--POSSESSION.

(B)--IN--ANY--CRIMINAL--PROSECUTION--RELATED--TO--THE--DEATH
 OF--THE--VICTIM,--A--FUNERAL--DIRECTOR--OR--AN--AGENT,--SERVANT,--OR
 EMPLOYEE--OF--A--FUNERAL--DIRECTOR--WHO--TRANSPORTS--A--DEAD--BODY--TO
 THE--MEDICAL--EXAMINER'S--OFFICE--MAY--SUBMIT--A--WRITTEN--AFFIDAVIT
 CONCERNING--THE--CHAIN--OF--CUSTODY--AND--INITIAL--CONDITION--OF--THE
 DEAD--BODY--IN--LIEU--OF--GIVING--PERSONAL--LIVE--TESTIMONY--TO--THAT
 EFFECT--IN--THE--CRIMINAL--PROSECUTION. --THE--AFFIDAVIT--IS--PRIMA
 FACIE--EVIDENCE--OF--THE--FACTS--STATED--IN--THE--AFFIDAVIT.
 HOWEVER,--THE--PERSONAL--LIVE--TESTIMONY--OF--THE--FUNERAL--DIRECTOR
 OR--THE--AGENT,--SERVANT,--OR--EMPLOYEE--OF--THE--FUNERAL--DIRECTOR
 MAY--BE--REQUIRED,--BUT--ONLY--ON--15--DAYS'--PRIOR--WRITTEN--NOTICE
 BY--A--PARTY--TO--THE--CRIMINAL--PROSECUTION.

Article - Health - General

5-309.

(c) Immediately on notification that a medical examiner's case has occurred, the medical examiner OR AN INVESTIGATOR OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER shall go to and take charge of the body. The medical examiner OR THE INVESTIGATOR shall investigate fully the essential facts concerning the medical cause of death and, before leaving the premises, reduce these facts and the names and addresses of witnesses to writing, which shall be filed in the medical examiner's office.

(d) The medical examiner OR THE INVESTIGATOR shall take possession of and deliver to the State's Attorney or the State's Attorney's designee any object or article that, in the opinion of the medical examiner OR THE INVESTIGATOR, may be useful in establishing the cause of death.

(e) (1) If the next of kin of the deceased is not present at the investigation, the police officer or sheriff at the investigation or, if a police officer or sheriff is not present, the medical examiner OR THE INVESTIGATOR shall:

(1) take possession of all property of value found on the body;