

DO I NEED TO USE A FUNERAL HOME?

The FCA frequently receives telephone calls inquiring about cremating or burying a loved one without the services of a funeral home. Callers often want to know about the legalities of doing this, and what, if any, permits are needed. According to information provided by the California Department of Consumer Affairs, Cemetery and Funeral Bureau, the law does not prohibit consumers from preparing or transporting a body for disposition themselves. If you, as a consumer, make that choice, you must:

- File a properly completed Certificate of Death, signed by the attending physician or coroner, with the local registrar of births and deaths.
- Obtain a Permit for Disposition from the local registrar of births and death.
- Provide a casket or suitable container.
- Make arrangements directly with the cemetery or crematory.

You will be required to present the Permit for Disposition upon arrival at the cemetery or crematory.