



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



KAREN L. SMITH, MD, MPH  
Director and State Public Health Officer

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Governor

December 8, 2017

17-15

TO: LOCAL REGISTRARS OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS  
CHIEF DEPUTY REGISTRARS OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS  
COUNTY CLERKS  
COUNTY RECORDERS

SUBJECT: WILDFIRE IMPACTING LOS ANGELES AND VENTURA COUNTIES

On December 5, 2017, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. issued an emergency Proclamation for Los Angeles and Ventura counties due to the effect of multiple fires, including the Creek, Rye and Thomas fires, which have damaged critical infrastructure, threatened thousands of homes and caused the evacuation of residents.

Pursuant to these Proclamations of a State Emergency, all fees for certified copies of birth, death, marriage, and dissolution of marriage records are suspended for any individual who lost such records as a result of the wildfires. These Proclamation Orders will remain in effect until the Governor terminates the State of Emergency. Copies of these Proclamations are available for viewing at:

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=20083>

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=20084>

When requesting free copies of a vital record, victims of the fires should state on the application, "Wildfire," and complete the enclosed sworn statement declaring under penalty of perjury that they are a victim. The sworn statement for wildfire victims is a combined sworn statement which also includes the sworn statement required by Health and Safety Code (HSC) Section 103526. For requests sent to the California Department of Public Health – Vital Records (CDPH-VR), victims should additionally make the notation "Wildfire" on the front of the mailing envelope, for faster processing.

The application and combined sworn statement must be submitted to complete the request.

Enclosed is a Monthly Transmittal of Fees form (VS 5), that includes a space to report the number of free copies issued by the county. The cell under "Total" for "Number of Free Copies Issued" has been shaded to avoid confusion when calculating the total fees owed.



WILDFIRE IMPACTING LOS ANGELES AND VENTURA COUNTIES

Page 2

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the CDPH-VR, Quality Assurance and Production Section at (916) 552-8116.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Tony Agurto, MPA  
Deputy State Registrar  
Assistant Deputy Director  
Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

Enclosures