



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

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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

November 13, 2018

18-10

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

SUBJECT: WILDFIRES IMPACTING BUTTE, LOS ANGELES, AND VENTURA
COUNTIES

On November 8, 2018, Acting Governor Gavin Newsom issued an emergency proclamation for Butte County due to the effects of the Camp Fire, which has threatened critical infrastructure, thousands of homes and other structures, and has caused the evacuation of residents.

On November 9, 2018, Acting Governor Gavin Newsom issued an emergency proclamation for Los Angeles and Ventura Counties due to the effects of the Hill and Woolsey Fires, which have threatened critical infrastructure, thousands of homes and other structures, and have 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/2018/11/08/acting-governor-newsom-declares-state-of-emergency-in-butte-county-due-to-camp-fire/>

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2018/11/09/state-of-emergency-in-los-angeles-and-ventura-counties/>

When requesting free copies of a vital record, survivors of the fires should state on the application, "Wildfire," and complete the enclosed sworn statement declaring under penalty of perjury that they are a survivor. The sworn statement for wildfire survivors 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), survivors 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.

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