

**Federal Law No. (18) of 2009 On
Regulating The Registration Of The Births And Deaths**

We, Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates,

- After perusal of the constitution,
- Federal Law No. (1) of 1972 on the functions of ministries and the powers of ministers and the laws amending thereof,
- Federal Law No. (6) of 1975 on regulating the registration of the births and deaths, and the laws amending thereof,
- Federal Law No. (27) of 1981 on the prevention of communicable diseases,
- Penal Code promulgated by the Federal Law No. (3) of 1987 and the laws amending thereof,
- Criminal Procedure Law promulgated by the Federal Law No. (35) of 1992 and the laws amending thereof, and
- Based on the statement presented by the Minister of Health and Prevention, and the approval of the Council of Ministers and the Federal National Council as well as the adoption of the Federal Supreme Council.

issued the following law:

Article (1)

In implementing the provisions of this law, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings indicated next to each of them, unless the context requires otherwise:

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|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| UAE | : The United Arab Emirates. |
| Ministry | : The Ministry of Health. |
| The Minister | : The Minister of Health. |
| Health Authority | : The health authority for which a resolution of the Minister to be issued. |
| Preventive Medicine Department | : The Preventive Medicine Department of the Ministry, one of its branches, or any health authority or any entity in charge of its competence, for which a resolution by the Minister to be issued. |
| Committee | : The Births and Deaths Committee. |
| Competent local authority | : The competent authority designated by the local government in each emirate. |
| Compound | : A name consisting of two words, none of which is a proper |

*In case of any misinterpretation, the Arabic version of this legislation prevails.

- name** : name for a person.
- Double name** : A name consisting of two words, each of them can be used alone or both as a name for a person.
- Alive newborn** : A newborn who shows symptoms of life after being labored from his/her mother, regardless of the duration of pregnancy.
- Stillborn baby** : A newborn who does not show symptoms of life after being labored from his/her mother, provided that the period of pregnancy is not less than (28) twenty-eight weeks.
- Death** : The permanent cessation of all biological functions.

Article (2)

The provisions of this law shall apply to all cases of the births and deaths occurred in accordance with its provisions.

Article (3)

The Preventive Medicine Department shall be notified of the births and deaths occurred inside the UAE , and the UAE's diplomatic missions shall be notified for the births and deaths occurred outside the UAE, in accordance with the provisions of this law.

Article (4)

The Ministry shall prepare records for registering the births and deaths in the Preventive Medicine Department. The executive regulations of this law shall identify the forms for such records and the supporting documents, the terms and conditions to be met for registration in the records and the procedures, methods and periods of their keeping.

Notification Of The Births

Article (5)

The notification of the live newborn shall be made not later than thirty days from the date of birth, and the notification shall be made by one of the persons in charge to do so, including:

1. The birth attendant, if any (doctor or midwife), or the director of the hospital, clinic, health center, penitentiary facility, or shelter in which the birth took place.

2. The child's father, if he is present or his mother.
3. The person in charge of the family affairs if the father died before birth or was absent.
4. Any adult relative up to the fourth degree who attended the birth.
5. Any other persons set out in the executive regulations of this law.

The notification shall not be accepted from those persons not in charge, and the responsibility for the notification shall be as per the above order.

Article (6)

The notification of the birth shall be made in writing to the Preventive Medicine Department to which the place of birth is affiliated. The notification shall be made on the allocated form.

Article (7)

The notification shall include the following information:

1. The day, date in Hijri and Gregorian, shown in numbers and letters, the hour and place of birth.
2. The newborn's gender and name, the newborn's name may be compound or double name.
3. The full name for both the father and mother, their date of birth, nationality, religion, profession and place of residence, as well as the identity number of each of them, if any.
4. The informant's full name, its date of birth, nationality, profession, capacity and signature.
5. The name of the birth attendant, if any (doctor or midwife).
6. Any other statement that the Minister deems to be added as per the resolution.

Article (8)

The competent employee in charge of the birth registration procedure shall verify the validity of the data related to the birth occurrence and the ID and capacity of the informant before entering the registration in the records, in accordance with the terms stipulated in the executive regulations of this law.

Article (9)

The Preventive Medicine Department shall issue a birth certificate for every live newborn.

The birth certificate shall be delivered to one of the parents of the newborn or to the relative person who notified the birth occurrence.

The executive regulations of this law shall specify the procedures for obtaining an official extract from the birth records.

Article (10)

If the birth incident for a citizen occurs outside the UAE, the newborn's father or any of his/her relatives shall notify the diplomatic mission of the UAE to register the birth incident and a birth certificate to be extracted inside the UAE based on a duly certified birth certificate issued by the country wherein the birth incident occurred.

Article (11)

The executive regulations of this law shall set out the procedures for registering a newborn of unknown parentage found in the UAE.

Article (12)

The deceased person and the stillborn shall be notified to the Preventive Medicine Department wherein the death incident occurred within seventy-two hours of the occurrence of death or stillborn baby, and the notification shall be made by a person in charge to do the same as follows:

1. The father of the deceased person, if present, or his mother.
2. Any adult relative who attended the death.
3. Any of the adults who resides in the same residence with the deceased person.
4. The owner of the shop, the manager, or the responsible employee of the hotel, hospital, school, penitentiary facility, shelter house, or any other place if the death occurred at any of them.
5. The physician who confirmed the death.
6. Any other persons set out in the executive regulations of this law.

The notification shall not be accepted by those who are not in charge to do so, and the responsibility for notification shall be as per to the above order and the stillborn babies shall be recorded in a special record.

Article (13)

1. The notification of death shall be in writing to the Preventive Medicine Department to which the place of death is affiliated, on the form prepared for the same purpose.
2. The executive regulations of this law shall set out the procedures for recording the notifications for natural and criminal deaths.

Article (14)

The notification of death shall include the following data:

1. The day and date of death, in Hijri and Gregorian calendar, in figures and letters, with the time and place of death.
2. The gender of the deceased person, his/her full name, nationality, religion, age, profession and place of residence.
3. The full name of both parents of the deceased person, if known, their nationality, religion and place of residence.
4. Cause of death.
5. The full name, age, nationality, profession, capacity and signature of the informant.
6. The gestational age in weeks if the notification for a stillborn baby.

Article (15)

The employee in charge of the death registration procedure shall verify the validity of the data related to the death incident and the ID and capacity of the informant person before registration in the records in accordance with the terms set out in the executive regulations of this law.

Article (16)

The Preventive Medicine Department shall issue the death certificate and the executive regulations shall set out the documents to be provided. The death certificate shall be delivered to one of the deceased's parents or to a relative informant person.

The executive regulations of this law shall set out the procedures for obtaining an extract from the death records.

Article (17)

If the death incident occurred to a citizen outside the UAE, the father of the deceased or any of his/her relatives shall notify the diplomatic mission of the death occurrence, to record the death incident and obtain a death certificate inside the UAE based on a duly certified death certificate issued by the country wherein the death incident occurred.

Article (18)

The deceased person, whose identity is unknown, shall be entered into the death records, with an indication in the notice box with the number and date of the police report drawn up in this regard, including the coroner's report as the burial of the corpse shall be made only with a permit from the Public Prosecution.

Article (19)

Subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Prosecution, a corpse that has been buried shall be removed for transportation abroad or to another location only after a lapse of at least six months from the date of death, but if the death was due to an infectious disease that poses a risk to the public health, in this case, the corpse shall not be permitted to be removed at all except with a special permit from the ministry.

Article (20)

If a person applies to notify on a live or stillborn baby after the date specified for notification in accordance with Articles (5 and 12), the competent employee shall accept the notification and make the registration in the records after verifying the validity of the data and documents submitted in accordance with the terms set out in the executive regulations of this law, unless a period of one year has passed after the date of birth or stillborn, in this case, an application shall be submitted by the concerned person to make the registration procedure in which an indicating of the necessary data and evidence proving the validity of the application submitted to the Preventive Medicine Department to be referred to the committee that issues its resolution for such application after investigation.

However , in any case, a report of the incident shall be drawn up and sent to the Ministry to be referred to the competent public prosecution.

Article (21)

Any correction or change to the data related to the name of the newborn or the stillborn shall not be made. Also any change in the full name of one or both of the parents mentioned in the records for registration of the births and deaths shall be made only as per a final court ruling issued by the competent court and the employee in charge of the registration procedure shall register in the notice field, the information of such ruling in accordance with the terms set out in the executive regulations of this law.

Article (22)

By a resolution of the Minister, the Births and Deaths Committees shall be formed. The resolution issued to form the same shall specify their headquarters and system of work. These committees shall be the competent entity for applying for changing the data contained in the birth and death certificates not stipulated under Article (21) of this law and any other competencies determined by the Minister.

Article (23)

The competent local authority shall organize and supervise the cemeteries and the burial procedures in accordance with the laws and the regulations in force in each emirate in a manner that does not conflict with the provisions of this law.

Article (24)

A one month imprisonment and a fine not more than fifteen thousand AED (15,000) , or either of those two sentences, shall be imposed on whoever commits any of the following:

1. Any person in charge to notify did not notify a childbirth or death incident on the date set out in the provisions of this law.
2. Whoever caused the registration of a live newborn or stillborn baby in the registration records more than once, and the court shall rule to cancel the repeated registration

Article (25)

A sentence of imprisonment for a period of no less than one year and a fine of no less than one hundred thousand AED (100,000) and not more than five hundred thousand AED (500,000) or either of these two sentences shall be imposed on whoever commits any of the following:

1. Intentionally provides incorrect data or resorts to fraudulent methods or illegal means with the intention of registering a live newborn or stillborn baby in the records, and the court shall rule to cancel the entry proved to be incorrect.
2. Any change in the data contained in the births or deaths registration without a final ruling issued by the competent court.
3. Destroying or intentionally causing the destruction or loss of a record of the births or deaths, or any of its documents.

Article (26)

The imposition of the penalties stipulated in this law shall not prejudice any more severe sentence stipulated in any other law.

Article (27)

A resolution by the minister shall be issued specifying the forms of the records, notification forms and certificates stipulated in this law. The health authorities shall submit any data required by the Ministry on the births and deaths.

Article (28)

Birth and death certificates and the official extracts from the registry of the births and deaths issued under this law shall be the official documents to prove the birth and death occurrences.

Article (29)

The fees for certificates, documents, and any other fees related to the births and deaths shall be set out by a resolution of the Council of Ministers based on the Minister's proposal.

Article (30)

The Minister shall issue the executive regulations and resolutions necessary to implement the provisions of this law.

Article (31)

Every wordings or provision that conflicts or contradicts with the provisions of this law shall be repealed, and the Federal Law No. (6) of 1975 on organizing the registration of the births and deaths and the laws amending thereof shall be repealed. The regulations and bylaws issued for its implementation shall continue in force as long as they do not conflict with the provisions of this law until the issuance of the regulations and resolutions replacing the same.

Article (32)

This law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall be effective after ninety days from the date of its publication.

Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
President of the United Arab Emirates

This was issued at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi
On the of Muharram 14th 1431 AH
Corresponding to December 31st, 2009 G