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Secretary

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Michelle Aurelius, MD
Chief Medical Examiner

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Funeral Service Professionals:

The North Carolina Office of the Chief Medical Examiner has been notified that many of you in areas affected by Hurricane Helene may be experiencing difficulty with fulfilling statutory requirements for cremation authorizations under state statute 130A-388.

We understand that you may lack internet access or be unable to reach your normal county Medical Examiners.

We hope that as situations gradually improve, you will first attempt to contact your normal county Medical Examiners, and give them at least 6 hours to respond, understanding that they face many of the same struggles you do.

If you are unable to reach your Medical Examiner after that time, please see the list below for contact information for appointed NC Medical Examiners who may be near your area and willing to have you reach out to them for assistance. While we will not be able to help you with coordinating to have these required authorizations done, those Medical Examiners may provide help with access to DCs in NC DAVE and work with you to perform the required viewings.

You may continue to use this list so long as the declaration of emergency remains in place. This list may be updated over time, and if so, new messaging will be provided. We hope that during this time of recovery that this eases the burden than many of you are currently facing.

With thanks for the care that you provide to the people of North Carolina,

Craig Nelson, MD
Associate Chief Medical Examiner
Raleigh, North Carolina

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER**

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