



HER MAJESTY'S SENIOR CORONER
For the Counties of Kingston upon Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire
Professor Paul Marks BA LLM MD FRCS

To: All GPs in the East Riding and the Hull Area

24 March 2015

Dear General Practitioner,

Re: Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard Orders (DoLS)

I am writing to you with regard to Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard Orders. This is a relatively new piece of legislation which has come in and has important implications for my Office.

Technically, a person who is subject to one of these Orders is in State Detention and whilst the vast majority of individuals who die will do so as a result of natural causes, a small minority may not. In any event, should a patient die who is subject to such an Order, the death **must** be reported to my Office.

I have adopted a process which appears to meet with the approval of the Chief Coroner holding a run through Inquest where the Inquest is opened and concluded concurrently. This results in early release of the body for funeral purposes and permits registration formalities to be concluded as quickly as possible.

When a person who is under a DoLS Order dies in a nursing home, is under your care and their death is clearly attributable to natural causes, I would be grateful if you could complete and return to my Office one of the enclosed forms. As you will see, the form invites you to set out the medical cause of death in the standard way.


There is also a Section where you could add any relevant medical history and a further line where you can confirm that the Deprivation of Liberty Order had no impact on the patient's death. I also require Section 12 of the DoLS Order or the emergency authority

to confirm that the individual was indeed the subject of such an Order, as well as evidence of identification.

Once this documentation is received, I am then in a position to open and conclude the Inquest, issue the necessary paperwork for registration and release the body for funeral purposes.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Marks', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Professor Paul MARKS
Senior Coroner

Enc.

PLEASE INSERT YOUR LETTERHEAD HERE

Date: _____/_____/_____

Patients full name: _____

Patients address: _____

Patients D.O.B. _____/_____/_____

Doctors full-name, occupation & place of work:	
When did you last see the patient alive?	_____/_____/_____
When was the patient last seen by another member of your team? (Please give full-name)	
Have you seen the body after death?	YES / NO
Do you know who confirmed the fact of death? If so, please give name of designation? (e.g. Paramedic)	
As someone who attended the deceased, would you feel able to sign a Medical Certificate as to the cause of death? (MCCD) Note: Please do not complete one.	
The cause of death in your opinion was due to?	1a: due to 1b: due to 1c: 11:
Are there any other issues you wish to bring to the attention of the Coroner conducting the inquest?	

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

Signed: _____

Dated: _____