

Legal Entitlement to Birth and Death Records for Clerks of Court

Who may purchase a certified copy of a Louisiana Birth Certificate:

Yourself:

- **Registrant** (person named on the certificate)

Immediate Family:

- **Current legal spouse** of person named on the certificate (spouse **must** be listed on death certificate as surviving spouse)
- **Brother** or **sister** of person named on the certificate
- **Mother** or **father** of person named on the certificate
- **Grandchild** of person named on the certificate
- **Grandparent** of person named on the certificate
- **Legal Guardian** of person named on the certificate*

*Legal guardian must provide a **judgment of custody**. Custody by mandate or provisional custody from a notary is unacceptable. Transfer of custody witnessed by a notary is unacceptable. Custody expires at age 18.

Who may purchase a certified copy of a Louisiana Death Certificate:

- Immediate Family (Listed above)
- Funeral Directors may request additional copies of a Death Certificate on behalf of surviving immediate family members within one year of the date of death.

A non-family member may request a certified copy of a certificate on behalf of an entitled individual with a letter of authorization that names the authorized individual and provides the person named on the certificate's name and date of birth. **A copy of a state drivers' license or state ID for the entitled individual is required.**

LSA R.S. 40:61 a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars or imprisonment of not more than five years or both shall be imposed on any person who willfully and knowingly makes any false statement on any application for a certified copy of a vital record.