STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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When is an Approval to Share required?

When is it necessary to file a *Request for Approval to Share* another funeral establishment's storage and/or preparation room?

Currently, the Bureau does not require a *Request for Approval to Share* from funeral establishments who **have and maintain** a preparation room and/or storage on or off site.

All other funeral establishments that do not have their **own** preparation and/or storage facilities, or establishments that choose **not to maintain them in full compliance** with the laws and regulations, are required to file an application and pay the applicable fee to share a preparation and/or storage room with another licensed funeral establishment (California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 1223.1).

A funeral establishment that does not maintain a preparation room and does not have approval to share a preparation room is not authorized to offer embalming.

Is it "OK" to move labels in a shared storage room?

Can labels be moved within the common (shared) storage room, or must labels remain in a dedicated or permanent location?

Labels required under CCR Section 1223.1(d) may be moved within the shared storage room. They are not required to remain in a dedicated or permanent location.

Must each funeral establishment using a shared storage room have its "own" labeled area?

Must a shared storage room have a separate labeled storage area for each funeral establishment using the facility?

There must at all times be designated a separate labeled area for each funeral establishment that has been approved to share the storage facility (CCR Section 1223.1(d)).

Is it "OK" to designate more than one "main office" for the purposes of sharing?

Can funeral establishments under common ownership designate one location as the “main office” for the purpose of sharing a manager, and designate a different location(s) as the “main office” for the purpose of sharing storage facilities, a preparation room or apprentices?

No. CCR Section 1223.1(b) specifies that, for the purpose of sharing preparation and/or storage rooms, the common owners must designate one funeral establishment as the main office as defined in Section 1204(c)(2).

CCR Section 1230(a)(2) specifies that, for the purpose of sharing training facilities or apprentices, the common owners must designate one funeral establishment as the main office as defined in Section 1204(c)(2). A funeral establishment must first obtain approval of its training facilities prior to obtaining approval to share apprentices.

CCR Section 1204 addresses the designation of the managing funeral director and provides for a funeral director to manage more than one location. Specifically, 1204(c)(2) states that the common owners must designate one funeral establishment as the main office, which is defined as a designated location registered with the Bureau where the principals of the funeral establishment can be contacted. All three sections specify that any facilities sharing with the main office must be within a 60-mile radius.