**DROWNING VICTIM SUPPLEMENTAL FORM**

Victim Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Agency Case No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Coroner/Officer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

*Describe any injuries to body on General Coroner Form.*

Clothing Description (Note any defects also):

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is type of clothing consistent with location found? Yes No

Anything found in clenched fists? Yes No

If yes, describe:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Any evidence of healed hesitation marks on wrists? Yes No

Any apparatus/ropes, etc. found on body? Yes No

• If yes, could they have been applied by the victim? Yes No

• Describe: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Froth Cone present? Yes No Where: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**VICTIM FOUND IN BATHTUB/TUB:**

1. Room where found: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Liquid submerged in: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Found submerged in Bathtub Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Parts of body submerged: Head Face Neck Shoulders

Chest  Back  Right Arm Left Arm

Abdomen Buttocks Groin Right Leg

Left Leg Subject lying on: □Stomach □Back □ Right Side □ Left Side

1. Subject was naked: □ Yes □ No If no, clothed in: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Any evidence subject “fell” into liquid? □ Yes □ No
3. Explain: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. When was victim last seen alive? Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**BATHTUB:**

1. Length: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Width: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Liquid Depth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Liquid clarity: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Liquid temperature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Room temperature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Faucet: at which (direction) end of tub: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Was faucet □ ON □ OFF ?

4. Stopper for Drain: Type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ In place in drain? □ Yes □ No

5. If found in bathroom, was door closed? □ Yes □ No LOCKED? □ Yes □ No

6. Any furniture, rug, etc. out of place? □ Yes □ No Explain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**VICTIM FOUND IN SWIMMING POOL**

1. Name of Pool: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Owned By: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ □ Public □ Private □ Residential □ Inground □ Aboveground
3. Overall Length \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Width \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Minimum depth\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Maximum depth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Water temperature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Color of bottom: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Water clarity \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Adequately fenced? □ Yes □ No Type construction: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Diving board? □ Yes □ No Height: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Did incident occur during “normal pool hours”? □ Yes □ No Pool lights: □ ON □ OFF
8. Was lifeguard on duty? □ Yes □ No Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. Number of persons in pool at time body discovered: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**DISCOVERY OF VICTIM:**

1. Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Location in pool: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Time removed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by (name): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Agency: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. How removed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Any CPR attempted? □ Yes □ No
5. WITNESS to incident (name): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**VICTIM:**

1. Swimming ability: □ Strong □ Medium □ Weak □ Non-swimmer □ Unknown
2. Was victim wearing a life preserver? □ Yes □ No
3. Could victim have injured himself on diving board? □ Yes □ No
4. Hit head/neck on bottom of pool? □ Yes □ No Side of pool? □ Yes □ No
5. Did victim enter water voluntarily: □ Yes □ No Explain: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Was victim trespassing in pool at time of incident? □ Yes □ No

**VICTIM FOUND IN RIVER, LAKE, OCEAN, ETC.**1.

1. Where Found: □ River □ Lake □ Pond □ Floodwater □ Stream □ Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Water Type (some pools are saltwater): □ Freshwater □ Salt water
3. Water temperature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Name of body of water: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Describe swiftness of water: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ clarity: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Estimation of maximum depth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ depth where discovered: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Type of Bottom: □ Sand □ Gravel □ Boulders □ Mud □ Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Any water vehicles in this area: □ Yes □ No Describe: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**DISCOVERY OF VICTIM:**

1. Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Removed by (name): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Agency: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Any CPR attempted? □ Yes □ No Any WITNESS to subject entering water? □ Yes □ No
4. Date victim entered water: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Time entered: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Location where entered: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Other witnesses: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Type of bank at entry point: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Bank angle: □ Slippery □ Hazardous □ Rocky
9. Any clothing items, valuables, etc. left at entry point? □ Yes □ No
10. Distance from entry point that body was recovered: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

VICTIM:

1. Any defects in subject's clothing: □ Yes □ No Explain: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Did subject enter water voluntarily? □ Yes □ No Explain: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why was subject in the water? □ Swimming □ Fishing/standing in water □ water skiing □Wading □ Fishing from bank □ Fishing from boat □ Rescue attempt □ Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Was subject wearing a life preserver? □ Yes □ No Helmet? □ Yes □ No
5. Swimming ability: □ Strong □ Medium □ Weak □ Non-swimmer □ Unknown
6. Did weather conditions change environmental situations? □ Yes □ No □ Rain □ Electrical Storm □ High winds □ Other

DROWNING DEATHS GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET

* Drowning - is an asphyxial death in which the victim inhales large amounts of a liquid which quickly increases his blood volume causing pulmonary edema and an overtaxed heart. Death can occur within 3-5 minutes of submersion.
* Near Drowning or Fatal Postal Immersion Syndrome occurs when a drowning victim survives for as long as several days after submersion in a liquid due to the immediate resuscitation but later succumbs to either pneumonia or brain damage from cerebral anoxia.
* More than 7,000 drownings occur annually in the USA. Drowning is the 4th leading cause of accidental deaths in all age groups. Most drownings are accidental.

AUTOPSY FINDINGS IN DROWNING VICTIMS:

* Diagnosis of drowning is made on basis of HISTORY, CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING DEATH and COMPLETE AUTOPSY and TOXICOLOGIC STUDIES. There are no morphologic findings diagnostic of drowning. Autopsy findings include pulmonary congestion and edema and oftentimes a froth-cone of the nose and/or mouth which may be white or blood-tinged pink. This froth is produced when mucous, air and water mix during respiration. If this froth is found in the subject's airway, it indicates the subject WAS ALIVE at time of submersion. Blood-tinged foam is not indicative of chest trauma. It is caused by the tearing of lung tissue due to increased pulmonary pressure.
* Be sure to check Dilantin and barbiturate levels in drowning victims as this might be the only clue to their epileptic condition. Absence of these drugs or very low levels in known epileptics **may** give reason for drowning.
* Blood Alcohol - In freshwater drowning, blood alcohol level may be decreased due to increased blood volume. In saltwater drowning, there may be a slight increase in level. Putrid (decomposing) sample analysis for blood alcohol content is difficult to interpret.

SUBMERGED BODY CHANGES & INJURIES:

* A body submerged AFTER DEATH can contain water and aquatic foreign materials in the stomach and lungs.
* A body will sink to the bottom of the water, unless air is trapped in the clothing, and will float head down until bloating begins at which time the body will surface. A body may reappear on the surface of the water 2-3 days after its entry during the summer months and weeks to months later in the winter months.
* It is not possible to accurately estimate the length of submersion when the period exceeds four weeks.
* Decomposition and putrifaction proceed at a rate determined by the water temperature. Cold and swiftly moving water preserves bodies, whereas heavy clothing and stagnant water hastens decomposition. Cold water also retards rigor mortis. Adipocere is a soap-like covering over a body, formed by the breakdown of the subcutaneous tissue due to prolonged submersion in water.
* Cutis anserina (goose-flesh) is not an external sign diagnostic of drowning. “Washerwoman's Skin” is the wrinkling of skin of the hands and feet of persons submerged for long periods of time. The “glove” of skin from a hand can be used to obtain fingerprints for identification purposes.
* POSTMORTEM INJURIES can occur when body scrapes bottom of water's baseground. The usual areas of injury are the prominent parts of the face, the chest and extremities. Fish and other aquatic animals may produce gaping injuries to unclothed body parts. Boat propellers can cause multiple, parallel, smooth-margined injuries to submerged bodies.
* COLD is main threat to life during prolonged immersion in very cold water. The length of time immersed and temperature of the water determine the survival time. A person wearing ordinary street clothes and life preserver can only survive 45 minutes in water less than 35 degrees Celsius (95 Fahrenheit).