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Kathy H. Kliebert
SECRETARY

State of Louisiana
Department of Health and Hospitals
Center for Records and Statistics

July 2, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Louisiana Funeral Homes

FROM: Devin George, MPPA 
State Registrar and Center Director

RE: PROCEDURE MEMO 15-01 – Surviving Spouse on Louisiana Death Records

As a result of the United States Supreme Court ruling in the case of *Obergefell v. Hodges*, any decedent who is legally married in Louisiana or in another state should have the death record reflect the surviving spouse, including a spouse of the same sex. This would include individuals that were legally married in other states prior to the issuance of this decision. The surviving spouse must be listed on the "Personal" tab in the "Surviving Spouse" field of the death record in LEERS.

This procedure shall be effective immediately.

If you have any questions about this policy, please contact the LEERS Helpdesk at leers@la.gov or (504) 593-5101.

cc: Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors