Part I. Name of Country: Antigua and Barbuda

Part II. Embassy Information

U.S. Embassy Barbados, the Eastern Caribbean, and the OCES
Wildey Business Park
Wildey
St. Michael, BB 14006
Barbados, W.I.
Phone: (246) 227-4000
Fax: 1-246-431-0179

State Department Country Specific Information
State Department Travel Information
Register with the U.S. Embassy

Part III. Profile of Religions of the Host Country and Religious Services Available to Visitors:

Country Profile: Antigua and Barbuda
Religions: Anglican, Methodist, Catholic, Moravian, Jehovah’s Witnesses, among others.

Part IV. Funeral Directors, Mortician and Related Services Available in the Host Country:

DISCLAIMER: The U.S. Embassy Bridgetown, Barbados assumes no responsibility or liability for the professional ability or reputation of, or the quality of services provided by, the following persons or firms. Names are listed alphabetically, and the order in which they appear has no other significance. Professional credentials and areas of expertise are provided directly by the funeral directors, morticians and other service providers.

Barnes Funeral Home
Lower Newgate Street
St. John’s
Antigua
West Indies
Contact: Jessica Barnes
Telephone: 1-268-462-1037
Fax: 1-268-562-2357
Part V: Profile of Services Available in the Host Country Regarding Preparation and Shipment of Remains:

a. Disposition of Remains (general) –

- General disposition of remains is by burial, sea, or cremation. Cremation is outsourced to Grenada, Barbados, or Guadeloupe, as there is no crematory in Antigua and Barbuda. Refrigeration capabilities are available at private funeral homes. There is a 20 body capacity limit as there are no public morgues in Antigua and Barbuda. The average cost for preparation and burial is USD $5,000.

b. Specific facts relating to embalming, cremation, caskets, exportation, documentation requirements, preparation, shipment, and exhumation –

- All remains are embalmed according to Antiguan health codes. The embalming is arterial and cavities are treated with cavity fluid. The average cost of embalming is USD $750. All embalming is done by a certified embalmer.

- There are no crematory facilities on Antigua and Barbuda. All cremation services must be outsourced to Grenada, Barbados, or Guadeloupe.

- On average, it can take multiple weeks, sometimes less, for a body to be prepared and sent back to the United States. The process is often delayed by the requirement for an autopsy. Autopsies are required in cases of sudden death, homicide, traffic accidents, and drowning.

c. As applicable, unique circumstances which may apply to post –

- If death was caused by infectious disease, universal precautions are used and remains are placed in a hermetically sealed casket for shipment.

d. Shipping of Remains –

- There are two flights weekly to the United States via Amerijet to Miami on Tuesday and Thursday. The average total cost to transport remains to the United States, including shipping costs and funeral home costs in Antigua is around USD $5,000.
The following documents are required before remains can be shipped: passport, transit permit, and a certified copy of the Antiguan death certificate. The transit permit can be obtained from the Ministry of Health.

e. Local authorities responsible for licensing funeral directors and morticians –
   Licensing is required through the Ministry of Health and Central Board of Health.

f. Local authorities responsible for making findings regarding the cause of death and for issuing local death certificates –

   A licensed medical practitioner or pathologist is responsible for issuing the death certificate.

   (1) Maximum period before burial of remains: Every case is different, but two weeks is usually the maximum remains are held.

   (2) Embalming: Certified embalmers. The average cost for embalming services is USD $750.

   (3) Cremation: There is no crematory on Antigua and Barbuda. All cremation services must be outsourced to Grenada, Barbados, or Guadeloupe.

   (4) Caskets and Containers: Obtained directly from funeral homes, vary in price.


   (7) Costs – Charges are based on the exchange rate of November 25, 2016: US $1.00 = $2.70 Eastern Caribbean Currency

   (8) Exhumation and Shipment: All exhumation requests are handled by the Ministry of Health.

   (9) Local customs regarding funerals, disposition of remains, mourning, memorial services: Most dispositions are done by internment. Families either organize services with the local church pastor or the funeral home can help arrange a service. Remains may also be scattered.