

BELIZE:

CIVIL REGISTRY AND VITAL STATISTICS BILL, 2025

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BELIZE:**BILL****for**

AN ACT to repeal and replace the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, Chapter 157 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020; to provide for the digitalization of the registry of births, deaths and other life events; to provide for the organizational restructuring of the Vital Statistics Unit; to convert the office into a Department to support the new business operations and functions; to provide for the registration and filing of life events; to provide for harsher penalties for offences; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Gazetted2025).

BE IT ENACTED, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives and Senate of Belize and by the authority of the same, as follows:

PART I*Preliminary*

1. This Act may be cited as the

Short title.

CIVIL REGISTRY AND VITAL STATISTICS BILL, 2025.

2. In this Act—

Interpretation.

“bedside birth registration” means the process of registering the live birth of a child at the location of birth;

“Deed Poll Certificate” means a document issued by Vital Statistics Unit that proves a change of name;

“Department” means the Civil Registry Department established under section 3;

“Director” means the Director of Human Services in the Ministry responsible for human development;

“district” means a judicial district specified in the Judicial Districts (Definitions of Boundaries) Order;

Sub. Leg, 2020
Edn. Cap. 94 p.3.

“electronic” includes created, recorded, transmitted or stored in digital or other intangible form by electronic, magnetic, optical or by any other means that has capabilities for creation, recording, transmission or storage similar to those means;

“house” means any building or part of a building, where such part is occupied separately from the rest, and includes a prison, lock-up, hospital or public or charitable institution;

“informant” means the person giving to the Registrar information of the particulars required to be registered under this Act;

“information communications technology” includes any communication device or application encompassing radio, television, cellular phones and computer and network hardware and software, satellites system as well as the various services and applications of the Department;

“information system” a system for generating, sending, receiving, storing or otherwise processing electronic communications;

“life events” includes a live birth, death, stillbirth, marriage, adoption, divorce or the changing of a name related to a natural person;

“Marriage Officer” means a person appointed or authorized to be a marriage officer under the Marriage Act;

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“medical practitioner” means a person registered to practice medicine under the Medical Practice Act;

CAP. 318.

“Medical Certificate of Cause of Death” means the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death prescribed under the Public Health Act;

CAP. 40.

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for registration of births and deaths;

- CAP. 40. “Live Birth Notification Form” means the Notification of Live Birth prescribed under the Public Health Act;
- CAP. 318. “Still Birth Notification Form” means the Still Birth Notification Form prescribed under the Medical Practice Act;
- “online civil registry system” means the online system provided by the Department for the registration or filing of life events;
- “occupier” includes the chief resident officer of a prison, hospital or public or charitable institution and the person in charge of any lock-up;
- “prescribed fee” means the fee prescribed under section 48;
- “Proof of Marriage Record” means the Proof of Marriage Record prescribed under the Marriage Act;
- CAP. 229:03. “record” includes an electronic record under the Electronic Transactions Act;
- “Register” means the Register of Life Events;
- “Registrar” means the Registrar of the Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit appointed under section 3;
- “registry” means the office in the VSU where official records of life events under this Act are managed;
- “relative” means mother, father, brother, sister and includes connection of the aforementioned persons by marriage;
- “stillborn” and “still-birth” means the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother after at least twenty-eight weeks of pregnancy of a foetus in which, after such expulsion or extraction, there is no breathing, beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord or unmistakable movement of voluntary muscle; and
- “VSU” means the Vital Statistics Unit established under section 3.

PART II

Establishment and administration of the Civil Registry Department

3.—(1) There shall be established under the Attorney General’s Ministry, a Department of Government to be known as the Civil Registry Department.

Establishment of
the Civil
Registry
Department.

(2) The Department shall comprise the Vital Statistics Unit and any other unit deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(3) The Department shall be headed by a Registrar who shall be appointed by the Public Services Commission and who is charged with the administration of this Act.

(4) The Registrar of the Department shall be the Registrar of the VSU.

(5) The Registrar shall report and be answerable to the Solicitor General in the performance and execution of duties under this Act and any related laws.

(6) On questions or issues of law relating to any matter under this Act, the Registrar shall consult with, and be advised by, the Solicitor General prior to making a decision.

(7) The Registrar shall be assisted by a Deputy Registrar, Assistant Registrars, Clerks and other officers necessary to perform the functions under this Act.

(8) The Deputy Registrar, Assistant Registrars, Clerks and other officers under sub-section (3) shall be appointed by the Public Services Commission.

4. The objects of the—

Objects and
purpose.

(a) Department are to create an electronic repository of information and life events of every person born in Belize and to provide ease of access to that information;

(b) VSU are to—

(i) maintain an accurate electronic register of life events occurring in Belize or involving citizens and residents of Belize;

(ii) provide accurate information about life events;

- (iii) administer and maintain an up-to-date and reliable information system for the Registry, together with the attendant software and hardware backup;
- (iv) register births, deaths, and deed polls;
- (v) record marriages, adoptions and other life events;
- (vi) collaborate with government ministries or departments, health care institutions, legal professional and other relevant stakeholders to ensure comprehensive and accurate records of life events.

Functions of
Registrar.

5. The functions of the Registrar shall include—

- (a) registration and filing of life events;
- (b) keeping of registers, records and information systems;
- (c) effecting corrections, alterations and other modifications to registers and records kept under this Act;
- (d) issuing birth, death, marriage, adoption and deed poll certificates;
- (e) managing and supervising the operations and staff of the Department, the VSU and every unit thereunder;
- (f) conducting hearings and interviews with applicants and deponents to ascertain facts and information supporting any application under this Act with a view to determining the final outcome of the application, as the case may be;
- (g) supervising the use, operation and maintenance of the database of the VSU; and
- (h) any other functions required for the proper administration of this Act.

Register.

6.—(1) The Registrar shall maintain an electronic Register of Life Events with the particulars of life events required to be registered or filed under this Act.

(2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), the Registrar shall maintain a physical Register of Life Events.

7. The Registrar may delegate to a Deputy Registrar or an Assistant Registrar, any of his functions, powers or duties, or a combination thereof, subject to such conditions, exceptions and qualifications as the Registrar determines, in relation to any matter of an administrative nature only. Delegation to Deputy Registrar.
8. The Registrar and the Deputy Registrar may delegate to an Assistant Registrar, any of their functions, powers or duties, or a combination thereof, subject to such conditions, exceptions and qualifications as the Registrar or Deputy Registrar determines, in relation to any matter of an administrative nature only. Delegation to Assistant Registrar.
9. There is established in every community, regional and referral hospital, an office of the VSU which shall provide for the registration or filing of life events. Establishment of offices of the VSU.
10. There shall be installed in each office established under section 9, such Registration Clerks and other officers necessary to assist the Registrar and Deputy Registrar with the efficient discharge of duties under this Act. Registration Clerks and other officers.
- 11.—(1) The Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Assistant Registrars and all members of staff of the VSU, as well as, consultants, advisers or subcontractors, shall sign a confidentiality agreement when in the service of the VSU. Confidentiality.
- (2) No member of staff of the Department, the VSU, any of its units, or other person having access to the data or other information contained in any register shall accept any fee, payment or other gift from any person in connection with the provision or disclosure of any information on any register unless it is a lawful fee relating to a transaction in the VSU and accepted by the staff member assigned to accept fees and other payments.
- (3) No person having access to the data or information on any register shall share such access with an unauthorized person.
- (4) Any person that contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to both.

PART III

Registration of Live Births and Still Births

Registration of
births.

12.-(1) A person with responsibility under this Part to register the live birth of a child shall, using the online civil registry system, apply to register that live birth within one year of the live birth of the child.

(2) An application to register the birth of a child shall be accompanied by a Live Birth Notification Form issued by a medical practitioner or midwife who was in attendance at the birth of the child.

(3) Persons with responsibility to register the live birth of a child under sub-section (1) include—

- (a) in the case of married parents, either of the parents of the child provided that proof of marriage is presented;
- (b) in the case of unmarried parents—
 - (i) if no particulars of the father are to be entered, the mother of the child;
 - (ii) if particulars of the father are to be entered, either parent, provided that the other parent has consented to the registration in writing;
- (c) in the case of guardianship, the person having guardianship of the child;
- (d) in default of a parent or guardian—
 - (i) at least two persons present at the birth who can attest to the birth of the child; or
 - (ii) the medical practitioner, nurse or midwife who delivered the child.

Registration of
child of
unmarried
mother, entry of
father's name.

13.-(1) Subject to sub-sections (2) and (3), where the parents of a child are not married to each other at the time of the child's birth and were not married to each other at, or since the time of the conception of the child, the Registrar shall not approve the registration of a child with the inclusion of the particulars of any man as the father unless—

- (a) an application that is made by the mother to have the name of the father registered is supported by the written consent of the man acknowledging himself to be the father of the child, which is signed in the presence of a justice of the

CAP. 174.

peace, a clerk of the court, a notary public, or a marriage officer appointed under the Marriage Act; or

(b) an application that is made by the man acknowledging himself to be the father is supported—

(i) by the written consent of the mother of the child, which is signed in the presence of a justice of the peace, a clerk of the court, a notary public, or a marriage officer appointed under the Marriage Act; or

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(ii) in the case where the mother cannot be found or is dead, by the death certificate of the mother or by a declaration made by him and an approved DNA test result or a statutory declaration of two credible persons having knowledge of the truth of the birth.

(2) If, at any time after the registration of the birth of a child whose father's name or any other particulars relating to him are not entered in the register, the Registrar is satisfied by statutory declaration or such other evidence as the Registrar may think sufficient that both the mother and the person acknowledging himself to be the father require the name of or any other particulars relating to the father to be entered in the register, the Registrar may authorise the entry in the register of the particulars required to be entered,

Provided that if the mother is dead or cannot be found it shall be sufficient if the request is made by the father alone.

(3) If at any time after the registration of the birth of a child whose father's name is not registered the Registrar is satisfied that a declaration of paternity in respect of the child has been made by the High Court or that the father has assumed guardianship of the child under the Families and Children Act, the Registrar shall authorise the entry in the register of the name of the father and such other particulars relating to the father as are supplied to the Registrar.

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14.—(1) Notwithstanding section 12, the parents of a child born in a public hospital shall be entitled to immediate bedside birth registration of a live birth.

Bedside birth registration.

(2) The bedside birth registration of a child shall be conducted by the clerk of the VSU assigned to the respective public hospital, using the online civil registry system.

(3) The clerk of the VSU shall be responsible for recording the particulars of the parents.

(4) The clerk shall record the particulars of the father if–

(a) in the case of married parents–

(i) the father is present at the live birth of the child; or

(ii) the clerk has been provided with proof of marriage of the parents; and

(b) in the case of unmarried parents–

(i) the father is present at the live birth of the child; or

(ii) the clerk has been provided with the written consent of the man acknowledging himself to be the father of the child, which is signed in the presence of a justice of the peace, a clerk of the court, a notary public, or a marriage officer appointed under the Marriage Act.

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Registration of
child found
abandoned.

15.-(1) Whenever any living new born child is found exposed in any district, any person finding such child, or any person in whose charge such child may be placed or be, shall forthwith give to the Registrar and to the officer in charge of the nearest police station such information as he possesses concerning the child.

(2) If after 30 days of the finding of the child the Director is satisfied that all reasonable effort was made without success to identify the child, the Director shall establish the date of birth of the child and name the child.

(3) The Director shall, using the online registry system, apply for the registration of birth of the child.

CAP. 173

(4) An application under sub-section (3) shall be accompanied by an Order for guardianship under the Families and Children Act.

(5) Where the date of birth of a child whose birth is required to be registered under this section is not known and a medical practitioner certifies in writing that, in his opinion, the birth took place on or about a date specified in the certificate, the Director and the Registrar shall regard the date given by the medical practitioner as the date of birth.

(6) The Registrar shall, if satisfied by the information provided, register the birth of the child and issue a Birth Certificate to the Director.

(7) If subsequent to the registration of a birth under this section, further information is received by the Director affecting the particulars of the birth as registered, or the identity of the child is established to the satisfaction of the Director, the Director shall apply to the Registrar, using the online registration system to add to, or correct, the registration of the birth made under this section.

16.-(1) The surname of a child shall be registered as follows—

Name of child.

- (a) if the parents of a child have the same surname, then the child's surname shall be the parents' surname;
- (b) if the parents of a child have different surnames and the father's name is not entered on the register, then subject to this section, the child's surname shall be the mother's surname;
- (c) if the parents of a child have different surnames and the father's name is entered on the register in accordance with this Act, then the child's surname may—
 - (i) be the father's surname; or
 - (ii) be the father's surname followed by the mother's surname.

(2) If the Registrar considers that the forename or any other name that a person applying for the registration of a birth or an amendment to a registration of birth seeks to give to a child—

- (a) might reasonably be expected to cause embarrassment to the child or another person;
- (b) is offensive or against public order; or
- (c) is sought for an improper purpose,

the Registrar shall register the birth without the inclusion of the name or refuse to amend the existing name on the Birth Certificate, as the case may be.

(3) The Registrar shall notify the applicant without delay that the name or amendment has been refused and give the reason for the refusal.

(4) A person who is aggrieved by the decision of the Registrar under sub-section (2) may appeal the decision of the Registrar to a Judge in Chambers.

(5) On an appeal under sub-section (4), the court may consider any evidence it deems relevant and may make an order confirming the decision of the Registrar or directing the Registrar to register or amend the name in the terms of the order.

Birth Certificate.
Schedule I.

17. Upon successful registration of a birth and upon payment of the prescribed fee, the Registrar shall issue a Birth Certificate in the form set out in Schedule I,

provided that for standard processing of a birth certificate, no fee shall be payable for the first issuance of that birth certificate, whether in electronic format or hard copy, for a child born after the commencement of this Act.

Late registration
of birth.

18.-(1) If after the expiration of twelve months from the birth of any child, the birth is not registered, an application for late registration of the birth of the child, using the online registry system, shall be made to the Registrar.

(2) The Registrar shall approve the registration of the birth—

- (a) if the person making the application falls under section 12(3)(a), (b), (c) or (d); and
- (b) if the informant presents a Notification of Live Birth; or
- (c) where a Notification of Live Birth is not available, upon the submission of statutory declarations attesting to the birth of the child by any two of the following persons—
 - (i) the father of the child;
 - (ii) the mother of the child;
 - (iii) a grandparent of the child;
 - (iv) the midwife attending to the delivery of the child;

- (v) an immediate family relative of the parents of the child; and
- (d) on the presentation of any other such evidence as may be required by the Registrar including but not limited to baptismal record, social security number, pre-school records; and
- (e) on payment of the prescribed fee.

19.—(1) A person with responsibility under this section to register the still birth of a child shall, using the online civil registry system, apply to register that still birth within one year of the still birth of the child.

Registration of still birth.

(2) The persons with responsibility to register the still birth of a child under sub-section (1) shall, unless there has been a coroner's inquiry, be the person who would, if the child had been born alive, have been required by this Act to give information concerning the birth.

(3) An application to register the still birth of a child shall be supported by—

- (a) a Still Birth Notification Form issued by a medical practitioner or midwife who was in attendance at the birth, or who has examined the body of such child; or
- (b) a statutory declaration stating that no medical practitioner or midwife was present at the birth, or has examined the body, or that the Still Birth Form cannot be obtained and that the child was not born alive.

(4) The Registrar shall register the still birth of a child on satisfaction of the requirements under this section.

PART IV

Registration of Deaths

20.—(1) A person in possession of a Medical Certificate of Cause of Death shall, using the online registry system, apply to the Registrar to register the death of the deceased.

Registration of death.

(2) In exceptional circumstances where there is no Medical Proof of Cause of Death, an application for registration of death may be made upon

the submission of a statutory declaration by a person who can attest to the death giving necessary particulars of the death of the deceased.

(3) An application to register the death of a person shall be made within six months of the death of a person.

(4) An application to register the death of a person after the period provided under sub-section (2) shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

(5) The Registrar shall approve the registration of the death of a person on satisfaction of the requirements under this Part.

Schedule II.

(6) Upon successful registration of a death, the Registrar shall issue a Death Certificate in the form set out in Schedule II.

PART V

Registration of Deed Poll

Application for a
Deed Poll
Certificate.

21.—(1) A citizen of Belize who is over the age of eighteen years may, using the online registry system, make an application to the Registrar to change his birth name by deed poll.

(2) The parent of a child who is a citizen or national of Belize may, using the online registry system, make an application to the Registrar to change the name of the child by deed poll.

(3) An application under this section shall be accompanied by—

- (a) the prescribed fee;
- (b) consent, in the approved form, of every person whose consent is necessary under this Act;
- (c) the Birth Certificate of the applicant or, if that is not available, any other documentary proof of name or identity as is acceptable to the Registrar; and
- (d) any further documentary evidence or information as the Registrar may require.

(3) Where an application for change of name by deed poll is made by a person who is a citizen by registration, that person shall, before the Deed

Poll Certificate is granted by the Registrar, surrender his Certificate of Registration as a Citizen of Belize to the Registrar.

(4) The Registrar shall submit a Certificate of Registration as a Citizen of Belize surrendered under sub-section (3) to the Nationality and Passports Department.

22.—(1) Subject to section 24, an application for the change of name of a child shall be accompanied by an approved consent form signed by both parents of the child. Consent.

(2) An application for the change of name of a child may be made by one parent if—

- (a) the intended applicant is the sole parent named in the registration of the child's birth; or
- (b) there is proof that the other parent of the child has died; or
- (c) there is an order of the court granting sole custody to the one parent making the application.

23.—(1) Where a person other than a parent is a guardian of a child jointly with one of the parents— Child under guardianship.

- (a) the guardian may apply, with the consent of that parent; or
- (b) that parent may apply, with the consent of the guardian,

to change the name of the child.

(2) Where neither of the parents of a child is a guardian of the child, the guardian may apply to change the name of the child.

(3) A parent who has been deprived of the guardianship of a child—

- (a) may not apply to change the child's name; and
- (b) is not required to consent to an application to change the child's name.

24. Where a person whose consent is required to an application is unable to give consent by reason of insanity or otherwise, the lawful guardian of that Consent in certain cases.

person or, where there is no lawful guardian, a Judge, may consent on that person's behalf.

Deed Poll Certificate and registration of change of name. Schedule III.

25.—(1) The Registrar shall issue a Deed Poll Certificate in the form set out in Schedule III where an applicant has complied with the requirements of this Part.

(2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), the Registrar may refuse registration of a proposed change of name if in the opinion of the Registrar, the proposed name is one that could be used to defraud or mislead the public.

(3) Where the Registrar refuses to register a proposed change of name pursuant to sub-section (2), the Registrar shall, within 10 days after the refusal, notify the applicant of the refusal and the reason for the refusal.

(4) An applicant may, within 14 days after receipt of a notification of the refusal under sub-section (3), appeal to the High Court.

(5) A notice of appeal under sub-section (4) shall be served on the Registrar at least 7 days before the hearing of the appeal.

Effect of Deed Poll Certificate.

26. A Deed Poll Certificate issued under this Act takes effect immediately on the commencement of the day it is issued.

Change on other records.

27.—(1) A person whose name has been changed in accordance with this Part shall replace his former name with the new name on every identification document.

(2) A person that fails to replace his former name with the new name on identification documents in accordance with sub-section (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both fine and imprisonment.

PART VI

Adoptions, Marriages, and other Life Events

Recording of adoptions. CAP. 173.

28.—(1) The Registrar shall upon receipt of an order of adoption issued by the High Court, record the adoption.

Schedule IV.

(2) The Registrar shall, upon receipt of an application through the online registry system by any of the following persons, issue an Adoption Certificate in the form set out in Schedule IV—

- (a) the persons that have adopted that child; or
- (b) that child upon reaching the age of eighteen years.

(3) An application under sub-section (2) shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

(4) If a child whose birth was previously registered is adopted, the Registrar shall, at the time of the recording of the adoption, seal the original registration of birth of that child.

(5) If a child whose birth was registered is adopted by virtue of an order, judgment or decree of adoption made by a court of competent jurisdiction in another country, the Registrar shall—

- (a) on receipt of a certified copy of the order, judgment or decree; and
- (b) on production of evidence to the satisfaction of the Registrar of the identity of the child,

record the adoption.

(6) If a person born outside of Belize is adopted by an order of a court of competent jurisdiction within Belize, the Registrar may, transmit to the registrar or person in charge of the adoption of births in the country where the adopted child was born—

- (a) a certified copy of the order of adoption; and
- (b) a copy of the Adoption Certificate.

(7) The country of birth of an adopted child shall be entered in the Register, provided the Registrar is satisfied with the identity of the child.

(8) If an adoption order is amended, the entry in the Register relating to it shall be amended accordingly.

(9) If an adoption order is set aside, the entry in the Register shall be cancelled, upon submission through the online registry system, of the order setting aside the adoption order from the Registrar of the High Court.

Recording of
divorces.

29.—(1) Upon submission through the online registry system of a Decree Absolute from the Registrar of the High Court, the Registrar shall record the particulars of the divorce in the Register.

(2) The Registrar may amend or cancel or cause to be amended or cancelled any entry in the Register upon submission through the online registry system from the Registrar of the High Court of a notification to amend or cancel the entry.

Recording of
marriages.

30.—(1) Every marriage solemnized pursuant to the Marriage Act shall be recorded as provided in this Act and the provisions of the Marriage Act.

(2) The Registrar shall upon, receipt of a Duplicate Original Marriage Register and corresponding Proof of Marriage Record, record the particulars of the marriage in the Register.

(3) A marriage solemnized pursuant to the Marriage Act shall be recorded within one year of the date of marriage.

(4) The Registrar may record a marriage after the period of one year if—

(a) the application for late registration is accompanied by—

(i) an Affidavit from the applicant party the marriage and the reasons for the late recording; and

(ii) such other evidence as may be prescribed by the Registrar; and

(b) the Registrar is satisfied as to the truth and sufficiency of the information contained in the Affidavit.

Marriage
Certificate.

Schedule V.

31.—(1) Upon successful recording of a marriage, the Registrar shall, upon receipt of an application through the online registry system by any of the following persons, issue a Marriage Certificate in the form set out in Schedule V—

(a) either party to the marriage;

(b) a person who has written authorization from either party to the marriage to which the application relates; or

- (c) an officer of any government department or statutory body or institution that requires the certificate for use in the discharge of official duties.
- (2) An application for a Marriage Certificate shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

PART VII

Licensing of Agents

- 32.**—(1) Any person engaged in providing assistance or services related to the application, processing or obtaining of a certificate under this Act shall be required to obtain a licence from the VSU. Licensing requirement.
- (2) An application for a licence shall be made in writing to the Registrar, providing—
- (a) a description of the services offered; and
 - (b) any other information as may be required by the VSU.
- (3) The Registrar may grant a licence if satisfied that the person—
- (a) is not less than eighteen years of age;
 - (b) possess the legal capacity to perform the duties of an agent;
 - (c) is knowledgeable of the applicable laws, regulations and procedures for offering and conducting any service under this Act; and
 - (d) has not been convicted of an offence under this Act or under the Criminal Code Summary Jurisdiction (Offences) Act, or any other law. CAP. 98.
CAP. 101.
- (4) A licence to provide services related to the application, processing or obtaining of a certificate under this Act shall be—
- (a) in the form set out in Schedule VI; Schedule VI.
 - (b) valid for one year.

Obligations of
licensed agents.

33. A person granted a licence to provide assistance or services related to the application, processing or obtaining of a certificate under this Act shall—

- (a) provide services in a professional, ethical and lawful manner;
- (b) inform clients of all required documents, fees and steps necessary for the application process; and
- (c) not charge fees that exceed the prescribed rates.

Revocation of
licence.

34. The Registrar may revoke a licence granted under section 33 if the holder of that licence—

- (a) fails to comply with the obligations of a licensed agent; or
- (b) has been convicted of an offence under this Act or a crime of dishonesty or involving moral turpitude under any other law.

PART VII

Offences and Penalties

Unlawful access
to register.

35. A person who unlawfully obtains access to the Register commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years or to both.

Fraud or
misrepresentation.

36. A person who, by fraud or misrepresentation, obtains a change of name or the registration of a birth or death under this Act commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both fine and imprisonment.

Penalty for
altering the
Register.

37. A person who alters or causes the alteration of the Register in contravention of section 44 commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars for each offence.

Penalties for
giving false
information or
making false
certificates.

38. A person who wilfully and knowingly—

- (a) gives to the Registrar any false information concerning any birth, or death, or any living new-born child or dead body, or makes any false answer to any question put to him by the

Registrar relating to the particulars required to be registered concerning any birth or death;

- (b) makes any false order or certificate under, or for any of the purposes of, this Act, or forges or falsifies any such order or certificate, or, knowing any such order or certificate to be forged or false, uses the same as true, or gives or sends the same as true to any person; or
- (c) makes any false statement with intent to have the same entered in any register,

commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or on indictment to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years.

39. Any person who illegally accesses or interferes with the information communication technology of the VSU commits an offence in accordance with the Cybercrime Act.

Cyber offences.
CAP. 106:01.

40. A person who provides assistance or services related to the application, processing or obtaining of a certificate under this Act without a licence commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or imprisonment for a term of one year or both.

Providing
services without
a licence.

PART VIII

Miscellaneous

41. A certificate granted under this Act by the Registrar may be issued physically or electronically.

Issuance of
certificates.

42.—(1) The Registrar may, if satisfied that any registration or recording of a life event entry, notation or other alteration in relation to any life event, or any document, deed or other registration done, certificate or document issued under the provisions of this Act has been obtained by fraud, duress or misrepresentation, revoke the registration of the life event, entry, notation or other alteration, or any document, deed, or other registration done or certificate or document issued under this Act, as the case may be.

Revocation.

(2) A revocation made pursuant to sub-section (1) shall be recorded on the Register.

(3) The Registrar shall, without charge, make any alterations in the records that are necessary by reason of the revocation.

(4) The Registrar shall, by *Gazette Notice*, publish the particulars of every registration of birth, death or change of name that has been revoked.

Security of the Register.

43. The Registrar shall ensure that the Register if kept in an electronic form, is designed with access-control measures and integrity preservation features.

Register not to be altered.

44. The Register shall not, for any purpose whatever, be altered, unless there is an application for a correction, amendment or cancellation in accordance with this Act.

Preservation of records.

45. The Registrar shall preserve—

- (a) all records of life events in the electronic Register; and
- (b) all physical and historical records of life events registered prior to the commencement of this Act in accordance with the retention policy developed by the VSU.

Clerical errors, how rectified.

46.—(1) A clerical error of a life event registered prior to the commencement of this Act may be corrected by the Registrar on receipt of an application using the online registration system.

(2) A person applying to correct a clerical error under this section shall provide the following—

- (a) a declaration setting forth the nature of the error and the true facts of the case made by a person required to give information concerning the error made, or in default of such a person then by two persons, who, whether by their professional or personal relationship to the person to whom the matter relates, can attest to the truth of the case; and
- (b) proof of the error.

(3) For the purposes of this section—

(a) a “clerical error” means—

- (i) an omission or erroneous entry of a year, month or day;
- (ii) an omission or erroneous entry of gender;

- (iii) an omission or erroneous entry of a given name or surname;
- (iv) an error in spelling any word which is not a given name or surname, or the misplacement or repetition of any word;
- (v) any other similar error;
- (b) proof means—
 - (i) in relation to a birth, the proof of birth which can substantiate the error or in the alternative, from a baptismal certificate or certificate of naming;
 - (ii) in relation to a marriage, a passport or social security card showing the correct information;
 - (iii) in relation to a death, the medical proof of cause of death certificate.

47.—(1) The Registrar shall add a notation to a person's birth certificate if there is any modification, amendment, or correction to that person's birth certificate.

Notations.

- (2) The notation shall include—
 - (a) the type of change;
 - (b) the date the change was made; and
 - (c) a brief description of the reason for the change .
- (3) A notation shall—
 - (a) not alter the legal status or validity of the original birth certificate;
 - (b) serve as a formal record of the change; and
 - (c) be recognized as a part of the official records of life events.

48. The Minister may from time to time make rules—

Rules.

- (a) for regulating the registration of births and deaths;
- (b) for prescribing the fees payable in respect of all or any of the matters required to be done by this Act;
- (c) for prescribing the rates for services by a person licensed to provide assistance or services related to the application, processing or obtaining of a certificate under this Act; or
- (d) for prescribing any other matter necessary to be done for the purpose of carrying this Act into effect.

Amendment of
Schedules.

49. The Minister may, by Order, amend the Schedules to this Act.

Validity of prior
deed poll.

50. Any deed poll executed before the commencement of this Act shall be deemed valid and legally effective for all purposes, as if it were executed in compliance with this Act

Repeal and
savings.

51.-(1) The Registration of Births and Deaths Act is repealed.

(2) The following subsidiary laws are repealed—

(a) Registration of Births and Deaths Rules;

Sub. Leg. 2020
Edn. CAP. 157
p. 3.

(b) Registration of Births and Deaths (Normal Form of Birth and Death Certificates) Rules.

Sub. Leg. 2020
Edn. CAP. 157
p. 6.

(3) Notwithstanding the repeal—

- (a) nothing in this Act shall affect anything done or proceedings taken or a right which has accrued or a liability which has been incurred or any other thing done under the repealed Act;
- (b) all Regulations, By-laws, Rules, Orders and other subsidiary laws made under the repealed Act, other than those specified under sub-section (2), shall, to the extent that they are not inconsistent with this Act, continue in force until repealed by Regulations, By-laws, Rules, Orders, and other subsidiary legislation made under this Act;
- (c) all certificates issued under the repealed Act shall remain valid and acceptable.

-
- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>52. A person who immediately before the coming into force of this Act held or was acting in an office of emolument under the Government shall be deemed to have been appointed, as from the coming into force of this Act, to hold, or to act in that office.</p> | <p>Transitional.</p> |
| <p>53. The enactments specified in Schedule VII are amended to the extent specified in relation to the respective enactments.</p> | <p>Consequential amendments.
Schedule VII.</p> |
| <p>54. This Act shall come into force on a date appointed by the Minister by Order published in the <i>Gazette</i>.</p> | <p>Commencement.</p> |

SCHEDULE I
[section 17]

**CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND VITAL STATISTICS UNIT
BIRTH CERTIFICATE**

Registration No.:

Date of Registration:

CHILD'S INFORMATION

Name(s):

Surname:

Sex:

Date of Birth:

MOTHER'S INFORMATION

Name(s):

Surname:

Sex:

Date of Birth:

Identification document issuance country:

Type of Identification:

Identification No.:

Country of Birth:

FATHER'S INFORMATION

Name(s):

Surname:

Sex:

Date of Birth:

Identification document issuance country:

Type of Identification:

Identification No.:

Country of Birth:

PARTICULARS OF BIRTH

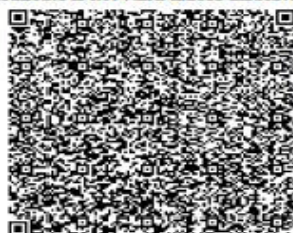
Place of Birth:

Address:

Child is under a ward of state:

This certificate is changed via Deed Poll:

1. This is a certificate of the record officially registered in the CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND VITAL STATISTICS UNIT, Government of Belize
2. This certificate is not valid unless displaying the Signature of the Appropriate Registrar



Scan to Validate

Registrar
Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit

1. To validate the authenticity of this document, all persons are required to scan the QR code provided on the document using a compatible QR code scanning application.
2. The Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit shall not be liable for any claims, damages, or losses arising from or related to the document if the validation process is not completed. The Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit disclaims any responsibility for issues that may arise due to the failure to validate the document in accordance with this clause.

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SCHEDULE II
[section 20(6)]

**CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND VITAL STATISTICS UNIT
DEATH CERTIFICATE**

Registration No.:

Date of Registration:

PARTICULARS OF THE DECEASED

Name(s):

Identification Document Issuance Country:

Surname:

Type of Identification:

Sex:

Identification No.:

Date of Birth:

Country of Birth:

PARTICULARS OF DEATH

Date of Death:

Direct Cause of Death:

Place of Death:

Antecedent Cause of Death:

Address:

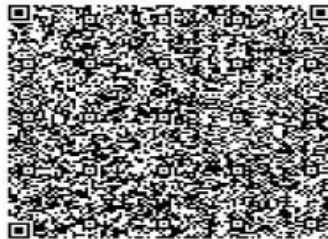
2nd Antecedent Cause of Death:**PARTICULARS OF CERTIFYING PRACTITIONER**

Name(s):

Surname:

License Number:

1. This is a certificate of the record officially registered in the CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND VITAL STATISTICS UNIT, Government of Belize
2. This certificate is not valid unless displaying the Signature of the Appropriate Registrar



Registrar
Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit

Scan to Validate

1. To validate the authenticity of this document, all persons are required to scan the QR code provided on the document using a compatible QR code scanning application.
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SCHEDULE III

[section 25(1)]

CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND VITAL STATISTICS UNIT**DEED POLL CERTIFICATE**

Registration No.:

Date of Registration:

PERSON'S DETAILS

Name(s):

Identification Document Issuance Country:

Surname:

Type of Identification:

Sex:

Identification No.:

Date of Birth:

Country of Birth:

NAME GIVEN AT BIRTH

Birth Registration No.:

Name:

Middle Name:

Surname:

NAME BEFORE DEED POLL

Birth Registration No.:

Name:

Middle Name:

Surname:

NAME AFTER DEED POLL

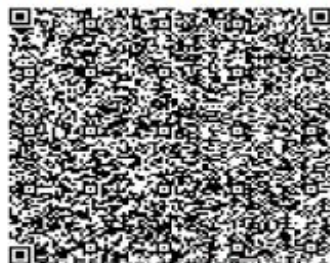
Name:

Middle Name:

Surname:

Number of Deed Polls:

1. This is a certificate of the record officially registered in the CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND VITAL STATISTICS UNIT, Government of Belize
2. This certificate is not valid unless displaying the Signature of the Appropriate Registrar



Scan to Validate

1. To validate the authenticity of this document, all persons are required to scan the QR code provided on the document using a compatible QR code scanning application.
2. The Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit shall not be liable for any claims, damages, or losses arising from or related to the document if the validation process is not completed. The Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit disclaims any responsibility for issues that may arise due to the failure to validate the document in accordance with this clause.

Registrar
Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit

SCHEDULE IV
[section 28(2)]

**CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND VITAL STATISTICS UNIT
ADOPTION CERTIFICATE**

Registration No.:

Date of registration:

Date of Adoption:

ADOPTED CHILD'S INFORMATION

Name(s):

Surname:

Sex:

Date of Birth:

Identification document issuance country:

Type of Identification:

Identification No.:

Country of Birth:

NAMES AFTER ADOPTION

Name(s):

Surname:

ADOPTIVE MOTHER'S INFORMATION

Name(s):

Surname:

Sex:

Date of Birth:

Identification document issuance country:

Type of Identification:

Identification No.:

Country of Birth:

ADOPTIVE FATHER'S INFORMATION

Name(s):

Surname:

Sex:

Date of Birth:

Identification document issuance country:

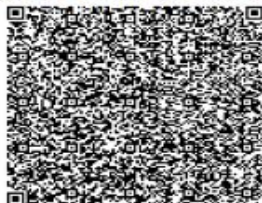
Type of Identification:

Identification No.:

Country of Birth:

This certificate is changed via:

1. This is a certificate of the record officially registered in the CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND VITAL STATISTICS UNIT, Government of Belize
2. This certificate is not valid unless displaying the Signature of the Appropriate Registrar



Scan to Validate

Registrar
Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit

1. To validate the authenticity of this document, all persons are required to scan the QR code provided on the document using a compatible QR code scanning application.
2. The Civil Registry and Vital Statistics Unit shall not be liable for any claims, damages, or losses arising from or related to the document if the validation process is not completed. The Civil Registry and Vital Statistics Unit disclaims any responsibility for issues that may arise due to the failure to validate the document in accordance with this clause.

SCHEDULE V
[section 31(1)]

CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND VITAL STATISTICS UNIT
MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

Registration No.:
Date of Marriage:

Date of Registration:

BRIDE'S INFORMATION

Name(s):
Surname:
Surname After Marriage:
Date of Birth:

Identification Document Issuance Country:
Type of Identification:
Identification No.:
Country of Birth:

GROOM'S INFORMATION

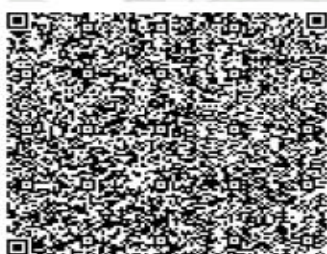
Name(s):
Surname:
Surname After Marriage:
Date of Birth:

Identification Document Issuance Country:
Type of Identification:
Identification No.:
Country of Birth:

MARRIAGE INFORMATION

Type of Marriage:
Type of Certification:
Name(s):
Surname:
License Number:

1. This is a certificate of the record officially registered in the CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND VITAL STATISTICS UNIT, Government of Belize
2. This certificate is not valid unless displaying the Signature of the Appropriate Registrar



Scan to Validate

Registrar
Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit

1. To validate the authenticity of this document, all persons are required to scan the QR code provided on the document using a compatible QR code scanning application.
2. The Civil Registry and Vital Statistics Unit shall not be liable for any claims, damages, or losses arising from or related to the document if the validation process is not completed. The Civil Registry and Vital Statistics Unit disclaims any responsibility for issues that may arise due to the failure to validate the document in accordance with this clause.

SCHEDULE VI
[section 32]

**CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND VITAL
STATISTICS UNIT
LICENCE**

Name of Applicant

of _____

Address

is hereby granted a **LICENCE** by the **CIVIL REGISTRY DEPARTMENT AND
VITAL STATISTICS UNIT** as a

LICENSED AGENT to provide the services related to the application, processing or
obtaining of a certificate under the Civil Registry and Vital Statistics Act.

Valid From: _____

Valid To: _____

Date Issued: _____

Registrar

Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit

SCHEDULE VII

*[section 53]***CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS**

Sub. Leg, 2020
Edn. CAP. 161
p. 3

- 1.** The Belizean Nationality Regulations is amended by inserting after regulation 13, the following new regulation—

“Re-issue of
certificate.

13A. A person granted a Certificate of Registration as a Citizen of Belize who, after the grant of that certificate applies for a change of name by deed poll under the Civil Registry and Vital Statistics Act shall, on the grant of a Deed Poll Certificate, apply to the Director of Immigration and Nationality Services, for a re-issue of the Certificate of Registration as a Citizen of Belize with that person’s new name.”.

2. The Public Health Act is amended as follows—

CAP. 40.

- (a) in section 2, by inserting the following new terms and definitions in the appropriate alphabetical order—

““Medical Certificate of Cause of Death means the form prescribed in the Thirteenth Schedule

“medical practitioner” means a person who is registered to practice medicine under the Medical Practice Act; CAP. 318

“nurse” means a person who is registered as a nurse under the Nurses and Midwives Registration Act; CAP. 321.

“midwife” means a person who is registered as a midwife under the Nurses and Midwives Registration Act;”; CAP. 321.

- (b) by inserting after section 8, the following new Part—

“PART IA

Notification of live births, still births and deaths

Notice of live
and still births.

8A.—(1) Every medical practitioner, nurse or midwife who attends the live birth or still birth of a child shall complete and submit to the parents or guardians of the child and the Registrar of the Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit, notice of the live birth or still birth of a child.

(2) A notice of the live birth of a child shall be in the form prescribed in the Eleventh Schedule.

(3) A notice of the still birth of a child shall be in the form prescribed in the Twelfth Schedule.

(4) A notice required under sub-section (1) shall be given to the Registrar of the Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit within thirty days after the birth of child.

(5) If a pregnancy resulted in the birth of more than one child, a separate notice shall—

(a) be given for each child; and

(b) each notice shall state the number of children born and the birth order of the child that is the subject of that particular notice.

Medical
Certificate of
Cause of Death.

8B.—(1) Every medical practitioner who attends the death of a person shall complete and submit to the relatives or persons in care of the deceased and the Registrar of the Civil Registry and Vital Statistics Department a Medical Certificate of Cause of Death.

(2) A Medical Certificate of Cause of Death shall be in the form prescribed in the Thirteenth Schedule.”;

(c) by inserting after section 30, the following new section—

“Certificate to be
obtained before
burial.

30A.—(1) It shall not be lawful to bury the body of any person, within any prescribed place of burial under any other law, unless a Medical Certificate of Cause of Death has been previously obtained.

(2) A Medical Certificate Cause of Death shall—

(a) in relation to a deceased person who was attended during his last illness by a medical practitioner, be signed by such medical practitioner; or

(b) in relation to a deceased person was not attended during his last illness by a medical practitioner, be signed by a medical practitioner certifying that the circumstances of death have been inquired into and to the best of his belief the deceased person died from natural causes;

(c) in relation to a still-born child, be signed by—

(i) the registered medical practitioner who was in attendance at its birth; or

(ii) in the event of no medical practitioner having been in attendance at its birth, a medical practitioner who has been called in subsequent to its birth and has examined and conducted a post mortem examination confirming the

circumstances under which the still-born child has died

(3) In case of doubt in relation to a person dying in Belize who has not been attended during his last illness by a medical practitioner, it shall be obligatory upon the medical practitioner certifying that the circumstances of death have been inquired into to report the case immediately to the Director of Health Services, who is required to forward his opinion in writing to the coroner whenever he considers it expedient that an inquest or inquiry should be held.

(4) Every person who buries or causes to be buried the body of any person or still-born child shall, within seven days after the burial, submit the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death to the Registrar of the Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit.

(5) Every person who contravenes sub-section (3) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars.

(6) Every person who—

(a) on presenting the body of a person or still-born child for burial, then or within such time as may be allowed by the person to whom the body is so presented, fails to produce to that person a written Medical Certificate of Cause of Death;

(b) buries a body in contravention of this section,

commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars.”;

(d) by inserting after section 45, the following new section—



“Removal of body out of Belize.

45A.—(1) The body of a deceased person shall not be removed out of Belize unless approval has been given by the Director of Public Health and Wellness for such removal.

(2) Any person who contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars.”; and

- (e) by inserting after the Tenth Schedule, the following new Schedules—

“ELEVENTH SCHEDULE
[section 8A(2)]

 MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS LIVE BIRTH NOTIFICATION FORM 		FORM NUMBER LB _____
Please press firmly -- you are making three copies		
INFORMATION WHERE THE BIRTH OCCURRED		
Name of Facility/Community Village/Town/City Number and Street Name	DISTRICT <input type="checkbox"/> Corozal <input type="checkbox"/> Cayo <input type="checkbox"/> Orange Walk <input type="checkbox"/> Stann creek <input type="checkbox"/> Belize <input type="checkbox"/> Toledo	TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Other Public Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Private Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Private Clinic <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____
MOTHER'S DEMOGRAPHIC		
First Middle Surname Village/Town/City Number and Street Name	DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Corozal <input type="checkbox"/> Cayo <input type="checkbox"/> Orange Walk <input type="checkbox"/> Stann creek <input type="checkbox"/> Belize <input type="checkbox"/> Toledo	Country of Birth Country of Residence
D.O.B DD/MM/YY	Belize Social Security Number And/Or BHIS ID (Mother) <i>(If none provided fill Other ID Type)</i> SSN BHIS	ID Document Type: _____ Identification Number: _____ Document Issuing Country: _____
INFORMATION OF THE BIRTH		
Type of Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Vaginal <input type="checkbox"/> C/Section	Date of Birth: DD/MM/YY Time of Birth: HH MM <input type="radio"/> AM <input type="radio"/> PM	BHIS ID (Infant) _____ SEX: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminant <input type="checkbox"/> Female Birth Weight: _____ (g) Gestational Age at Birth _____ (Weeks)
Multiple Birth <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> NO Type of Birth <input type="radio"/> Single <input type="radio"/> Twin <input type="radio"/> Triplets <input type="radio"/> More than 3: _____	Birth order if multiple _____ _____ _____	Type of Birth Attendant <input type="checkbox"/> OBGYN <input type="checkbox"/> Physician <input type="checkbox"/> Midwife <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional Birth Attendant <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse <input type="checkbox"/> Other(specify): _____
Name of Birth Attendant: _____ <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> First Middle Surname License # (if applicable) </div>		
Issued By: _____ <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> First Middle Surname Post of Officer Signature </div>		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 150px; height: 100px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> STAMP </div>		
Facility/Institution: _____ Date Issued: _____		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: x-small;"> <div> THIS FORM IS TO BE FILLED IN TRIPLICATE Original (White) copy: Register at Vital Statistic Unit Yellow copy: Send to Medical Statistic Office Pink copy: Practitioner or Hospital Files </div> <div> <i>The person receiving this certificate should register the Birth (or cause it to be registered) at the Vital Statistics Unit as soon as possible. Registration completed after one year will incur an additional cost.</i> </div> </div>		

TWELFTH SCHEDULE
[section 8A(3)]



MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS
STILL BIRTH NOTIFICATION FORM

Please press firmly -- you are making three copies



FORM NUMBER

SB

INFORMATION WHERE THE STILL BIRTH OCCURRED									
Name of Facility/Community Village/Town/City Number and Street Name			DISTRICT :				TYPE:		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Corozal <input type="checkbox"/> Cayo <input type="checkbox"/> Orange Walk <input type="checkbox"/> Stann creek <input type="checkbox"/> Belize <input type="checkbox"/> Toledo				<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Other Public Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Private Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Private Clinic <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____		
MOTHER'S DEMOGRAPHICS & HISTORY									
First Middle Surname			DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE:				AGE:		Country of Birth: _____
City/Town/Village			<input type="checkbox"/> Corozal <input type="checkbox"/> Cayo <input type="checkbox"/> Orange Walk <input type="checkbox"/> Stann creek <input type="checkbox"/> Belize <input type="checkbox"/> Toledo				D.O.B		Country of Residence: _____
Number and Street Name							DD/MM/YY		ID Document Type: _____
Belize Social Security Number And/Or BHIS ID (Mother) (if none provided fill Other ID Type)			Gestational Age at Booking		Total No. Of Antenatal Clinics		ETHNICITY CODE ()		
SSN BHIS							(1)African descent (7)Garifuna (12)Maya Yucatec (2)Caucasian /White (8)Indian (13)Mennonite (3)Chinese (9)Lebanese (14)Mestizo/Hispanic/Latino (4)Creole (10) Maya Ketchi (15) Other (5)DK/NS (11)Maya Mopan (16)Taiwanese (6)East Indian		
Last Weight Recorded _____ Kg.		Expected Delivery Date DD/MM/YY		Last Menstrual Period DD/MM/YY					
No. of Previous C/Section : _____		Behavior/Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol <input type="checkbox"/> Other Drugs (specify) _____		Maternal Chronic Conditions/Disease _____ _____ _____		EDUCATION LEVEL CODE ()			
No. Miscarriages : _____						(1)None (4)Vocational (7)Master's Degree (2)Primary (5)Associate's Degree (8)Doctorate Degree (3)Secondary (6)Bachelor's Degree (9)Other (10)Don't Know/Not Stated			
Pregnancy Spacing (interval) : _____ MM/YY									
Reproductive Risk Factors			High Risk Pregnancy Factors		Conditions Contributing to Fetal Death (ICD10)		Congenital Anomalies of Fetus (ICD 10)		
INFORMATION OF THE BIRTH									
Type of Death <input type="checkbox"/> Ante Partum <input type="checkbox"/> Intra Partum		Place of Death <input type="checkbox"/> In Hospital or Clinic <input type="checkbox"/> Out Hospital or Clinic		Date of Birth: DD/MM/YY		DISTRICT OF BIRTH:		SEX	
				Time of Birth: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Corozal <input type="checkbox"/> Cayo <input type="checkbox"/> Orange Walk <input type="checkbox"/> Stann creek <input type="checkbox"/> Belize <input type="checkbox"/> Tulelu		<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminant <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
TYPE OF BIRTH ATTENDANT: <input type="checkbox"/> OBGYN <input type="checkbox"/> Physician <input type="checkbox"/> Midwife <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional Birth Attendant <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse <input type="checkbox"/> Other(specify): _____				Place of Birth: _____					
				Weight at Birth _____ g.		Gestational Age at Birth _____ Wks.		Fetal Maceration <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Name of Birth Attendant: License # (if applicable) _____									
First Middle Surname									
Issued By:									
First Middle Surname			Post of Officer			Signature			
Facility/Institution: _____ Date Issued: _____									

Still Birth: is defined as a death prior to complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of human conception, equal or greater to 28 weeks of gestation (WHO and ICD 10 Code cut off point), and which is not an induced termination of pregnancy. The death is indicated by the fact that after such expulsion or extraction, the fetus does not breathe or show any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of umbilical cord, definite movement of voluntary muscles. Heart beats are to be distinguished from transient cardiac contractions; respiration is to be distinguished from, fleeting respiratory efforts.

THIRTEENTH SCHEDULE [section 8B(2)]



MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF CAUSE OF DEATH



Please press firmly -- you are making three copies

MCCD

FORM NUMBER

1.0 PARTICULARS OF DECEASED										
1.1 LAST NAME (SURNAME)				1.7 AGE IN YEARS <i>(In the case of Under Five Death: specify age in hours/days: months and days: or years and months)</i>						
1.2 FIRST & MIDDLE NAME										
1.3 IDENTIFIER (Specific Type of Document and Country of Issue)		OTHER ID TYPE: _____		1.8 DATE OF BIRTH		DAY		MONTH		
		IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: _____				YEAR				
		DOCUMENT ISSUING COUNTRY: _____		1.9 SEX		<input type="radio"/> MALE <input type="radio"/> FEMALE <input type="radio"/> UNKNOWN				
1.4 RACE/ETHNICITY		ETHNICITY CODE : _____		1.10 MARITAL STATUS		<input type="radio"/> NEVER MARRIED <input type="radio"/> WIDOWED <input type="radio"/> MARRIED <input type="radio"/> LEGALLY SEPARATED <input type="radio"/> DIVORCED <input type="radio"/> UNKNOWN				
(1) African descent (7) Garifuna (12) Maya Yucatec (2) Caucasian/White (8) Indian (13) Mennonite (3) Chinese (9) Lebanese (14) Mestizo/Hispanic/Latino (4) Creole (10) Maya Ketchi (15) Taiwanese (5) DK/NS (11) Maya Mopan (16) Other (6) East Indian										
1.5 USUAL RESIDENCE (Number, Street, Village, District, Country)		NUMBER / STREET / VILLAGE / DISTRICT / COUNTRY								
1.6 COUNTRY OF BIRTH		<input type="checkbox"/> BELIZE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER COUNTRY (please specify) _____								
2.0 PARTICULARS OF DEATH (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)										
CAUSE OF DEATH	2.1 DATE OF DEATH		DAY		MONTH		YEAR		2.2 APPROXIMATE TIME OF DEATH	
									AM <input type="checkbox"/> HH _____ MM _____ PM <input type="checkbox"/> HH _____ MM _____	
	2.3 DISEASE, INJURY OR COMPLICATION LEADING DIRECTLY TO DEATH		(A) Due to (or as a consequence of)						DURATION (Time interval from onset to death)	
			ICD 10 CODE _____							
	2.4 ANTECEDENT - CHAIN OF EVENTS GIVING RISE TO DEATH		(B) Due to (or as a consequence of)						DURATION (Time interval from onset to death)	
			ICD 10 CODE _____							
		(C) Due to (or as a consequence of)						DURATION (Time interval from onset to death)		
		ICD 10 CODE _____								
		(D) Due to (or as a consequence of)						DURATION (Time interval from onset to death)		
		ICD 10 CODE _____								
2.5 OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH		(D) Due to (or as a consequence of)						2.6 APPROX TIME BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH (A) to (D)		
		ICD 10 CODE _____						<input type="checkbox"/>		

3.0 PARTICULARS OF DEATH (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)						
EXTERNAL CAUSE OF DEATH	3.1 MANNER OF DEATH	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCIDENT <input type="checkbox"/> ASSAULT <input type="checkbox"/> DISEASE <input type="checkbox"/> POISONING <input type="checkbox"/> SUICIDE <input type="checkbox"/> PENDING INVESTIGATION <input type="checkbox"/> UNDETERMINED	3.2 DATE OF INJURY: (IF APPLICABLE) (INJURY/SUICIDE/ACCIDENT)			
				DAY	MONTH	YEAR
	3.3 PLACE OF INJURY (IF APPLICABLE) Place of injury refers to the location where the traumatic event occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITAL <input type="checkbox"/> HOME <input type="checkbox"/> SCHOOL <input type="checkbox"/> WORKPLACE <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC AREA <input type="checkbox"/> STREET/HIGHWAY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____	Name of Facility / Street Number / Village/Town/City / District ADDRESS (If hospital, please provide the name and address of the facility)			
	3.4 PLACE OF DEATH Place of death refers to the location where the person died.	<input type="checkbox"/> HOME <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE HOSPITAL <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HOSPITAL <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC AREA <input type="checkbox"/> SCHOOL <input type="checkbox"/> STREET/HIGHWAY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____	Name of Facility / Street Number / Village/Town/City / District ADDRESS (If hospital, please provide the name and address of the facility)			
	3.6 POSTMORTEM PERFORMED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				
SURGERY	3.7 WAS ANY SURGERY PERFORMED WITHIN THE LAST 4 WEEKS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN	3.8 IF YES, SPECIFY THE REASONS FOR SURGERY	DISEASE OR CONDITION		
	3.9 IF YES, PLEASE SPECIFY THE DATE OF SURGERY	____/____/____ DAY MONTH YEAR	3.10 WAS THE CAUSE OF DEATH RELATED TO THE SURGERY OR ITS COMPLICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN		
MATERNAL AND FETAL DEATH	3.11 THE FEMALE WAS	<input type="checkbox"/> PREGNANT AT THE TIME OF DEATH <input type="checkbox"/> NOT PREGNANT AT THE TIME OF DEATH (BUT PREGNANT WITHIN 42 DAYS) <input type="checkbox"/> POST OBSTETRIC EVENT WITHIN THE LAST 12 MONTHS	3.13 PLEASE SPECIFY THE STAGE OF PREGNANCY WHEN THE DEATH OCCURED	<input type="checkbox"/> DURING PREGNANCY <input type="checkbox"/> AT DELIVERY <input type="checkbox"/> ACUTE POSTPARTUM (up to 12 hours) <input type="checkbox"/> SUBACUTE POSTPARTUM (up to 6 weeks) <input type="checkbox"/> DELAYED POSTPARTUM (up to 6 months)		
	3.12 IF YES, DID THE PREGNANCY CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEATH	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN				
		3.20 DID ANY MATERNAL CONDITION(S) CONTRIBUTE TO THE OUTCOME	_____ DISEASE OR CONDITION			
4.0 PARTICULARS OF PRACTITIONER CERTIFYING DEATH						
4.1 NAME OF MEDICAL OFFICER CERTIFYING (First Name, Middle name, Surname)				4.4 DATE THIS CERTIFICATE WAS PREPARED		
4.2 REGISTRATION NUMBER					DAY	MONTH
4.3 NAME OF FACILITY				4.5 SIGNATURE		
I CERTIFY THAT THE PARTICULARS AND CAUSE OF DEATH SHOWN ABOVE, ARE TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, AND THAT NO RELEVANT INFORMATION HAS BEEN OMITTED						

(THE PERSON RECEIVING THIS CERTIFICATE SHOULD REGISTER THE DEATH (OR CAUSE IT TO BE REGISTERED) AT THE VITAL STATISTICS UNIT FOUR DAYS FROM THE DATE OF DEATH. A PENALTY IS IMPOSED FOR NEGLECTING TO GIVE INFORMATION OF A DEATH.)

THIS FORM IS TO BE FILLED IN TRIPLICATE

Original (White) copy: Deliver to Vital Statistic Unit
Yellow copy: Send to Medical Statistic Office
Pink copy: Practitioner or Hospital Files

CAP. 174.

4. The Marriage Act is amended as follows—

- (a) in section 2, by inserting, in the appropriate alphabetical sequence, the following terms and definitions—

““Minister” means the Attorney General;

“Registrar” means the Registrar of the Civil Registry Department and Vital Statistics Unit appointed under section 3 of the Civil Registry and Vital Statistics Act;”;

- (b) by repealing section 8 and replacing it with the following—

“Appointment of marriage officers.

8.—(1) The Minister may, in his discretion, appoint any minister of religion or Senior Justice of Peace as a marriage officer for Belize if—

- (a) in the case of a minister of religion, that person is—

(i) a member of a registered church, that is registered to hold banns;

(ii) an ordained minister; and

(iii) has theological training; and

- (b) in the case of a Senior Justice of Peace, that person is a fit and proper person to be appointed as a marriage officer.

(2) Any marriage officer appointed under this section may act in that character throughout Belize”.

- (c) by repealing section 10 and replacing it with the following—

“Application for appointment as a marriage officer.

10.—(1) All applications by ministers of religion or Senior Justices of Peace for appointment as marriage officers shall be made in writing to the Solicitor General who shall without delay transmit the application to the Minister for his consideration.

(2) Every minister of religion acting in that character for a congregation, or having the local superintendence of several congregations, who applies to be appointed a marriage officer shall state in his application the name or other description of the place of public worship or the congregations over which he has local superintendence, and the postal address at or to which all communications intended for him may be delivered or sent.

(3) An application for appointment as a marriage officer shall be accompanied by a fee of fifty dollars and—

(a) in the case of an application by a minister of religion, by—

- (i) a letter from head church or congregation in support of appointment;
- (ii) proof of registration of Church;
- (iii) proof of registration for the publication of banns;
- (iv) proof of theological training or ordination as a minister of religion;
- (v) recent police record of applicant; and
- (vi) passport or Social Security Card of applicant; and

(b) in the case of an application by a Senior Justice of the Peace, by—

- (i) a letter of recommendation from the Association of

Justices of the Peace and Commissioners of the High Court that the applicant is a fit and proper person to be registered as a Marriage Officer;

(ii) recent police record of applicant; and

(iii) passport or Social Security Card of applicant.

(4) Every applicant seeking appointment as marriage officer shall attend an interview on the date and time, and at the location notified by the Solicitor General.

(5) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), a Senior Justice of the Peace who immediately before the entry into force of this Act was operating as a marriage officer may, for a period of six months from the date of entry into force of this Act, continue to operate as a marriage officer without applying for appointment.”

(6) Every person who prior to the entry into force of this Act, was appointed as a marriage officer shall, within six months from the date of commencement of this Act, apply for reappointment as a marriage officer in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

(7) Notwithstanding sub-section (6), a person appointed as a marriage officer prior to the entry into force of this Act shall continue to exercise the functions of a marriage officer during the period of six month or until the determination of an application for reappointment, whichever is earlier.

(8) Any person who fails to apply for reappointment within the time specified in sub-section (6), or whose application for reappointment is refused, shall cease to be a

marriage officer upon the expiration of the period of six month or upon notification of refusal of reappointment.”;

- (d) by inserting after section 10, the following new section—

“Assignment of
licence number.

10A. Every minister of religion and Senior Justice of the Peace appointed as a marriage officer shall be assigned a licence number.”;

- (e) in section 12, by deleting the term “Registrar General” wherever it appears and substituting the term “Solicitor General”;

- (f) in section 14, by deleting the term “Registrar General” wherever it appears and substituting the term “Solicitor General”;

- (g) by repealing section 17 and replacing it with the following—

“Magistrates as
marriage
officers.

17.—(1) Every magistrate shall have full power and authority to perform marriages under this Act within the districts for which there are appointed and shall be marriage officers within the meaning of this Act.

(2) Every magistrate shall, for the purposes of performing marriages under this Act, be included in the Register of Marriage Officers and assigned a licence number.

(3) The postal address for a magistrate under this Act shall be the office of the magistrate.”;

- (h) by repealing section 19;

- (i) by inserting after section 26, the following new section—

“Notification of
registered
buildings.

26A. At the end of every month, the Registrar General shall provide the Solicitor General with the details of every building that has been registered for the publication of banns or whose

registration has been cancelled within that respective month.”;

(j) in section 61–

(i) by repealing sub-section (2) and substituting the following–

“(2) All Duplicate Original Marriage Registers shall, within one year of the celebration of the marriage, be recorded under the provisions of the Civil Registry and Vital Statistics Unit Act.”; and

(ii) in sub-section (4), by deleting the term “Registrar General” and substituting the term “Registrar”;

(k) in section 62, by deleting the term “Registrar General” wherever it appears and substituting the term “Registrar”;

(l) by inserting after section 63, the following new section–

“Proof of
Marriage
Record.

63A.–(1) Immediately after the solemnisation or performance of a marriage, the marriage officer or other person authorised to perform the marriage shall complete the Proof of Marriage Record set out in Form 8A in the First Schedule.

(2) The Proof of Marriage Record shall be signed by the marriage officer or other person authorised to perform the marriage, the parties to the marriage and the witnesses to the marriage.

(3) The marriage officer or other person authorised to perform the marriage shall submit the Proof of Marriage Record to the Registrar.”;

(m) in section 67–

(i) in sub-section (1)(c), by inserting after the term “Registrar General”, the words “or Registrar”; and

(ii) in sub-section (3), by inserting after the term “Registrar General”, the words “or Registrar”;

- (n) in section 72(1), by inserting after the term “Registrar General”, the words “or Registrar”;
- (o) in the First Schedule, by inserting after Form 8, the following new Form—

“FORM 8A
[section 63A]

Unique Serial Number

(The unique number should be listed in the paper record.)

PROOF OF MARRIAGE RECORD

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION REQUIRED

Information of Occurrence (Marriage)

Marriage License Number: _____

Date of Occurrence: ____/____/____
dd / mm / yyyyType of Marriage: Civil ☐ Under Banns ☐Type of Place of Occurrence: Resort/Hotel ☐ Private Residence ☐ Church/Chapel ☐ Courthouse ☐

Name & Address of The Place of Occurrence:

_____	/	_____
Name of Facility		Street Name
_____	/	_____
City/Town/Village		District

Information of BrideFull Maiden Name: _____/_____/_____
First Name Middle Name Surname

Surname to be taken after Marriage: _____

Country of Birth: _____

Type of Identification Document: Passport ☐ Social Security Card ☐ National ID (Foreigners) ☐

Document Issuing Country: _____

Identification Number: _____

Date of Birth of Bride: ____/____/____
dd / mm / yyyy

Before this marriage occurred, what was your legal marital status?

Never Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Legally Separated ☐ Widowed ☐

Educational Level Code: [____]

None (1), Primary (2), Secondary (3), Vocational (4), Associate's Degree (5), Bachelor's Degree (6), Master's Degree (7),
Doctorate Degree (8), Other (9), Don't Know/Not Stated (10)

Address of Residence: _____ / _____
Street Name City/Town/Village

District Country

Signature

Information of Groom

Full Name: _____ / _____ / _____
First Name Middle Name Surname
Surname to be taken after Marriage: _____
Country of Birth: _____
Type of Identification Document: Passport ☐ Social Security Card ☐ National ID (Foreigners) ☐
Document Issuing Country: _____
Identification Number: _____
Date of Birth of Groom: ____ / ____ / ____
dd / mm / yyyy

Before this marriage occurred, what was your legal marital status?
Never Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Legally Separated ☐ Widowed ☐

Educational Level Code: [____]
None (1), Primary (2), Secondary (3), Vocational (4), Associate's Degree (5), Bachelor's Degree (6), Master's Degree (7),
Doctorate Degree (8), Other (9), Don't Know/Not Stated (10)

Address of Residence: _____ / _____
Street Name City/Town/Village

District Country

Signature

Information of Witness #1

Name: _____/_____/_____
 First Name Middle Name Surname

Type of Identification Document: Passport ☐ Social Security Card ☐ National ID (Foreigners) ☐

Document Issuing Country: _____

Identification Number: _____

 Signature

Information of Witness #2

Name: _____/_____/_____
 First Name Middle Name Surname

Type of Identification Document: Passport ☐ Social Security Card ☐ National ID (Foreigners) ☐

Document Issuing Country: _____

Identification Number: _____

 Signature

Information on Marriage Officer Certifying the Marriage:

Name of Marriage Officer:

_____/_____/_____
 First Name Middle Name Surname

License Number: _____

Type of Marriage Officer: Senior Justice of the Peace ☐ Priest/Pastor ☐ Magistrate ☐

 Signature

Date this record was prepared: ____/____/____
 dd/mm/yyyy



”.
 ,

(p) in the Second Schedule—

- (i) in Form 7, by inserting to the right of the column titled “Names and surnames”, the following new columns–

“

Nationality	Date of Birth

”; and

- (ii) in Form 8, by inserting to the right of the column titled “Names and surnames”, the following new columns–

“

Nationality	Date of Birth

”.