



Pennsylvania Animal Diagnostic Laboratory System

Dog and Cat Autopsy Form

PD PATH FORM 01 (January 2017)

(PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR AVAILABILITY)

Accession #:

(For Lab Use Only)

Date: _____

Autopsy Fee Paid By: Owner Veterinarian Other

Veterinarian or Law Enforcement Officer: Name/Clinic/Agency Address City, state, zip Phone Fax Email	Owner: Address City, state, zip Phone Fax Email
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Animal Information:				
<u>Animal ID</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Breed</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>

Has the animal bitten anyone in the 10 days prior to its death? No Yes Don't Know

Autopsy Requirements:

- Work on agricultural species has priority, and each PADLS laboratory reserves the right to provide autopsy services for cats and dogs only when resources allow. Clients must call ahead for availability.
- Dogs and cats are received for autopsy only through a referring veterinarian. Non-profit organizations (law enforcement agencies, humane societies, rescuers and rehabilitators with legal non-profit status) are strongly encouraged to supply a veterinarian's name for case records. For cases received from non-profit organizations, the autopsy may be performed and fees charged at the discretion of the pathologist.
- Before the animal is accepted and the autopsy is performed, the veterinarian or law enforcement officer must supply a complete history.
- All correspondence pertaining to the case will be conducted only through the referring veterinarian or law enforcement officer.
- In cases of advanced autolysis, an autopsy may not be performed.
- No cosmetic autopsies will be performed.
- Due to biosecurity concerns, remains may be returned to the owner or referring veterinarian at the discretion of the laboratory performing the autopsy. Discuss with individual laboratory to determine if return of remains is possible.
- The basic autopsy fee (\$350 for in-state cases, \$455 for out-of-state cases) includes gross and histological examination (excluding spinal cord). This basic fee must be submitted before the autopsy will be performed. Examination of the spinal cord and other ancillary tests will incur additional fees. The basic fee for microscopic examination of tissues obtained from a dog or cat field autopsy is \$125.00 for in-state cases and \$162.50 for out-of-state cases. There is also an additional \$18.00 accession fee for all autopsies. Other ancillary tests will incur additional fees. All fees will be the responsibility of the owner, veterinarian or non-profit organization as agreed to by all parties. A minimum pathologist fee of \$200.00/hour will be assessed in legal cases for case preparation, depositions, court appearances and other legal requirements.
- The pathologist remains the coordinator in charge of the case. Selection of ancillary tests is in consultation with the referring veterinarian, but the pathologist has the authority for selecting and for limiting the array of diagnostic tests.

By signing below, the owner and referring veterinarian agree to the autopsy requirements described above.

Signature of Owner	Date:
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Signature of Referring Veterinarian/Law Enforcement Officer	Date:
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For Lab Use Only:		
If there is no signature of the referring veterinarian or officer, verify agreement to PADLS autopsy requirements.		
Spoke with:	Initials:	Date: