



1           1. Criminal activity;  
2           2. An accident;  
3           3. Suicide;  
4           4. A suspicious or unusual circumstance; or  
5           5. Use of a controlled substance or poison.  
6           (2) The following requirements apply with respect to  
7 notifications of next of kin under this section:  
8           (a) Each attempt at notification must be documented in  
9 writing, according to procedures established by the law  
10 enforcement agency making the notification.  
11           (b) Notification of the decedent's next of kin must be  
12 accomplished promptly in such a manner as to cause the least  
13 discomfort possible to the person being notified.  
14           (c) Notification of the decedent's next of kin may be  
15 made only after approval of a supervisor designated by the law  
16 enforcement agency for such purpose.  
17           (d) Notification must be made in person by a law  
18 enforcement officer assigned to investigate the cause of the  
19 decedent's death or by a supervisor designated by the law  
20 enforcement agency for such purpose.  
21           (e) Each law enforcement agency is responsible for  
22 disciplining a law enforcement officer who fails to comply  
23 with this section.  
24           (f) If the next of kin of the decedent was not  
25 notified within a reasonable time as required in this section,  
26 the designated supervisor of the responsible law enforcement  
27 agency shall provide a written explanation of the failure to  
28 the next of kin, along with a statement of the disciplinary  
29 action taken against the officer who failed to provide such  
30 notification.  
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1           (g) A law enforcement agency may establish additional  
2 procedures to implement this section.

3           (3) If the decedent's next of kin is not within the  
4 jurisdiction in which death occurred or the body was found,  
5 the law enforcement agency responsible for making the  
6 notification shall forward notice of the decedent's death to  
7 the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction in which the  
8 next of kin is located. The notice shall be accompanied by a  
9 request for that agency to contact the next of kin immediately  
10 and to notify the requesting law enforcement agency when that  
11 has been done.

12           Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

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15           SENATE SUMMARY

16           Creates the Pardo-Arambul Act, which requires the county  
17           or municipal law enforcement agency in the jurisdiction  
18           of which a person's death occurs or a body is found to  
19           notify the decedent's next of kin if the death has  
20           occurred under specified circumstances. Prescribes  
21           procedures for making such notification and procedures in  
22           cases in which the next of kin is located outside that  
23           county or municipality.