

## INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS WISHING TO WILL THEIR BODIES TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT FORT WORTH

The Texas laws allow a person of legal age to will his/her body for the advancement of medical science by signing a statement to that effect. The document requires the donor's signature and the signatures of two witnesses of legal age. No administrator, executor or formal will is necessary.

The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth is one of the member schools designated by the Anatomical Board of the State of Texas to receive willed bodies.

Enclosed are the forms to be completed. One copy of the Willed Body form should be signed and dated in the presence of the two witnesses that also sign the documents. Please include your <u>full name</u> (no initials) and if applicable, include your maiden name. While you are not legally required to inform your relatives of your donation, we urge you to do so to prevent any misunderstandings in the future.

One copy of the Willed Body Form and the Information for Death Certificate Form should be sent to:

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT FORT WORTH
Department of Cell Biology & Anatomy
3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard
Fort Worth, Texas 76107
Telephone (817) 735-2047 FAX (817) 735-2610
(If no answer after business hours and holidays, please call (817) 735-2210)

Retain the other copy of the Willed Body form for the purpose of informing either: family, friends, attorney, physician, minister or other authorized persons.

Upon receiving the completed Willed Body Form, the University will return to the donor a wallet-sized card as acknowledgment. The donor should sign this card upon its receipt and carry it upon his/her person at all times.

When death occurs, the hospital or nursing staff in charge of the body, or the family should notify the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth, by calling the Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy at (817) 735-2047 (M-F, 8-5pm) or the Campus Police Department at (817) 735-2210 (after hours and holidays). Upon receiving notification, the University will make the necessary arrangements for receipt of the body. The following conditions and arrangements are to be met:

- 1. The institution receiving the body will bear the expenses for preparation of the body including embalming.
- 2. The institution will bear the transportation cost within Tarrant County. If the deceased is located beyond Tarrant County, transportation costs will be borne by the estate of the deceased. The body must be transported by the mortician service designated by the institution.
- 3. The policy of the receiving institution does not allow it to receive willed bodies that have been autopsied, a body that has tuberculosis, syphilis, AIDS, chronic infection, or any other communicable disease as determined by a physician.
- 4. The institution must be notified within 6 hours of death or the institution will be unable to accept the donation.
- 5. The policy of the receiving institution is to cremate all bodies before final disposition. The receiving institution (UNTHSC) will charge a cremation fee of \$225.00.

(10/05/2010)