

Costs for Disposition of Remains

Costs in connection with disposition of remains will vary widely, based on the selection of funeral home, type of service, coffin and casket options, and shipping destination. The shipment cost is determined by the airline after the remains are accepted for shipment and varies according to weight and final destination.

Costs estimates below are approximate.

Cost in U.S. dollars (US\$1.00 = JMD\$145.00)

1. Local burial: \$2,900

Typically includes preparation of body, casket, programs, hearse, and cemetery.

2. Cremation: \$4,870

Typically includes fees storage and cremation, postmortem report, preparation of documents, Funeral Director's fee, Broker's fee and document and transportation fee.

Fee for shipment in container (urn): \$500.00 - \$600

Urn can be sent by Registered Mail: \$75

3. Shipment of remains to the United States: \$5,570

Typical costs are:

Embalming, Storage and Preparation of body: \$3,350.00

Preparation for shipment: \$970

This typically includes casket, packaging, brokers fees, documents, and transportation to the airport.

Shipment of the embalmed remains from Kingston or Montego Bay: \$600 - \$1,250

G. Exhumation:

Application for disinterment and exhumation of remains must be made to the Kingston and St. Andrew Corporation (for the Corporate Area) or the Parish Council in the appropriate parish. In each instance, full particulars of death and place of burial must be given. The application is referred to the Senior Medical Officer of Health.

On his recommendation, the Ministry of Local Government will issue a permit on payment of the prescribed fee. There is a charge for the supervision of the exhumation by a Medical Officer. Local law requires that exhumation must be carried out between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., in the presence of a local police officer, and that the Kingston & St. Andrew Corporation or the Parish Council must be notified in advance.

The charges involved in the exhumation of a body identified before death and buried within one year would be approximately US\$1200.00. This figure pertains only to the Corporate Area (Kingston and St. Andrew). Additional charges for transportation and related costs are made for exhumation outside the Corporate Area. The charges depend on whether the body was buried in an ordinary grave or in a vault. The amount includes the opening and closing of the grave or vault. It is unlawful to disinter or remove any body which has been interred except under a permit issued by the Minister of Local Government.

CAYMAN ISLANDS:

The information furnished in this report does not include the Cayman Islands. Shipment of remains of deceased U.S. citizen from the Cayman Islands are generally handled by Bodden's Funeral Home. This includes all the necessary documentation for the shipment of the remains and obtaining a certified copy of the Caymanian death certificate. The Funeral Home will also arrange to have the remains embalmed by a certified Embalmer in the Cayman Islands. Caskets are available on the island. There are no crematorium facilities in the Cayman Islands.

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