

1985/83



THE CORONERS REGULATIONS 1952, AMENDMENT NO. 13

DAVID BEATTIE, Governor-General

ORDER IN COUNCIL

At the Government Buildings at Wellington this 29th day of April 1985

Present:

THE HON. G. W. R. PALMER PRESIDING IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to section 33 of the Coroners Act 1951, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following regulations.

REGULATIONS

1. Title and commencement—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Coroners Regulations 1952, Amendment No. 13, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Coroners Regulations 1952* (hereinafter referred to as the principal regulations).

(2) These regulations shall come into force on the 1st day of May 1985.

2. Medical practitioners' fees—(1) Regulation 14 of the principal regulations (as substituted by regulation 3 of the Coroners Regulations 1952, Amendment No. 3) is hereby amended by revoking subclause (1), and substituting the following subclauses:

*S.R. 1952/71 (Reprinted with Amendments Nos. 1-6: S.R. 1967/175)
 Amendment No. 7: (Revoked by S.R. 1974/152)
 Amendment No. 8: S.R. 1974/152
 Amendment No. 9: S.R. 1976/188
 Amendment No. 10: S.R. 1977/181
 Amendment No. 11: (Revoked by S.R. 1981/199)
 Amendment No. 12: S.R. 1981/199

“(1) Except in a case to which subclause (1A) of this regulation applies, where, in accordance with the Act, a medical practitioner performs a post-mortem examination on the authority of a Coroner or a Justice, the following fees shall be payable:

“(a) A basic fee of \$100, which fee shall be deemed to include payment for any conference with the Coroner or the Police, and for a detailed report to the Coroner on the examination:

“(b) An additional fee of \$30 for the preparation and examination of any histological specimen or specimens:

“(c) An additional fee of \$10 in respect of typing and other secretarial work associated with the post-mortem examination.

“(1A) Where the Coroner or Justice authorises any medical practitioner to conduct a post-mortem examination and requests that it be conducted as soon as possible, then, if the post-mortem examination, or the preparation and examination of any histological specimen or specimens, or any typing or other secretarial work associated with the post-mortem examination is conducted outside ordinary hours, the fee or fees payable under subclause (1) of this regulation shall be increased by 50 percent.”

(2) Regulation 14 of the principal regulations (as so substituted) is hereby further amended by adding to subclause (6) the following paragraph:

“(d) The term ‘ordinary hours’ means 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on any Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday, other than a statutory holiday.”

(3) The following regulations are hereby revoked:

(a) Regulation 3 (1) (c) of the Coroners Regulations 1952, Amendment No. 8:

(b) Regulation 3 of the Coroners Regulations 1952, Amendment No. 12.

3. Application—These regulations shall apply to all work done on or after the 1st day of May 1985.

P. G. MILLEN,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This note is not part of the regulations, but is intended to indicate their general effect.

These regulations change the basis on which fees are payable for the conduct by a medical practitioner of a post-mortem examination on the authority of a Coroner or a Justice. At present, a larger fee is payable to a specialist pathologist than to a non-specialist. This distinction is abolished.

However, provision is made for greater fees where, because of the urgency of the matter, the examination is conducted outside ordinary hours.

Separate fees are also prescribed in respect of histological and secretarial work associated with a post-mortem examination. This will assist administrative and accounting procedures where the examination is conducted by a medical practitioner who is employed by a hospital board or a university and uses the support services supplied by the employing institution.

Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 30 April 1985.

These regulations are administered in the Department of Justice.