



REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS

There are various official reports generated by the military when an accident and/or death occur. In most cases, the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Division can help Air Force families obtain copies of death certificates and autopsy reports (call 1-800-531-5803 for more info). For all others, please consult with your Casualty Assistance Representative. Depending upon the circumstances of the loss, not all reports are applicable or available.

Here is a description of the most commonly requested reports:

Line of Duty (LOD) - The Air Force's official determination of an Airman's entitlement to pay and allowances, accrual of service and leave time and, in some cases, disability retirement following the death of the Airman. An Airman receives these benefits only if the final determination of death is LOD - not due to own misconduct.

Collateral Investigation - The primary next of kin (PNOK) of Airmen killed as result of a fatal training, operational accident and combat are entitled to a report outlining the circumstances of the Airman's death.

Criminal Investigation - A report is prepared when the loss of an Airman is considered or suspected to be unnatural (homicide, suicide, or resulting from trauma of undetermined origin).

Autopsy Reports - The official findings of cause of death which as determined by either the Armed Forces Medical Examiner or State Medical Examiner depending on the location death. The report is usually provided within 60 to 90 days, pending investigation of the death.

Death Certificate - For combat-related deaths, the Air Force will furnish certified copies of the Report of Casualty (official record of death) to the primary next of kin. To obtain a copy of any of a death certificate for fatalities occurring in the United States, write or go to the vital statistics office in the state or area where the event occurred.