

**Dry Creek Rancheria
Band of Pomo Indians**

Government Code

(Recodified as previously adopted by the Tribe on 08/05/05)

TITLE 7. BURIAL FUND ORDINANCE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1.

- SECTION 1. Purpose and Authority
- SECTION 2. Definitions
- SECTION 3. Tribal Burial Benefit
- SECTION 4. Effective Date

CHAPTER 1.

SECTION 1. Purpose and Authority

The purpose of this Ordinance is to set requirements for the use of Dry Creek Rancheria Burial Benefit. The Tribe recognizes the special financial burden families suffer at the time of a family member's death and desires to provide some assistance to families with costs of funerals.

SECTION 2. Definitions

For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

- (A) "Burial Benefit" or "benefit" shall mean the benefit established by the Tribal Council from which burial benefits are paid.
- (B) "Burial Fund" or "fund" shall mean the fund established by the Tribal Council from which burial benefits are paid.
- (C) "Designated Beneficiary" shall mean the person designated in writing by the decedent to make his or her funeral arrangements, or, in the absence of such designation, the next of kin in order of succession, provided that in the event of a dispute, the Board of Directors shall make the final determination among the next of kin of a Designated Beneficiary.
- (D) "Parent" shall mean natural parent, adoptive parent, or step-parent. The definition does not apply to a man whose paternity for any tribal member is not established.

Step-parent is defined as the current, legal spouse of a natural or adoptive parent of a minor tribal member.

(E) "Tribe" shall mean the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians.

(F) "Vital Statistics" shall mean the tribal records kept by the Support Services Department (SSD) to record births, marriages, and deaths.

SECTION 3. Tribal Burial Benefit

(A) The Designated Beneficiary of a Tribal member may apply for payment of a burial benefit for any deceased family member who is a Tribal member.

(B) To obtain payment of a burial benefit, application must be made to the SSD within sixty (60) days of the date of death, and require documentation, i.e., death certificate, funeral costs, etc., submitted within ninety (90) days of date of death.

(C) The Tribe will pay burial benefits up to a maximum of \$10,000.00 directly to the funeral service provider chosen by the applicant. Any excess money after funeral costs will be given to the deceased's beneficiary. The amount of the benefit shall be paid out of the Tribal Burial Fund.

(D) Arrangements will be made by a representative of the deceased, the provider, and vital statistics of SSD. Invoices from the provider will be submitted to SSD.

SECTION 4. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect on August 5, 2005. Future changes require a super-majority attendance vote.