

**EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF
CAMEROON**

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**AMBASSADE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU
CAMEROUN**

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AUTHORIZATION TO REPATRIATE HUMAN REMAINS TO CAMEROON

The Embassy of Cameroon in the United States (Washington, DC) issues authorizations for the repatriation of the remains of decedents who pass away in our area of jurisdiction, which includes: the UNITED STATES of AMERICA, MEXICO, COSTA RICA, and the COMMONWEALTH of the BAHAMAS.

- (1) PROCESSING TIME:** **Approximately THREE (03) business days** from the time of reception of a complete application.
- (2) APPLICATION PROCEDURE:** APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE FUNERAL HOME **BY MAIL ONLY**.
- (3) QUESTIONS?** Send your inquiry/question by email to cs@cameroonembassyusa.org. Start the subject line of your email with the words 'Repatriation of Remains'. In the body of the message, describe the problem/issue/question that you are inquiring about and **ALWAYS INCLUDE A PHONE NUMBER WHERE YOU CAN BE REACHED**. We will reply as soon as possible.
- (4) REQUIREMENTS:** Incomplete applications will be rejected or delayed! **This type of request is free of charge.**

MAIL THE COMPLETE APPLICATION IN A TRACKABLE ENVELOPE TO:

PLEASE KEEP YOUR TRACKING NUMBERS TO AND FRO FOR YOUR RECORDS

EMBASSY OF CAMEROON

Attn: CONSULAR SECTION – REPATRIATION OF REMAINS

2349 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20008

Provide a prepaid return envelope with tracking number to mail the documentation back once ready (KEEP THE RETURN TRACKING NUMBER FOR YOUR RECORDS!), with the Embassy's information as the sender, and the funeral home's information as the recipient. Any application submitted without a trackable return envelope is at the applicant's risk and responsibility!

Fill-out his section:

Decedent's Full Name: _____

Name and phone number of a family relative/contact person (Specify the relationship with the decedent): _____

Name of the Funeral Home _____ Phone #: _____ Contact person: _____

SUBMIT (1) COPY OF THIS PAGE ALONG WITH THE ORIGINAL SET + THREE (03) SETS OF COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING PAPERWORK:

1. Proof of Cameroonian citizenship of the deceased (**Cameroonian Passport, Birth Certificate, or National Identity Card**);
For naturalized deceased U.S. Citizens of Cameroonian origin: The following additional requirements must be provided: the original U.S. passport or a copy of the U.S. naturalization certificate, and any available documents attesting to the Cameroonian roots of the deceased (former Cameroonian passport, birth certificate or National Identity Card).
2. Original Death certificate;
3. Transit and burial permit where the final resting place in Cameroon is specified;
4. Letter or affidavit from the doctor certifying that the remains are free from any contagious disease;
5. **5.1 Human Remains:** Embalming certification from the funeral home.
The deceased must be placed in a sealed casket and the casket must contain only the body and necessary clothing;
5.2 Cremated Remains: Cremation certification from the funeral home.
The decedent's ashes must be placed in a polyurethane bag and enclosed in an urn.
6. Tentative travel itinerary from travel agency;
7. A Prefectural Order, from the Senior Divisional Officer territorially competent in the city where the mortal remains will enter Cameroon, authorizing that those remains be transferred (through Douala or Yaoundé, whichever applies) to their final destination;
8. An authorization to bury issued by administrative or traditional authorities territorially competent in the area/locality/town/city where the body will be buried.
Note: Items 7 (Prefectural Order) and 8 (Authorization to Bury) must be obtained in Cameroon by the family of the decedent, and must be provided to the funeral home prior to submitting the request to the Embassy. Scanned legible copies of those documents will be accepted.

FOR CASES OF DEATH RESULTING FROM COVID-19: In addition to the aforementioned documents, the following applies with regards to items number 4 (letter or affidavit from the doctor) and 5 (5.1 Human Remains) above:

4. Letter or affidavit from the doctor certifying that the decedent passed away from a communicable disease (Covid-19) or that the remains may not be free from a contagious disease.
5. **5.1 Human Remains: The deceased must be placed in a sealed zinc casket equipped with a filtration system, and the case must contain only the body and necessary clothing. A photo of said casket (not containing the body) must be provided.**
 - a. **The funeral home** must certify that the remains were handled in observance of applicable guidelines/safety precautions set forth by the Centers for Disease Controls (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) for handling cases of Covid-19 deaths, including thorough decontamination of materials and surfaces that have been in contact with the remains. **This certificate that the casket is free from all contamination must be notarized.**
 - b. **A representative of the family of the deceased** must also provide a notarized statement indicating that they received confirmation from the funeral home that the casket is free from all contamination.

⚠ Be advised that the Embassy will request for any additional document deemed necessary for the processing of the application.