

Worcester Islamic Center

Funeral Washing Room

Guidelines and Procedures

The Worcester Islamic Center Funeral Washing Room serves the Muslim community in New England. A committee consisting of members from the Islamic Centers and Muslim organizations will supervise the operations and maintenance of the washing facility. The facility will operate in cooperation with (*Graham Putnum & Mahoney Funeral Home*). The director for this Funeral Home is the best person who is in acquaintance with the Islamic funeral rituals and procedures. A package consisting of all the needed services for Muslim Janazah will be provided for the Muslim community.

The committee has established the following working guidelines:

1. The washing facility is for the purpose of washing the dead body of Muslims according to the Quran and Sunnah procedures and guidelines.
2. The washing room is being provided as a service to all the Muslims at a minimal cost that covers the expenses of the services and products provided to them.
3. The transportation of the dead body from home, hospital or any other place to the washing room then to the cemetery or any other transportation needs will be coordinated with the above mentioned Funeral Home.
5. Whenever there is a death in the family, the responsible member of the household should call WIC, ISGW or other Muslim Organizations to start the process of burying their deceased. The contact Information is posted on www.wicmasjid.org, and www.isgw.us and other Muslim organizations in the area.
6. The washing of the deceased body will be conducted by trained Muslims headed by the Imam if the deceased is male; if the deceased is female, then sisters in the Funeral Washing Room committee will oversee the washing and the shrouding.
7. Family members who wish to participate in the washing or shrouding may only assist in the process. No more than three should be in the washing room at a time. The rest of the family should stay in the Social hall or the prayer hall.
8. The facility at WIC can store the dead body for no more than 24 hours. The recommended Islamic practice is to bury the body as soon as possible. In case of a need to keep the body in storage for a longer period to allow family members to arrive, the above mentioned funeral home will accommodate that.
9. The family of the deceased will be responsible for all the charges and fees for transportation, storage of the body at an outside funeral home, washing, shrouding, and for burial at the cemetery.
10. We strongly encourage members of our community to be buried in the Enfield cemetery in Connecticut. A member of the committee will contact the cemetery whenever there is death and a grave digging services is needed

11. The funeral prayers on the deceased will be held at the Worcester Islamic Center prayer hall or social hall. Imam Abdul Karim or whomever he assigns will lead the Janazah prayers unless the family requests to designate another person to lead the prayers.
12. While the family members will be allowed to stay with the body within the premises of the Funeral Room during the Janazah process, it is expected that they will respect the rules and regulations of the center. Expressing grief is human but loud crying, yelling or screaming is all prohibited by the Islamic Shariah and these disturbances might interfere with the other activities of the center.
13. While children in the family of the deceased may stay in the center, they will not be allowed inside the washing facility without the permission of the closest relative of the deceased, Imam Abdul Karim or by any member of the Funeral Washing Room committee.
14. If any deceased community member has any special circumstances due to any medical complications, the Washing Room has committee has the right to deny services due to the lack of ability at this time, to accommodate those cases. The funeral services committee reserves the right to give instructions not listed on this policy in regards to this issue with the consultations of the doctors in our community. Their instructions must be followed and obeyed by all.
15. The relatives of the deceased are required to fill out completely the WIC Funeral Washing Room form and pay the payments of the services and products provided as soon as possible.
16. The use of the WIC washing room, the services of washing, Kafan shrouding, burying, aftermath cleaning of the facility, and managing the funeral process is \$1000 (one thousand dollars) payable to WIC by check, cash, credit card or money order. Releasing the body from the hospital, applying for the death certificate, transportation services, digging the grave and covering it and any other related services should be in addition to the washing room fees.

After reading carefully please print your name and sign at the bottom.

Name of the Deceased: _____
Last First

Name of the relative: _____ Relation to the deceased: _____
Last First

Address of the Relative: _____ Phone Number: _____

Signature: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date of death: _____ Date of washing: _____

Name of washing personnel: _____

Signature: _____