

DOA Checklist

On arrival of the first on-duty, licensed EMS Provider:

1. Patient has NO signs of life → ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- NO Pulse
- NO Breathing (Apneic)
- NO Neurologic Signs (movement, pupillary response, etc.)

2. AND there are signs of:

Definitive Death (Non-Traumatic)

OR

Non-Survivable Injury (Traumatic)

- Rigor Mortis
- Dependant Lividity
- Cold body core (not extremities)
- Decomposition of Body Tissue

- Incineration
- Massive trauma to the head, chest, abdomen, and/or pelvis
- Gunshot wound to the head* that **clearly crosses the midline**

****NOTE: If there is a possibility of organ donation, proceed with resuscitation.***

If there is ANY question, resuscitative efforts should be initiated/continued or online medical control should be contacted.

3. If BOTH #1 and #2 have been met, then:

- **If no resuscitation has been initiated:**
 - The first on-duty, licensed EMS provider may elect to not initiate resuscitative efforts based on this protocol, and await a paramedic to confirm death.
- **If bystanders have begun resuscitation:**
 - EMS personnel may elect to not continue efforts if the above criteria are met, *but*
 - EMS providers should generally err towards continuing resuscitation unless there are overwhelming signs (as per #2) until a paramedic has arrived on scene.
- **If on-duty EMS personnel (i.e. first responders) have begun resuscitation:**
 - A responding paramedic, on arrival, may halt the resuscitation should the patient meet the above criteria. **Contact Medical Control if ANY question.**