

## ONLINE GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES

♦ *Heritage Quest* – includes digital, searchable records of U.S. federal census records, full text family history books. Access from outside the Library requires SFPL library card.  
[www.sfpl.org](http://www.sfpl.org)

♦ *Ancestry Library* – genealogical collection including vital, church, immigration, court and census records. Available on SFPL computers.

♦ *San Francisco Chronicle Historical Database* – offers full page and article images with searchable full text for 1865-1922. Access from outside the Library requires SFPL library card.  
[www.sfpl.org](http://www.sfpl.org)

♦ San Francisco County Genealogy:  
[www.sfgenealogy.com/sf/index.htm](http://www.sfgenealogy.com/sf/index.htm)

♦ California Death Index:  
<http://vitals.rootsweb.ancestry.com/ca/death/search.cgi>

♦ California State Library Genealogy Resources:  
[www.library.ca.gov/calhist/genealogy.html](http://www.library.ca.gov/calhist/genealogy.html)

♦ California Genealogical Society Library:  
[www.californiaancestors.org](http://www.californiaancestors.org)

♦ San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society:  
[www.jewishgen.org/sfbajgs](http://www.jewishgen.org/sfbajgs)

## PROFESSIONAL & FEE-BASED RESEARCHERS

♦ Board for Certification of Genealogists  
[www.bcgcertification.org](http://www.bcgcertification.org)

♦ California Genealogical Society Library  
2201 Broadway, Suite LL2  
Oakland, CA 94612-3031  
(510) 663-1358  
[www.californiaancestors.org](http://www.californiaancestors.org)  
Thursday & Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The San Francisco History Center  
San Francisco Public Library  
100 Larkin Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415) 557-4567  
[info@sfpl.org](mailto:info@sfpl.org)  
[www.sfpl.org/sfhistory](http://www.sfpl.org/sfhistory)



*San Francisco Public Library*  
100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102 - 4733

## WHERE TO SEARCH FOR VITAL RECORDS IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO AND CALIFORNIA

The Office of Vital Records and Statistics in the San Francisco Department of Public Health maintains a continuous record of births and deaths that have occurred within the legal limits of the City and County of San Francisco since April 1906. To request the record of a birth or death that occurred outside San Francisco contact the county, state, or country in which the birth or death occurred.

Certified copies can be ordered by mail, by telephone, in person or on the Internet. Payment can be made by credit card, money order, or cash.

Department of Public Health  
Office of Vital Records  
101 Grove Street, Room 105  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415) 554-2700  
[www.sfdph.org](http://www.sfdph.org)  
Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

## BIRTH CERTIFICATES

\$14 per certified copy

Information required:

- ◆ Date of birth
- ◆ Full name at birth
- ◆ Mother's maiden name
- ◆ Optional: father's name and hospital/place of birth

## DEATH CERTIFICATES

\$12 per certified copy

Information required:

- ◆ Date of death
- ◆ Full name of the deceased
- ◆ Optional: age at death and name of mortuary

In person, please allow a minimum of 30 minutes to process requests. By mail, send the required information with money order. Please include your return address. Your order will be shipped approximately four to six weeks from receipt. By phone, call with the information required. Your order will be shipped three to five business days from receipt.

## MARRIAGE RECORDS

\$14 per certified copy of a public marriage license purchased in San Francisco

Information required:

- ◆ Name of the groom
- ◆ Full maiden name of the bride
- ◆ Exact date of the marriage

Certified copies can be ordered by mail, by telephone (\$5 convenience fee), in person or on the Internet.

Assessor-Recorder's Office  
1 Dr. Carlton Goodlett Place  
City Hall, Room 190  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4698  
(415) 554-5596

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

[www.sfgov.org/site/assessor\\_index.asp](http://www.sfgov.org/site/assessor_index.asp)

## AUTOPSY RECORDS

Autopsy records can be found at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, 1956-current. \$33 per certified autopsy report. Non-certified copies are \$14.

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Hall of Justice

850 Bryant Street – North Terrace

San Francisco, CA 94103

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

(415) 553-1694

[www.sfgov.org/med\\_examiner](http://www.sfgov.org/med_examiner)

For Medical Examiner's records dating 1906 – 1956, please contact the San Francisco History Center at the San Francisco Public Library (415) 557-4567; 24-48 hours delayed paging. Name and date of death required. Copies are 15 cents per page.

## WILLS, PROBATE AND DIVORCE RECORDS

Records from April 1906 onwards

Clerk of the Superior Court, Room 103

400 McAllister Street

San Francisco, CA 94102-4514

(415) 551-4000

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

[www.sfsuperiorcourt.org](http://www.sfsuperiorcourt.org)



The Office of Vital Records in the California Department of Public Health also maintains birth, death, and marriage records from July 1905.

California Department of Public Health

Office of Vital Records – M.S. 5103

P.O. Box 997410

Sacramento, CA 95899-7410

(916) 445-2684

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

[www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/Pages/default.aspx)

\$14 per certified birth certificates; \$12 death records; \$13 marriage records. Personal checks are accepted. For credit cards, include your account number, expiration date, and cardholder's name.

## ADOPTIONS

Some SFPL archival collections contain adoption information. Current California adoption information is also available from the California Department of Public Health.

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/Pages/AdoptionsandChangesinPaternity.aspx>

## OTHER RESOURCES

Many religious groups have records prior to the 1906 earthquake. If the deceased was Catholic, contact the Holy Cross Cemetery at (650) 756-2060. Episcopal records remain with the parish. Closed parishes records are archived with the Episcopal Diocese of California (415) 673-5015. For early Jewish cemetery records, contact Home of Peace (650) 755-4700.

The San Francisco Public Library's Magazines and Newspapers Center has microfilm copies of *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Examiner* and other local newspapers. These periodicals contain marriage, birth and death notices and are particularly useful for pre-1906 research.