Grays Harbor Deaths Up for 2011 Including 3 Homicides

Local News

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Montesano, WA - In 2011 a total of 641 deaths were reported to the Coroner’s Office. This would include all deaths within the county with the exception of registered Quinault Native Americans who die on Quinault Tribal lands. The Quinault Nation has their own Coroner system.

Total deaths

in Grays Harbor County reported to Coroner

Year 2011 2010 2009 2008 2007*Total deaths 641 612 620 610 330*In 2007 not all non-jurisdictional deaths within county reported to Coroner.

**   Accidenta**

Year 2011 2010 2009 2008 2007

Alcohol and/or drugs* 13 13 17 11 10Drowning 2 1 2 3 2Falls 3 2 4 1 4Others 5 7 8 2 5Totals for year 20 23 31** 17 21 * Drugs include both prescription and/or recreational drugs** Modern day record. Previous record was 28 deaths in 1990.

Prior 5 year average for years 2006 – 2010 is 22.4 accidental deaths per year.

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Year 2011 2010 2009 2008 2007Firearm use 5 8 8 10 5Drug abuse 0 3 1 0 0Others 3 3 3 1 1Totals for year 8 14 12 11 6Prior 5 year average for years 2006 – 2010 is 11.8 suicide deaths per year

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Year 2011 2010 2009 2008 2007

Driver 3 2 1 6 7Passenger 3 2 3 2 6Pedestrian 1 0 0 0 1Totals for year 7 4 4 8 14Alcohol and/or drugs 5 of 7 2 of 4 3 of 4 6 of 8 9 of 14 detected in toxicology (71%) (50%) (75%) (75%) (64%)* Totals maybe different from law enforcement totals due to victims being transported out of county and then dying within another Coroner or Medical Examiner jurisdiction.Prior 5 years average for years 2006 – 2010 is 7.8 traffic deaths per year.

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** Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)**

Year	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Totals	1	1	0	0	0

Prior 10 year average for years 2001 – 2010 is 1.1 deaths per year.Prior 5 year average for years 2006 – 2010 is 0.6* SIDS deaths per year. *This very significant reduction can be at least partially attributed to a nationwide campaign to educate parents about proper sleeping position and location for infants.

**sp; &nbs

**   Autopsies**

Year	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Totals	47*	55	62	60	55*

*Total costs in 2011 for autopsies were $66,761.50 paid to forensic pathologists and $7,050.00 to funeral homes for use of their facilities and their services. State and federal autopsy reimbursement in 2011 was $32,328.08. These reimbursement funds were deposited into the Grays Harbor County General Fund.*Prior 5 year average for years 2006 – 2010 is 59.6 autopsies per year.