

Understanding Wrongful Death Claims in Colorado

A guide to who can file a wrongful death claim and when.

Based on Wrongful Death by McCormick and Murphy

Filing Order - Year 1

During the first year after a death, who is the only person allowed to file a wrongful death claim in Colorado?

Filing Order - Year 1 (Alternative)

If there is no surviving spouse, or the spouse does not file, who can bring a wrongful death claim during the first year?

Filing Order - Year 2

After one year, if no claim has been filed, who may file a wrongful death claim?

Filing Order - Year 3

After two years, who may pursue a wrongful death claim under Colorado intestacy law?

Purpose of the Law

According to the article, what is the law designed to ensure regarding wrongful death claims?

Designated Person

Besides parents, who else can file a claim after one year if no claim has been filed by the spouse or children?

Resources & Further Reading

Related guides to use with this workbook:

■ Colorado Wrongful Death Claim Checklist

<https://storage.googleapis.com/mccormick-and-murphy-checklists-20260706-65ee7b/mccormick-and-murphy/Checklist/colorado-wrongful-death-claim-checklist.pdf>

■ Colorado Springs Wrongful Death Action Sheet

<https://storage.googleapis.com/mccormick-and-murphy-checklists-20260706-14eb7c/mccormick-and-murphy/Action%20Sheet/wrongful-death-action-sheet.pdf>

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Colorado law prioritizes those closest to the deceased in wrongful death claims.