

Understanding Wrongful Death Claims in Colorado

A guide to who can file a wrongful death claim according to Colorado law.

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?

Filing Order: Year 1 (Alternative)

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

Filing Order: After Year 1

After one year has passed without a claim being filed, who may file a wrongful death claim?

Filing Order: After Year 2

Two years after the death, who can pursue a wrongful death claim under Colorado intestacy law?

Purpose of the Law

The Colorado wrongful death law is designed to prioritize those closest to the deceased and to ensure that someone can seek justice on behalf of the family. True or False?

Designated Filer

Besides the parents, who else can file a wrongful death claim after one year if no claim has been filed?

Resources & Further Reading

Related guides to use with this workbook:

■ Wrongful Death Claim Filing Rights in Colorado (Comparison)

<https://storage.googleapis.com/mccormick-and-murphy-checklists-20260710-3eaad2/mccormick-and-murphy/Comparison/denver-wrongful-death-lawyer-comparison.pdf>

■ Wrongful Death Claim Checklist

<https://storage.googleapis.com/mccormick-and-murphy-checklists-20260710-3eaad2/mccormick-and-murphy/Checklist/wrongful-death-claim-checklist.pdf>

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Know your rights and the order of priority for filing a wrongful death claim in Colorado.