

GREGORY W. YOUNG
Hindu Funerals of America, LLC
The Hindu Funeral Home, LLC
75 Woodbridge Avenue
Highland Park, NJ 08904
732-513-3416

REPATRIATION PROCEDURE

What is more tragic than waiting at home for the return of a loved one who has died in a foreign country? How do you measure grief? Our professional staff has been helping to alleviate the pain and suffering of grieving families by repatriating bodies from anywhere in the continental United States to India for 14 years. Our family's service as funeral directors began in 1853 and spans 6 generations.

Very few funeral homes repatriate on a regular basis. Most do not repatriate at all. Hiring an inexperienced funeral home can result in long delays and high cost. The standard in the funeral industry is "10 days and \$10,000" to accomplish repatriation to a final foreign destination. We pride ourselves in accomplishing the task for as low as ½ the cost and ½ time or less. Of course each case is different and cost and timing vary. This paper will explain why.

In order to practice funeral directing in the U.S. you must have a licensed funeral home and a licensed professional staff. The licensing is state specific. Most states are then broken down into "counties" or similar smaller geographic areas. "Medical Examiners", "Coroners", or similar medical authorities control the legal disposition of human remains. Although law enforcement may control a crime scene or investigation, it is these medical authorities that control the body.

For 14 years we have been putting together our team in every one of the 48 continental United States based upon who performs best for us in each local area. The public can only deal with funeral homes. We have amassed a network of not only funeral homes, but "trade" funeral directors who work only for other funeral homes. Think of that type of resource as "wholesale" only to the trade. They are often far more efficient than a funeral home with a huge facility that conducts expensive, local funerals. Time is of the essence, but many funeral homes treat repatriation as a nuisance that takes a back seat to \$15,000 funerals. There are also large "conglomerates" that own funeral homes. They tend to be less responsive because their staff is not involved in ownership. Regardless of how much pride they take in their individual service, they do not control the pricing and do not have the performance flexibility of a family owned firm. Finally, funeral homes tend to be ethnic simply because of where they are located or because 2 or 3 generations have served the same ethnic community. Hindu Funerals of America directly handles all aspects of repatriation and local funeral rites if death occurs in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Metropolitan New York. Our network of agents ship to us from anywhere else in the U.S. We are constantly "fine tuning" our local agents in other parts of the U.S. Although we will serve anyone in their time of need, we chose our name because we are specialists for the Asian Indian Community, not an add-on to an American traditional funeral home.

1. Repatriation cost is determined by the necessary professional services provided by the funeral director and transportation cost. We select an agent at the state location anywhere in the Country where we are needed. That agent works for us and we direct all aspects of what they do. We insist they work as fast as possible, or we find another agent who will. Many of our agents have proven their worth for years. We don't need the tragedy of the death compounded by someone with lesser values than ours.