

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE  
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF TRAUMA SCENE  
WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTITIONERS RULE CHAPTER # 550-1  
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**RULE 550-1-.01, “DEFINITIONS.”**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Registration of Trauma Scene Waste Management Practitioners (hereinafter “Division”) proposes an amendment to Rule 550-1-.01, “DEFINITIONS” (hereinafter “proposed rule”).

This notice, an exact copy of the proposed amendment, and a synopsis of the proposed amendment are being sent to all persons who have requested, in writing, to be included on a notification list. This notice, an exact copy of the proposed chapters, and a synopsis of the proposed chapters may also be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Divisions Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. The documents will also be available for review on the Division’s website at <https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing>.

The public will have an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed chapters amendment at a public hearing to be held at 9:00 A.M. on December 15, 2023 in the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Divisions Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. Please see Division’s website for information on how to join the meeting via teleconference.

Interested parties affected by the rule may submit written comments to the Division no later than close of business on December 8, 2023. Written comments must be legible, signed, contain contact information from the maker (address, telephone number, email address), and addressed to Gabriel Sterling, Division Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Divisions Division, Registration of Waste Management Practitioners, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. Written comments may be faxed to (866) 888-9718.

During the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment, or offer a viewpoint or argument, whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements will be limited to five (5) minutes per person.

The Division voted to post this Notice of Intent at its meeting on October 10, 2023. The Division also voted that the formulation and adoption of this rule amendment does not impose an excessive regulatory cost on any licensee, and any cost to comply with the proposed chapters amendment cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, and 43-46A-1 et seq. Additionally, the Division voted

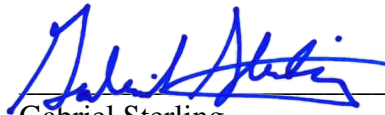
that it was neither legal nor feasible in meeting the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, and 43-46A-1 et seq. to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of trauma scene waste management.

The Division has the authority to adopt proposed the chapters pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, and 43-46A-1 *et seq.*

For further information, contact the Division office at (404) 424-9966.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4.

This the 1st day of November, 2023.



Gabriel Sterling  
Division Director  
Professional Licensing Divisions Division

Posted: November 1, 2023

# **SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF TRAUMA SCENE WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTITIONERS**

## **RULE 550-1-.01, “DEFINITIONS.”**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this amendment is to modify the definition of the term “owner” to include those persons who qualify as an owner of an entity as it applies to the registration of trauma scene waste management practitioners.

### **THIS IS A RULE AMMENDMENT.**

Note: Underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.

#### **Rule 550-1-.01 Definitions**

- (1) “Pathogen” means a microorganism, including bacteria, viruses, rickettsiae, and parasites, or other agent, such as a proteinaceous infectious particle or prion, that can cause disease to humans.
- (2) “Person” means: an individual; any corporate entity or form authorized by law, including any of its subsidiaries or affiliates; or any officer, director, board member, or employee of any corporate entity or form authorized by law.
- (3) “Potentially infectious material” means material known or reasonably expected to contain a pathogen.
- (4) “Regulated biomedical waste” means and includes the following:
  - (a) Biological waste, which include blood and blood products, exudates, secretions, suctionings, and other body fluids which contain free liquids and cannot be or are not directly discarded into a municipal sewer system;
  - (b) Pathological waste, which includes all recognizable human tissues and body parts except teeth; and
  - (c) Sharps, which include any discarded article that may cause punctures or cuts including, but not limited to, items such as needles, IV tubing and syringes with needles attached, and scalpel blades.
- (5) “Trauma scene” means a location soiled by or contaminated with potentially infectious material or regulated biomedical waste due to the occurrence of a homicide or suicide, or the occurrence of a death of a human being in which there is advanced decomposition of the body; provided, however, that this term shall not include the scene of a motor vehicle accident or locations which are subject to the laws and regulations of the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration.
- (6) “Trauma scene waste” means potentially infectious material or regulated biomedical waste that has been removed, is to be removed, or is in the process of being removed from a trauma scene.
- (7) “Trauma scene waste management practitioner” means the owner of any interest in a commercial enterprise for the cleanup or removal of trauma scene waste and who is registered with the Secretary of State pursuant to this chapter.
- (8) “Owner” means any individual and any named officer and/or director of any corporation, firm, association, partnership, limited liability company or any corporate

entity or form authorized by law, including any of its parent entities, subsidiaries or affiliates, with any interest in a commercial enterprise for the cleanup or removal of trauma scene waste.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-46A-1.

**RULES  
OF  
REGISTRATION OF TRAUMA SCENE WASTE MANAGEMENT  
PRACTITIONERS  
CHAPTER 550-1.  
DEFINITIONS  
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Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-46A-1.