



## Med Sled First Call Case Study Parker Mortuary in Joplin, Missouri

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### Overview

In the funeral industry, the removal of bodies continues as an important challenge because respect for the deceased is of the highest value.

Rick Bailey, Funeral Director at Parker Mortuary in Joplin, Missouri, has served in the funeral industry for more than 30 years and has seen his share of difficult removals. In recent years, Bailey began to notice difficult removals becoming more frequent due to an increase in the number of overweight and obese people.

Parker Mortuary recognized the need for a new removal method that would save time and diminish the chance of injury to workers' backs. Even more importantly, they needed a product that would perform a removal in a respectful, professional manner that minimized distress to the onsite family members coping with their loss.

### Strategy

When Bailey saw an ad for the Med Sled First Call, a removal sled that cocoons the deceased body and maneuvers easily, he immediately saw the bariatric sled as a solution to some of his most difficult removals. Because the bariatric sled can support up to 1,000 pounds, choosing the First Call was an easy decision for Bailey.

Since receiving the First Call removal sled about eight months ago, the product has been in continuous use. The day the First Call arrived at Parker Mortuary, Bailey received a call for one of the most difficult removals he has seen in his many years of experience.

"It was very ironic," said Bailey. "The day we got the sled, we a got a house call for a 6'7", 550-pound deceased...on the second floor in the back of the house, down a narrow and cluttered hallway."

Positioning the First Call, Bailey and a law enforcement officer maneuvered the deceased onto the sled and guided it off the bed. Pulling the sled through the hall, they easily guided it around a corner, down the stairs and out the front door.

Prior to using the Med Sled First Call, Parker Mortuary had to resort to less respectful removal methods, such as using sheets to hoist or drag the body.

"A removal of this size would typically require four to five men, and at least an extra half an hour," said Bailey. "The sheriff and the coroner, who had given us a heads up that the deceased was a very large person, were very impressed."

### Results

"Two or three people can do the removal and the sled just slides so you can go on hardwood or carpet or whatever," said Bailey. "The built-in stair brake eases the body down stairs without any bouncing. This product won't blow your budget and it saves your back."

Extremely satisfied with the low cost and maneuverability of the product, Bailey would recommend the First Call Removal sled to anyone in the funeral industry, especially smaller funeral homes that cannot afford a larger, bariatric cot.

For additional information on the Med Sled First Call, please visit <http://firstcallremoval.com> or call (866) 207-5993.