



MEDIA RELEASE

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Loafers Lodge update – Chief Coroner Judge Anna Tutton

The Disaster Victim Identification process is now underway for the victims of the Loafers Lodge fire in Wellington, Chief Coroner Judge Anna Tutton says.

The first bodies were recovered from the scene yesterday and transported to the Wellington Hospital mortuary, with the remaining victims expected to be recovered over the coming days.

“We can now start working with Police and other specialists to determine the identification of those who have died. As I have said, this identification process can be lengthy and complex, requiring a careful and methodical approach to ensure there are no mistakes,” Judge Anna Tutton said.

“I would like to reiterate to the families and friends of those who have died as a result of the fire that the victims will be treated with dignity and respect as we work through this challenging process and we will endeavour to return them to you as quickly as we can.”

- For further information, please see attached the Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) factsheet.

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