GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Office of the Attorney General



ATTORNEY GENERAL KARL A. RACINE

Office of Consumer Protection Public Advocacy Division

April 28, 2020

Robinson Company Funeral Home 1313 6th Street NW Washington, DC 20001

Dear Funeral Home Director:

I am writing to make sure that you are aware of the emergency legislation enacted by the DC Council, and its impact on District funeral homes. On April 10, 2020, the Mayor approved the COVID-19 Response Supplemental Emergency Amendment Act of 2020. Section 206 of that legislation, entitled "Funeral Services Consumer Protection," imposes several new obligations on District funeral homes. These obligations remain in place for the period of time for which the Mayor has declared a public health emergency, which as of today, runs until May 15, 2020.

First, the legislation requires a funeral home to clearly and conspicuously post its General Price List, Casket Price List and Outer Burial Container Price List on any websites maintained by the home.

Second, the legislation requires a funeral home to provide its customers with receipts for amounts advanced, paid, or owed to third parties on behalf of the consumer (cash-advance items.)

Third, the legislation imposes an obligation on The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, in consultation with the Board of Funeral Directors and the Attorney General of the District of Columbia to create a Funeral Bill of Rights. A funeral home must both post the Funeral Bill of Rights on its website and provide a copy during initial meetings to discuss or make arrangements for the purchase of funeral goods or services. The Funeral Bill of Rights should be published in the District of Columbia Register no later than May 15, 2020.

For your reference, below is a link to the relevant legislation.

http://lims.dccouncil.us/SearchResults/?Category=0&Keyword=COVID-19%20