



TEXAS FUNERAL SERVICE COMMISSION

O.C. "Chet" Robbins, Executive Director

March 22, 2011

Re: SB 864 by Rodriguez

The following letter was written to the Federal Trade Commission from the Texas Funeral Service Commission.

Respectfully,

for O.C. Robbins
Executive Director

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TEXAS FUNERAL SERVICE COMMISSION

O.C. "Chet" Robbins, Executive Director

January 10, 2011

Craig Tregillus, Attorney
Funeral Rule Program Manager
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. H-286
Washington, DC 20580

Dear Mr. Tregillus:

As Executive Director of the Texas Funeral Service Commission (TFSC), I have some concern over issues relating to 'funding companies'. A funding company is used by many funeral homes in Texas to process insurance assignments for the payment of funeral expenses.

The TFSC has in the past received consumer complaints regarding the financing fee charged to the consumer for the funeral home's use of a funding company. The dollar amount of the fee was not included or documented on the Funeral Purchase Agreement nor was the percentage denoted on the General Price List.

I respectfully request an opinion whether or not any type of fee charged to the consumer, including a credit card usage fee or funeral funding company fee, should be disclosed on the General Price List and the Funeral Purchase Agreement.

I thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

O.C. Robbins
Executive Director

c: Jim Crowson, Assistant Attorney General, Texas Office of the Attorney General
Kathy Sparks, Legal Assistant, Texas Funeral Service Commission

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