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BAY AREA BURIAL GROUP
2577 MacArthur Boulevard, Suite D
Oakland, California 94602
(510) 482.6456 Fax (510) 482-6485



August 10, 1999

FTC
600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20580
Attn: Myra Howard

Having been in the death business now for almost three years, I have testimonials that state that my business has made a difference, due to the fact that they were able to purchase caskets, graves, urns, and other services from my company at reasonably low prices and still utilize the services of the mortuary of their choice.

I am of the opinion that the Funeral Rule should not apply to independent suppliers of funeral merchandise. I would like also the "bundling" by funeral homes offering a "discount" to any family buying a casket from the funeral home along with other services be redefined as what is a "casket handling fee" and additionally the none declinable fee should be eliminated.

A suggestion for revisions and /or add-ons that should be made to the General Price List would be that in bold print, **NOTICE TO THE PURCHASER(S) THAT YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PURCHASE A CASKET OR URN OR OTHER MERCHANDISE FROM THE FUNERAL PROVIDER. YOU MAY PURCHASE THESE ITEMS FROM AN OUTSIDE COMPANY.**

The funeral rule should be continued because there is definitely a dire need for this very essential rule, because it has allowed for those consumers who otherwise could not afford the dignity of their loved ones the opportunity to afford a item that was denied by the funeral home because of the prohibitive cost.

I certainly appreciate this opportunity of allowing me this chance to voice my opinion, and sincerely wish that my message will be taken to heart.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert G. Donald".

Robert G. Donald
Owner