# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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## STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE FUNERAL DIRECTORS EXAMINING BOARD

:

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY : PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :

: FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

MARK S. GOLDEN AND :

RESPONDENTS. : LS0508232FDR

Division of Enforcement Case File # 04 FDR 008

The parties to this action for the purpose of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Mark S. Golden 1405 N. Clairmont Ave. Eau Claire, WI 54703

GOLDEN FUNERAL HOME,

Golden Funeral Home 1405 N. Clairmont Ave. Eau Claire, WI 54703

Wisconsin Funeral Directors Examining Board P.O. Box 8935 Madison, WI 53708

Department of Regulation and Licensing Division of Enforcement P.O. Box 8935 Madison, WI 53708-8935

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Wisconsin Funeral Directors Examining Board ("Board"). The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. **Mark S. Golden**, date of birth 05/04/65, is a licensed funeral director in the State of Wisconsin having license # 77-5026, which was first granted on 02/11/93. Mr. Golden's most recent address on file with the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 1405 N. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703.
- 2. **Golden Funeral Home** is a duly licensed funeral establishment in the State of Wisconsin having license #78-2198, which was first granted to it on 08/10/98. Golden Funeral Home's most recent address on file with the Department is 1405 N. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703.
- 3. At all times relevant to this action, Mr. Golden was working as a licensed funeral director/owner at Golden Funeral Home. As an owner, Mr. Golden was and is at all times relevant to this action responsible for compliance with Federal Trade Commission Rules Chapter 453 of Funeral Industry Practices and with the Wisconsin Administrative Code for Funeral Directors and Funeral Establishments, Chapter FD 3.

- 4. On or about May 21, 2004, the Department received a complaint from a family who received funeral arrangement services at Golden Funeral Home alleging that Mr. Golden engaged in unprofessional conduct by:
  - (a) failing to show the family Golden Funeral Home's General Price List and
  - (b) failing to show the family a copy of the Statement of Funeral Goods and Services.
- 5. An investigation conducted by the Department revealed that Mr. Golden and Golden Funeral Home engaged in unprofessional conduct by failing to furnish a copy of the General Price List and the Statement of Funeral Goods and Services to the family requesting funeral service arrangements.
- 6. In resolution of this matter, Mr. Golden and Golden Funeral Home consent to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Funeral Directors Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in these matters pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 445.13 and 445.105(4), and is authorized to enter into this stipulated resolution of this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
- 2. Respondents Mark S. Golden and Golden Funeral Home, by their conduct as set forth above, violated FTC § 453.2(4) and 453.2(5), and thereby committed unprofessional conduct within the meaning of Wis. Admin. Code §§ FD 3.02(1), (3) and (9), by failing to furnish copies of the General Price List and Statement of Funeral Goods and Services to a family that had received funeral service arrangements.

#### <u>ORDER</u>

#### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. The attached Stipulation is hereby accepted.
- 2. Respondent Mark S. Golden, license #77-5026 be, and hereby is, REPRIMANDED.
- 3. Respondent Golden Funeral Home, license #78-2198 be, and hereby is, REPRIMANDED.

#### IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

4. Respondents **Mark S. Golden and Golden Funeral Home** shall jointly and severally, within 60 days of the date of this Order, **pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of EIGHT HUNDRED AND EIGHTY DOLLARS** (\$880.00). Payment shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing, and mailed to:

Department Monitor
Division of Enforcement
Department of Regulation and Licensing
P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935
Telephone (608) 261-7904
Fax (608) 266-2264

- 5. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondents' license. The Board in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order. In the event Respondents fail to timely submit any payment as ordered, Respondents' licenses SHALL BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondents have complied with the terms of this Order. [smg1]
  - 6. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

#### WISCONSIN FUNERAL DIRECTORS EXAMINING BOARD

By:	Rick D. Unbehaun	August 23, 2005
	A Member of the Board	Date

Limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order. Where the terms of discipline consist of a forfeiture, costs or continuing education, alternative "self-effectuating" language should be utilized. E.g.: In the event Respondent fails to timely submit any payment of the forfeiture as set forth above, the Respondent's license(#1550) SHALL BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.