WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

WISCONSIN MEMORIAL PARK,

RESPONDENT.

0005251

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 RCR 001

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

Wisconsin Memorial Park 13235 W. Capitol Dr. Brookfield, WI 53005

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 8368 Madison, WI 53708-8368

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 7190 Madison, WI 53707-7190

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 Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). The Department has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Department in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Respondent Wisconsin Memorial Park is registered by the State of Wisconsin as a 1. crematory authority, having registration number 120-98, first issued on June 4, 2014 and current through December 31, 2017. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Department is 13235 West Capitol Drive, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005.
- In July 1968, M.G. entered into a contract with Respondent for the purchase of a cremation, two urns, and engraving of the urns. This contract did not include any funeral services.

- 3. In November 2012, M.G. entered into a pre-need funeral arrangement with J.M. Funeral Home for funeral services. M.G. set up an irrevocable funeral trust with J.M. Funeral Home to pay for her services.
- 4. M.G. passed away on May 24, 2015. Respondent refused acceptance of M.G.'s remains because J.M. Funeral Home would not sign Respondent's Crematory Agreement which, among other things, indemnified Respondent from damages.
 - 5. M.G.'s family subsequently used the services of another crematorium.
- 6. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.85, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
- 2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent violated Wis. Stat. § 440.77(2) by refusing to accept delivery of human remains when no exception applied.
- 3. As a result of the above violation, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.85(2)(f).

<u>ORDER</u>

- 1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
- 2. Respondent Wisconsin Memorial Park is REPRIMANDED.
- 3. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$906.
- 4. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and sent to the Department Monitor at the address below:

Department Monitor
Division of Legal Services and Compliance
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

5. In the event Respondent fails to timely submit payment of the costs as ordered, Respondent's registration (number 120-98), or Respondent's right to renew its registration, may, in the discretion of the Department or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of the costs.

6. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

by:	Mir	4/3/17	
•	Michael J. Berndt, Chief Legal Counsel	Date	
	On Behalf of the Department		

STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

STIPULATION

WISCONSIN MEMORIAL PARK, RESPONDENT.

0005251

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 15 RCR 001

Respondent Wisconsin Memorial Park and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services, stipulate as follows:

- 1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.
- 2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation, Respondent voluntarily and knowingly waives the following rights:
 - the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondent, at which time the State has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
 - the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against Respondent;
 - the right to call witnesses on Respondent's behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
 - the right to testify on Respondent's own behalf;
 - the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision;
 - · the right to petition for rehearing; and
 - all other applicable rights afforded to Respondent under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.
- 3. Respondent is aware of Respondent's right to seek legal representation and has been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation.
- 4. Respondent agrees to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Department's Order, if adopted in the form as attached.
- 5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Department, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the

Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Department, the parties agree not to contend that the Department has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

- 6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance may appear before the Department, without the presence of Respondent, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that the Department may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation.
- 7. Respondent is informed that should the Department adopt this Stipulation, the Department's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.
- 8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending that the Department adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Wisconsin Memorial Park, Respondent

By: Authorized Representative

13235 W. Capitol Dr.

Brookfield, WI 53005

Registration no. 120-98

Renee M. Parton Attorney

Division of Legal Services and Compliance

P.O. Box 7190

Madison, WI 53707-7190

<u>*** 3/21/17</u>

3/21/2017