WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE FUNERAL DIRECTORS EXAMINING BOARD

| REID'S NEW GOLDEN GATE FUNERAL HOME, INC., RESPONDENT. | : | ORDER 0007852 |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST | : | FINAL DECISION AND ORDER |

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 FDR 011

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

Reid's New Golden Gate Funeral Home, Inc. Milwaukee, WI 53209

Wisconsin Funeral Directors Examining Board P.O. Box 8366 Madison, WI 53708-8366

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 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, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Reid's New Golden Gate Funeral Home, Inc. (Respondent), is licensed in the state of Wisconsin as funeral establishment, having license number 2527-78, first issued on November 25, 2008 and current through May 31, 2023. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209.

2. On April 6, 2019, Complainant's mother died, and a licensed funeral director from Respondent Establishment performed the removal of the decedent per decedent's wishes.

3. The deceased's Power of Attorney form specified that decedent was a direct cremation.

4. On April 8, 2019, decedent's daughter told Respondent she would be having the cremation done by another funeral establishment.

5. When decedent's body was received by the other funeral establishment, they found that a licensed funeral director at Respondent Establishment embalmed the body without permission. Respondent Establishment's owner stated this was because they lack refrigeration.

6. On June 3, 2019, Respondent admitted that the deceased was a direct cremation case and that they did not have permission to embalm the deceased.

7. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 445.13 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. Admin. Code § FD 3.02(10) by failing to demonstrate respect for the sanctity of human remains or for the feelings of individuals involved in the grieving process.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent violated Wis. Admin. Code § FD 3.02(9), by engaging in misleading or deceptive conduct in the conduct of business or the profession.

4. As a result of the above violations, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 445.13(1) and 445.105(4).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent is REPRIMANDED.

3. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$273.

4. Any requests, petitions, payments of costs (made payable to Department of Safety and Professional Services), and other information required by this Order shall be submitted to:

Department Monitor Division of Legal Services and Compliance Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 7190, Madison, W1 53707-7190

Telephone (608) 266-2112; Fax (608) 266-2264 DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

Respondent may also submit this information online at: https://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov

5. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's license (2527-78) or Respondent's right to renew its license, may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of the Order. The Board may, in addition and/or in the alternative refer any violation of this Order to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further investigation and action.

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

WISCONSIN FUNERAL DIRECTORS EXAMINING BOARD

112-By:

A Member of the Board

2/15/2022 Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE FUNERAL DIRECTORS EXAMINING BOARD

| PROCE REID'S HOME, | EDIN(NEW | TER OF DISCIPLINARY FS AGAINST GOLDEN GATE FUNERAL RESPONDENT. | : | STIPULATION ORDER 0007852 |
|--------------------------|--------------|--|---|---------------------------|
| | eid's | Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 FDR 011 s New Golden Gate Funeral Home, Inc. (Respondent) and the Division of Legal 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 Funeral Directors Examining Board (Board). 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 Board's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board 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 Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondent, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Board may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Board should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Respondent is informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Reid's New Golden Gate Funeral Home, Inc., Respondent Milwaukee, WI 53209 License No. 2527-78

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Alicia Hypenedy

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

2/3/2022 Date