Loewen Group Bankruptcy Reorganization Should Not Affect Texas Consumers

Date: June 30, 1999

Deputy Banking Commissioner Randall S. James announced that the action by the Loewen Group to file for bankruptcy reorganization should not affect Texas consumers. The Department of Banking regulates licensed perpetual care cemeteries and preneed funeral providers in Texas. Loewen has twenty-two cemeteries and twelve prepaid funeral provider licenses in Texas.

Day-to-day business activities will not be affected by the reorganization. The Loewen Group received permission from the Bankruptcy Court to perform under each of the preneed contracts and comply with state laws and regulations for at least a year. Deputy Commissioner James confirmed that "consumers with prepaid funeral contracts are fully protected by the laws of the state. The Department will closely monitor the situation to protect the interests of consumers. The Department does not currently have regulatory authority to protect purchasers of cemetery markers, preconstruction mausoleums or preconstruction lawn crypts; however, we stand ready to appear in the bankruptcy proceeding to protect consumer rights."

Consumers with questions may contact Mark LaPlante or Stephanie Newberg at the Department at (512) 475-1300 or the Loewen Group, through its public relations firm, Sitrick and Company, at 1-888-547-6875. You may find a list of all Texas locations of Loewen by accessing the Department's website at <u>http://www.banking.state.tx.us</u>, and looking under "Press Releases".

City	Cemetery Name
Abilene	Elliott - Hamil Garden of Memories
Baytown	Earthman Memory Gardens
Beeville	Beeville Memorial Park
Cleburne	Greenacres Memorial Park
Cleveland	Pace-Stancil Memorial Rest Gardens
Conroe	Conroe Memorial Park
Conroe	Garden Park Cemetery of Conroe
Dallas	Crown Hill Memorial Park
Del Rio	Del Rio Memorial Park
Granbury	Holly Hills Memorial Park
Hitchcock	Grace Memorial Park
Houston	Resthaven Cemetery
Kennedale	Cedar Hill Memorial Cemetery Assoc.
La Feria	Rio Grande Memorial Park
Lamesa	Lamesa Memorial Park
Port Neches	Oak Bluff Memorial Park

City	Cemetery Name
San Angelo	Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens
San Antonio	Chapel Hill Memorial Park
Tyler	Cathedral in the Pines
Tyler	Memorial Park Cemetery of Tyler
Waco	Chapel Hill Memorial Park
Waco	Waco Memorial Park
Abilene	Elliott - Hamil Funeral Homes
Angelton	Palms Funeral Home
Brownsville	Darling - Mouser Funeral Home (INS)
Conroe	Cashner Funeral Home
Dallas	Crown Hill Memorial Park
Dallas	Crown Hill Memorial Park (INS)
Hitchcock	Grace Memorial Park
Houston	Loewen Cemetery (Texas)
Marfa	Van Horn Funeral Home
New Orleans	Earthman's Funeral Directors
New Orleans	Funeral Service, Inc. (INS)
San Angelo	Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens