

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF BANKING

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PRESS RELEASE

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Texas Banking Commissioner Issues Consent Order Relating to Creisha Lewis Cotton, Clarence W. Lewis, Sr. and Clarence Lewis & Son Mortuary

On July 15, 2019, the Texas Banking Commissioner, Charles G. Cooper (Commissioner), issued a Consent Order (Order) relating to Creisha Lewis Cotton, individually, Clarence W. Lewis, Sr., individually and as owner and funeral director in charge of Clarence Lewis & Son Mortuary, and Clarence Lewis & Son Mortuary (collectively Respondents) of Conroe, Texas.

The Order is effective immediately and is based on the Commissioner's finding that Respondents violated Texas Finance Code (Finance Code), Chapter 154 by selling an illegal contract for prepaid funeral benefits totaling \$5,085. The Commissioner determined that Respondents: (1) do not hold a permit to sell prepaid funeral benefits, or accept money for prepaid benefits, in the State of Texas as required by Finance Code \$154.101; (2) did not deposit the funds collected from the purchaser of the illegal contract (Purchaser) in accordance with Finance Code \$154.253 or forward the funds to an insurance company in accordance with Finance Code \$154.203; and (3) failed to provide a refund to the Purchaser within 30 days of receiving written notice of the violation from the Department. Respondents agreed to the issuance of the Order without admitting any violation of state or federal laws or regulations.

The Order requires Respondents to pay the Purchaser \$5,085 in restitution pursuant to Finance Code \$154.411. The Order also requires Respondents to pay the Department \$2,000 in administrative penalties pursuant to Finance Code \$154.406. The full text of the Order can be viewed on the Department's website.

Inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to:

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