

Texas Department of Banking

Press Release

State Banking Department Seizes Records and Deposits of Dallas Funeral Operator

Date: February 28, 2001

The Texas Department of Banking recently seized the records and funds relating to the prepaid funeral benefit contracts sold by Proctor's Metro Lawn Mortuary ("Proctor's"), Dallas, Texas, under Permit Number 783 issued by the Department on April 24, 1986. Proctor's violated Chapter 154 of the Texas Finance Code by making unauthorized withdrawals of trusted funds and by failing to disclose all prepaid funeral contract sales to the Department. The exact amount of funds diverted cannot be determined until the Department is able to verify contract status with purchasers.

In accordance with Section 25.19 of the Texas Administrative Code, the Department will begin proceedings to enter into an agreement with another funeral home to service the outstanding contracts of purchasers who elect to keep their contract. The Department's goal is to preserve the rights and interests of purchasers by transferring responsibility to perform the contracts to a responsible successor selected by the Banking Commissioner of Texas. Purchasers of prepaid funeral benefit contracts with Proctor's are asked to send all payments due on their contract as well as inquiries to verify contract status to the:

Texas Department of Banking
Special Audits Division
2601 N. Lamar Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78705-4294
(877) 276-5554, ext. 1285

Purchasers will receive further notification of this seizure by mail from the Department or you may contact the Department at the above-mentioned address or toll-free phone number for further explanation of your rights and options.