



Charles G. Cooper
Commissioner

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF BANKING

2601 North Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas 78705
512-475-1300 /877-276-5554
www.dob.texas.gov

Media Contact:
media@dob.texas.gov

PRESS RELEASE

Date: January 11, 2024

Department of Banking Issues Emergency Cease and Desist Order to Bellwood Memorial Park

On January 11, 2024, Texas Banking Commissioner Charles G. Cooper issued an Emergency Order to Cease and Desist Activity (Order) to Bellwood Memorial Park, Temple, Texas.

The Order cites various violations of the Texas Health and Safety Code and requires Bellwood to immediately cease and desist from selling any new cemetery spaces, interment rights, or memorials, including markers, monuments, and benches. The cemetery may perform burials for persons who owned plots in the cemetery as of the effective date of the Order, or other persons as approved by the Commissioner. The cemetery may also order and set memorials that have been fully paid for, or otherwise return the funds received for the purchase of a memorial within ten days of the effective date of the Order. The cemetery must continue to maintain the property and grounds.

The full text of the [Order](#) can be viewed on the Department's website.

Inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to:

Texas Department of Banking
Non-Depository Supervision
2601 N. Lamar Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78705-4294

Toll-free (877) 276-5554, at the menu prompt select "3" for Inquiries/Complaints, at the next prompt select "5" for Funeral Contracts/Cemeteries or directly (512) 475-1287.