

Texas Department of Banking

Press Release

State Banking Department's Actions Regarding Amarillo Family Funeral Home and Best Priced Caskets and Monuments, Amarillo, Texas

Date: May 15, 2006

On April 5, 2006, the Texas Department of Banking (Department) seized the records relating to the prepaid funeral benefit contracts sold by Amarillo Family Funeral Home ("the funeral home"), in Amarillo, Texas. Further, the Department has determined that the principals of the funeral home, Roy and Kay Bryant, also sold prepaid funeral caskets through Best Priced Caskets and Monuments. Both the funeral home and the casket store violated Chapter 154 of the Texas Finance Code by selling prepaid funeral benefit contracts and merchandise without a permit issued by the Department. The Department served the funeral home with a Cease and Desist Order ordering the funeral home to cease selling all prepaid funeral benefit contracts and to cease collecting associated funds.

If you purchased a prepaid funeral benefit contract from either the Amarillo Family Funeral Home or Best Priced Caskets and Monuments, contact the Department to verify the status of your contract and to find out more about your options. The Department's address and phone number is:

Texas Department of Banking
Special Audits Division
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 "6" for Funeral Contracts/Cemeteries or Directly (512) 475-1285