BEFORE THE STATE OF NEVADA FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICES

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IN THE MATTER OF:

KRAFT-SUSSMAN FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES, Funeral Establishment Permit EST130,

Respondent.

Case No. FB23-19

CONSENT DECREE

The State of Nevada Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services ("BOARD") having jurisdiction over KRAFT-SUSSMAN FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES, Funeral Establishment Permit EST130 ("RESPONDENT"), pursuant to NRS 642.5175, and in consideration of the informal complaint against RESPONDENT alleging violations of the Nevada Statutes and regulations controlling the practice of Funeral Establishments in the State, and the parties being mutually desirous of settling the controversy between them relative to the pending matter;

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED between the undersigned parties that this matter shall be settled and resolved upon the following terms:

VOLUNTARY WAIVER OF RIGHTS

RESPONDENT is aware of, understands, and has been advised of the effect of this Consent Decree, which its legal representatives have carefully read and fully acknowledged. RESPONDENT has had the opportunity to consult with competent counsel of its choice.

RESPONDENT has freely and voluntarily entered into this Consent Decree and is aware of its rights to contest the allegations. These rights include representation by an attorney at its own expense, the right to file an answer in response to a formal complaint, the right to a public hearing on any charges or allegations formally filed, the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses called to testify against it, the right to present

evidence on its own behalf, the right to testify on its own behalf, the right to receive written findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting the decision on the merits of the complaint, and the right to obtain judicial review of the decision. All of these rights are being voluntarily waived by RESPONDENT in exchange for the BOARD'S acceptance of this Consent Decree.

If the Consent Decree is not accepted by the BOARD, no member of the BOARD will be disqualified from further hearing of this matter, by reason of his or her consideration of the Consent Decree. RESPONDENT hereby waives any claim of bias or prejudice based upon said consideration by any member of the BOARD in any subsequent disciplinary hearing conducted by the BOARD.

JURISDICTION

RESPONDENT acknowledges that the BOARD has jurisdiction over it and the conduct alleged in this matter. RESPONDENT acknowledges that the BOARD has the legal power and authority to take disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, the revocation of permits for Funeral Establishments in Nevada.

RESPONDENT acknowledges that the BOARD will retain jurisdiction over this matter until all terms and conditions set forth in this Consent Decree have been met to the satisfaction of the BOARD.

PUBLICATION OF CONSENT DECREE

RESPONDENT acknowledges that at the time this Consent Decree becomes effective, it also becomes a public document and will be reported to the State of Nevada, Legislative Council Bureau, Disciplinary Action Reporting System; and such other national databases as required by law. It is also understood that any meeting during which the BOARD considers and accepts or rejects this Consent Decree is open to the public and that the minutes of the BOARD meeting are a public document, available for inspection by any person so requesting.

INDEMNIFICATION

RESPONDENT, for itself, its heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, hereby indemnifies and hold harmless the State of Nevada, the BOARD, the Nevada Attorney General's office and each of its members, agents and employees in their individual and representative capacities against any and all claims, suits, demands, actions, debts, damages, costs, charges, and expenses, including court costs and attorney's fees against any persons or entities as well as all liability, losses, and damages of any nature whatsoever that the persons and entities named in this paragraph shall have or may at any time sustain or suffer by reason of this investigation, this disciplinary action, this settlement or its administration.

STIPULATED FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

RESPONDENT understands the nature of the allegations under consideration by the BOARD. It acknowledges that the conduct alleged, if proven, constitutes violations of the Nevada Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services Practice Act (NRS and NAC 642). It further recognizes that if this matter were to be taken to a disciplinary hearing before the BOARD, there is a substantial likelihood that the following allegations could be proven as true, and that as a result it would be subject to disciplinary action by the BOARD. As such, RESPONDENT does not contest the following allegations:

- At all times relevant to this matter RESPONDENT held a permit as a Funeral Establishment.
- 2. At all times relevant to this matter RESPONDENT was/is a Funeral Establishment located at 3975 South Durango Drive, Suite 104, Las Vegas, 89147.
- 3. At all times relevant to this matter RESPONDENT employed Brandy Hall, Funeral Director License FD 944, as its Managing Funeral Director (Funeral Director).
- 4. On or about September 1, 2023, Marilyn Gallup filed an informal complaint ("informal complaint") against RESPONDENT. RESPONDENT was informed by the BOARD of the informal complaint on September 6, 2023. The Funeral Director provided a

response on September 9, 2023; an attorney for RESPONDENT represented that the Funeral Director's response is the official response from RESPONDENT to the BOARD.

- 5. Subsequent to the informal complaint, BOARD investigator Dr. Wayne Fazzino began an investigation into the violations alleged in the informal complaint.
- 6. As found during the course of the investigation, Marilyn Gallup is the mother of the decedent, Jeffery Robert Gallup ("Decedent"). Marilyn Gallup lives in California and the Decedent passed away in Las Vegas, Nevada on June 28, 2023.
- 7. Marilyn Gallup met with the Funeral Director on June 29, 2023, at Kraft-Sussman Funeral services in Las Vegas and contracted to have Decedent transported to Los Angeles for a funeral to be held on July 3, 2023, at Hillside Memorial Park ("Hillside") in Los Angeles.
- 8. The Funeral Director scheduled transportation for Decedent to be transported via Delta Airlines cargo. The flight was scheduled to depart Las Vegas at 6:17 pm on July 1, 2023, with a scheduled landing in Los Angeles at 7:38 pm on July 1, 2023. The Funeral Director received an email confirmation of the booking from Delta stating that "Shipment must be dropped off by 11:00 am 07/01/2023" with the time of 11:00 am highlighted in red font.
- 9. The Funeral Director arranged for her transportation team, namely Las Vegas Mortuary Transport LLC ("Mortuary Transport"), to transport Decedent from Kraft-Sussman (the above-mentioned physical location) to the airport.
- 10. Mortuary Transport picked up the Decedent from Kraft-Sussman at approximately 1:30 pm on July 1, 2023, (a Sunday) and arrived at Delta Cargo at approximately 2:17 pm. Mortuary Transport then noticed a note on the door stating that Delta Cargo's hours are from 7:00 am until 1:00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays.
- 11. Although the flight was scheduled to leave at 6:17 pm, and Mortuary Services arrived at 2:17 pm, Delta Cargo had already closed more than an hour earlier, at 1:00 pm. As such Decedent was not able to be shipped to Los Angeles.

- 12. The following day, July 2, 2023, Marilyn Gallup arranged for Hillside to drive from Los Angeles to Kraft-Sussman in Las Vegas to pick up the Decedent and take him back to Los Angeles. The July 3, 2023, scheduled funeral was still able to go forward.
- 13. NRS 642.465(4) requires that each funeral establishment which has been issued a permit by the BOARD "... must have a licensed funeral director to manage the establishment or facility in accordance with the provisions of NRS 642.345..."
- 14. NRS 642.345(3) states that the funeral director is responsible for the proper management of each funeral establishment or direct cremation facility of which the funeral director is the manager.
- 15. NRS 642.5175(2) states the Board may take disciplinary action against a person who holds a license, permit, or certificate by the BOARD pursuant to this chapter for "unprofessional conduct."
- 16. NRS 642.5174(1) defines "unprofessional conduct" as "[m]isrepresentation or fraud in the operation of a funeral establishment, direct cremation facility, cemetery or crematory, or the practice of a funeral director or funeral arranger."
- 17. RESPONDENT, itself and through its Funeral Director, engaged in unprofessional conduct when the Funeral Director misrepresented that she would have the Decedent transported via Delta Cargo, and then failed to have that done; the Decedent could not be transported via Delta Cargo because he was not taken to the airport on time despite Delta sending the Funeral Director a confirmation email directing her to make sure the decedent was delivered to the airport by a specific time.
 - 18. NRS 642.5176 sets out the authorized discipline as such:

NRS 642.5176 Authorized disciplinary action; private reprimands prohibited; orders imposing discipline deemed public records.

- 1. If the Board determines that a person who holds a license, permit or certificate issued by the Board pursuant to this chapter or chapter 451 or 452 of NRS has committed any of the acts set forth in NRS 642.5175, the Board may:
 - (a) Refuse to renew the license, permit or certificate;
 - (b) Revoke the license, permit or certificate;

- (c) Suspend the license, permit or certificate for a definite period or until further order of the Board;
- (d) Impose a fine of not more than \$5,000 for each act that constitutes a ground for disciplinary action;
- (e) Place the person on probation for a definite period subject to any reasonable conditions imposed by the Board;
 - (f) Administer a public reprimand; or
- (g) Impose any combination of disciplinary actions set forth in paragraphs (a) to (f), inclusive.
 - 2. The Board shall not administer a private reprimand.
- 3. An order that imposes discipline and the findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting that order are public records.
- 19. RESPONDENT does not contest the allegations alleged and acknowledges that as a consequence it is subject to discipline pursuant to the above charges and statutory provisions.

STIPULATED ADJUDICATION

RESPONDENT stipulates that pursuant to the authority of NRS 642.5175 and NRS 642.5176, the RESPONDENT must comply with the following conditions:

- 1. Within sixty (60) days of the approval and execution of this Consent Decree, RESPONDENT shall pay a Five-Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) fine to the BOARD.
 - a. No grace period is permitted. Full payment not actually received by the BOARD on or before the sixty days as indicated above shall be construed as an event of default by the RESPONDENT.
 - b. In the event of a default, RESPONDENT agrees that their Funeral Establishment permit shall be immediately suspended. The suspension of RESPONDENT's permit shall continue until the unpaid balance is paid in full, and the suspension is subject to being reported to all appropriate agencies.
- 2. RESPONDENT agrees that it will be financially responsible for all requirements of this Consent Decree and any reasonable financial assessments by the

Board for the cost of monitoring its compliance or carrying out the provisions of this Consent Decree.

VIOLATION OF TERMS OF CONSENT DECREE

RESPONDENT understands that the BOARD may, upon thirty (30) days' notice to RESPONDENT, convene a hearing for the limited purpose of establishing that they violated the terms of this Consent Decree. If such a hearing results in a finding of a violation of this Consent Decree, the BOARD may impose any penalty upon RESPONDENT authorized by NRS 642.135.

RESPONDENT agrees to waive its rights to appeal the substantive legal basis of any final decision of the Board, which was the basis for this Consent Decree. In the event an alleged violation of the Consent Decree is taken to hearing and the facts which constitute the violation are determined to be not proven, no disciplinary action shall be taken by the BOARD.

ACCEPTANCE BY THE BOARD

This Consent Decree will be presented and accepted by the BOARD with a recommendation for approval from the Attorney General's Office at its next meeting.

COMPLETE CONSENT DECREE

This Consent Decree embodies the entire agreement between the BOARD and RESPONDENT. It may not be altered, amended, or modified without the express written consent of the parties.

DATED this <u>28</u> day of August , 2024.

By: Representative of RESPONDENT

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1	The foregoing Consent Decree between KRAFT-SUSSMAN FUNERAL AND
2	CREMATION SERVICES and the STATE OF NEVADA FUNERAL AND CEMETERY
3	SERVICES BOARD in Case No. FB23-19 is approved as to form and content.
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5	DATED this28thday ofAugust, 2024.
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7	AARON D. FORD Attorney General
8	
9	By: <u>Isl Matthew Feeley</u>
10	MATTHEW FEELEY Deputy Attorney General
11	Nevada Bar No. 13336 Attorneys for Petitioner
12	State of Nevada, Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services
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15	ORDER
16	By a majority vote on the 20th day of November, 2024, the State of Nevada
17	Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services approved and adopted the terms and conditions
18	set forth in the attached Consent Decree with KRAFT-SUSSMAN FUNERAL
19	AND CREMATION SERVICES.
20	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE.
21	DATED this 21 day of Novimber, 2024.
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23	By: AShybro
24	Dr. Randy Sharp, Chairman for the Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services
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