



TEXAS CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION

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APPLICATION FOR CEMETERY AND CREMATORY MEMBERSHIP

COMPANY INFORMATION

NAME OF CEMETERY/CREMATORY _____

PHYSICAL ADDRESS _____

• CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT THAN ABOVE) _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

BUSINESS PHONE _____ BUSINESS FAX _____

WEBSITE _____ YEAR ESTABLISHED _____

CEMETERY AND FACILITIES

CEMETERY CLASSIFICATION

___ RELIGIOUS, FRATERNAL OR MUNICIPAL (CIRCLE ONE)

___ CORPORATE CEMETERY

IF YES, WHICH GROUP? _____

___ CREMATORY ONLY

___ PRIVATELY OWNED OR OTHER _____

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO YOUR FACILITY

___ CEMETERY

___ FUNERAL HOME

___ LAWN CRYPTS

___ MAUSOLEUM

___ CREMATORY

___ COLUMBARIUM

IS THE CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE? ___ YES ___ NO

MEMBERSHIP DUES

- If the business is a STAND-ALONE CREMATORY or a RELIGIOUS, FRATERNAL OR MUNICIPAL CEMETERY, dues are \$100.00.
- If the business is not mentioned above, dues are \$100.00 *OR* \$1.00 per burial conducted in the previous year, whichever is greater.
- If your cemetery includes a crematory, there is no additional charge; it is included in your cemetery dues.
- If you have more than one cemetery, it can be added for \$100.00 after paying the full dues for the larger cemetery. Please complete an application for each additional cemetery, showing the dues as \$100.00

Check the dues that best describes the cemetery:

___ DUES ARE \$100.00

___ DUES ARE \$1.00 X ___ BURIALS* = _____

*This is per burial conducted the previous year.

Sub Total _____

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MEMBER INFORMATION

AMOUNT OF DUES FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE \$ _____

FIRST ACTIVE MEMBER _____ Included In Above Dues

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

SECOND ACTIVE MEMBER _____ Add \$25.00 \$ _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

ASSOCIATE MEMBER ** _____ Add \$10.00 \$ _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

**No limit on the number of additional Associate Members @ \$10.00 each.

TOTAL DUES \$ _____

In accordance with Article II of the Bylaws of the Association included with this application, I hereby apply for membership in the Texas Cemeteries Association (TCA) and agree to abide by the TCA Bylaws and the Code of Ethics. I understand I will be a provisional member until approval by the Board of Directors at the next annual meeting of the Association.

Date _____
FIRST ACTIVE MEMBER

In accordance with Article II, Section 2.3 of the Bylaws, an applicant for membership must be sponsored by an Active Member or Associate Member in good Standing.

Date _____
SPONSORING MEMBER

PAYMENT

PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION AND CHECK OR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION TO THE TEXAS CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION.

Credit Card (circle one) Master Card Visa Discover

Card number _____ Expiration Date _____ Amount Charged \$ _____

Name as it appears on card _____ Security ID (3 digit # on back of card) _____

Signature _____

**TEXAS CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 2.1

Qualifications. Membership in the Association shall be open to any individual (whether representing himself or a firm, corporation or other form of organization) engaged in the cemetery or crematory business and any individual (whether representing himself or a firm, corporation or other form of organization) doing business with cemeteries or crematories in the State of Texas, who is willing to abide by the Bylaws and the Association's Code of Ethics. Membership in the Association shall be a privilege and not a right, and it shall be the prerogative of the Board of Directors to grant, refuse or rescind this privilege at any time.

SECTION 2.2

Classes. Membership in the Association shall consist of the following classes:

Active Members Associate Members Out-of-State Members Supplier Members Associate Supplier Members Honorary Members

(A)Active Members shall be the first two individuals representing a cemetery or crematory doing business within the State of Texas. These members shall enjoy all of the rights, benefits and privileges offered by the Association, including the right to vote and to hold office. An Active Member shall be entitled to cast one vote on each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the Association.

(B)Associate Members shall be the third and other individuals representing a cemetery or crematory doing business within the State of Texas. These members shall enjoy all of the rights, benefits and privileges offered by the Association, except that they shall not be entitled to vote or to hold office.

(C)Out-of-State Members shall be the individuals representing a cemetery, crematory, mausoleum or columbarium not doing business within the State of Texas. These members shall enjoy all of the rights, benefits and privileges offered by the Association, except that they shall not be entitled to hold office or to vote on matters pertaining solely to Texas cemeteries or crematories.

(D)Supplier Members shall be the first two individuals (whether representing themselves or a firm, corporation or other form of organization) doing business with cemeteries or crematories in the State of Texas. These members shall enjoy all of the rights, benefits and privileges offered by the Association, except that they shall not be entitled to vote or to hold office.

(E)Associate Supplier Members shall be the third and other individuals (whether representing themselves or a firm, corporation or other form of organization) doing business with cemeteries or crematories in the State of Texas. These members shall enjoy all of the rights, benefits and privileges offered by the Association, except that they shall not be entitled to vote or to hold office.

(F)Honorary Members shall be distinguished individuals whom it is deemed desirable and appropriate to honor by membership in the Association. These members shall enjoy all of the rights, benefits and privileges offered by the Association, except that they shall not be entitled to vote, to hold office or to serve on committees. An Honorary Member shall not be required to pay dues to the Association.

SECTION 2.3

Application for Membership. All applicants for membership in the Association shall complete and sign the application provided by the Association and submit the application to the principal office of the Association. Such application shall include an agreement by the applicant to abide by the Bylaws and the Association's Code of Ethics. An applicant for membership in the Association must be sponsored by an Active Member or Associate Member in good standing. Such applicant will be considered a provisional member of the Association until their admission or rejection as a member of the Association at the next annual meeting of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2.4

Admission of Members. The Secretary of the Association shall notify in writing all members of the Board of Directors of any application for membership in the Association within fifteen (15) days after such application is received in the principal office of the Association. Admission of all applicants for membership in the Association shall be by majority vote of those present and voting at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors. The decision of the Board of Directors shall be final as to an applicant's request for membership in the Association. Nomination of an Honorary Member for membership in the Association may be made by any Active Member or Associate Member. Such nomination shall be made in writing to the Board of Directors, and upon approval by the Board, it shall be presented to the membership. A unanimous vote of the members present at the annual meeting of the Association is required to elect any individual as an Honorary Member of the Association.

SECTION 2.5

Duration of Membership and Resignation. Membership in the Association may terminate by death, voluntary withdrawal as herein provided, or as otherwise provided by the Bylaws. The right of a member to vote, and all other rights, benefits and privileges offered by the Association, shall cease on termination of membership. Any member may voluntarily resign from the Association by giving written notice of such intention. Such notice shall be presented to the Board of Directors at its next meeting. A withdrawal shall be effective upon fulfillment of all obligations of the member to the date of withdrawal.

SECTION 2.6

Suspension and Expulsion. Any membership may be suspended or terminated for cause. Sufficient cause for such suspension or termination of membership shall be a violation of the Bylaws or the Association's Code of Ethics, any rule or practice duly adopted by the Association, or any other conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Association. Such suspension or expulsion shall be by two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the Board of Directors; provided that a statement of the charges shall have been sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last recorded address of the member at least fifteen (15) days before the final action is taken thereon. This statement shall be accompanied by a notice of the time and place of the meeting of the Board of Directors, at which the charges shall be considered, and the member shall have the opportunity to appear in person or by their representative and present any defense to such charges before action is taken thereon.

**ARTICLE III
DUES**

SECTION 3.1

Establishment of Dues. The annual dues for each member of the Association shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3.2

Unpaid Dues. No member whose dues are unpaid shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Association or be entitled to admittance to a convention of the Association or be entitled to any of the rights, benefits and privileges of membership.

SECTION 3.3

Cancellation of Membership. Any member who fails to pay his dues within thirty (30) days from the time the same become due shall be notified in writing by the Secretary, and, if payment is not made within sixty (60) days from the date of such notice, shall be reported to the Board of Directors, and if so ordered by a majority vote of the Directors voting thereon, shall, without further notice and without a hearing, be dropped from membership in the Association and thereupon forfeit all rights, benefits and privileges of membership.

SECTION 3.4

No Refunds. No dues shall be refunded to any member whose membership is terminated for any reason.

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CODE OF ETHICS

In furtherance of the Creed of Ideals of the Texas Cemeteries Association, which among other things calls upon its members "to elevate the ethical standards of the industry and to foster a greater respect for the industry by honest and sincere dealing," the following sales presentations and practices are hereby prohibited:

- Any presentation in such language or manner as to lead the prospect to believe the interment space or rights offered are being given to him and the money he would pay would go into the care fund, whenever this is not the fact.
- Any representation that the interment space or rights, merchandise or services are offered at special price to the prospect only, or for a limited period time only, whenever this is not the fact.
- Any offer of a discount on the price for interment space or rights, merchandise or services, whenever the price of such space, merchandise or services has been increased to cover such an alleged discount.
- Any representation that the prospect is being offered a free gift or monetary advantage by purchasing interment space or rights and promising to resell same at an advance which would provide or produce the alleged gift amount or monetary advantage.
- Any guarantee or representation that the sale price of the interment space or rights offered, or in the section where it is located, would be above the price paid at some future period of time, with any form of promise to assist in the resale of same whereby the purchaser would realize a profit.
- Any offer to sell interment space or rights, which is accompanied by a promise to resell such space in the future at a profit.
- Any sale of merchandise or services for future delivery without adequate reserves or trust funds to guarantee such dealing when required. (Lending one's property or name to the sale of merchandise or services for future delivery is deemed the equivalent of the sale of same.)
- Any offer of free interment space or rights, merchandise or service (hereinafter referred to as "free goods") either in a drawing or lottery or offer of free goods to any organization, group or person, when accompanied by failure to disclose any material fact or condition of the offer such as a requirement that any other interment space or rights, goods or services be purchased; increasing the price of any other interment space or rights, goods or services sold over and above their regular price to compensate for the free goods; misrepresenting that the cemetery is connected with any government agency; or any other misrepresentation or dishonest or unethical practice.
- Any denial of responsibility by the owner or operator for the representations and practices of the sales organization selling his property.
- Any sales presentations or practice which conceals or misstates a material fact is unethical and tends to bring the particular property and the industry into disrepute, is, therefore, in violation of the Code of Ethics.
- Any failure to comply with the terms of the sales contracts, or state or local law requirements, with respect to irrevocable permanent care, and failure to comply with any other applicable laws and regulations relating to cemeteries and other business requirements.

CREED OF IDEALS

We, the members of the Texas Cemeteries Association, being ever mindful of the kind and considerate service which should be rendered to the individual and the community, recognize the following objectives of this Association:

- To foster a greater association between the owners and operators of cemeteries, mausoleum, and columbarium
- To disseminate information relating to the operating of such enterprises
- To develop and encourage good business practices
- To encourage the building of modern interment places with embellishments and beautifications symbolizing life and eternity
- To provide for the proper care and maintenance of such interment places so as to render them permanent places of beauty
- To elevate the ethical standards of the industry and to foster a greater respect for the industry by honest and sincere dealings among its members and the public
- To encourage the cemetery industry to assist the public in making prearrangement of their cemetery needs.