

Trahan Family Funeral Home

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To Whom It May Concern:

The Medical Examiner's Office has been problematic since the day that Dr. Oleske was appointed. They are constantly putting Medical Examiner holds on deceased individuals for undetermined amounts of time. This makes it difficult for families who have just lost a loved one to plan their service and come to closure. It's not unusual to make two removals on one deceased individual, picking them up from our facility and bringing them back. I don't understand why they don't make the initial removal. There's no rhyme or reason to why they put a Medical Examiner hold on an individual. Medical Examiner's in the past would always take deceased individuals into their custody if there was no doctor to sign which would help expedite the process. They are extremely slow in approving cremation permits and families get upset at the funeral home because of the Medical Examiner's incompetence. The Medical Examiner is slow in entering the deceased individual into the EDRS system which causes problems with our families receiving their certified death certificates in a timely manner. The families need the certified death certificates to get business conducted. There are problems with their administration especially rudeness on the phone. They are reluctant to call doctors for assistance in finding doctors to sign the death certificates. The responsibility has now been put on the health department. The Medical Examiner will often force the doctor to change the cause of death from the doctor's original opinion. Funeral Homes get stuck in the middle of these arguments with no power or authority to do anything about it. The deceased are often times not clean leaving the Medical Examiner's Office. They are covered in bodily fluids that can simply be taken care of by running water over the deceased. They leave trash inside the bags with the deceased which is absolutely disrespectful. Once again, we've never had this issue with past Medical Examiners. In conclusion our Medical Examiner's Office is the worst I've ever seen. They have no respect for the deceased individual considering their office made the statement that they will no longer be performing autopsies on hanging victims. I respectfully ask whatever authority to please remove this current Medical Examiner and replace her with someone with competence.

Richard A. Trahan
Owner/Licensed Funeral Director
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