

From: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>
To: Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>
Date: 11/29/2017 9:37:53 PM
Subject: Re: Website email from Lorena Goff Triestram

I like the second one.

From: Catherine McNicoll
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2017 6:02 PM
To: Danny Varat
Subject: FW: Website email from Lorena Goff Triestram

For approval:

“Good Morning Lorena, I am very sorry for your loss and the ordeal that you have faced. However, my office has no enforcement authority over entities in Michigan.”

Or

“Good Morning Lorena, I am very sorry for your loss and the ordeal that you have faced. However, my office has no enforcement authority over entities in Michigan. This is may be a situation that can only be resolved by a private attorney.”

Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Lieutenant Governor's Office
CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)

From: lorenatre@yahoo.com [mailto:lorenatre@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2017 12:05 PM
Subject: Website email from Lorena Goff Triestram

Mr. Bryant. My name is Lorena Goff Triestram. I am the widow of Bary R Triestram. He passed away July 31, 2015 in Detroit, Michigan. We resided in South Carolina and he traveled to Michigan to receive medical treatment. His wish was to be buried here in South Carolina beside me in our family cemetery. I am contacting you today because Oâ€™Guinn Family Funeral Home refused to give me my husbandâ€™s cremains. They gave his cremains to his mother, sister, and brother-in-law. By both Michigan and South Carolina laws, the spouse has the exclusive rights to their loved oneâ€™s cremains. In short, the director at the funeral home had a contract with the mother and sister two days prior to contacting me (I was at home in South Carolina). By that time, all the arrangements were made and paid for. I was emailed a form and he marked where I was to fill it out and what not to fill out. After I returned the form, I was informed that my husbandâ€™s cremains would be giving to his mother and that by Michigan law, the person who pays for the cremation received the cremains. They refused to return the money to his mother. He did manage to send me one tablespoon of my husbandâ€™s ashes and said I was not to tell his mother because it would up set her. From that day forward, I looked for help everywhere I could think. Eight months later, I received an email from an attorney, attached was the Michigan law that explained the rights of the surviving spouse. He told me that the funeral home had indeed knowingly broke the law. He, however, did not specialize in that kind of case. In fact, I only found a couple attorneys that knew anything about laws concerning funeral homes and they said it would cost an estimated \$30,000, without a guarantee. I contacted the Michigan Attorney Generalâ€™s office, where I was directed to the Michigan License and Regulation Board. I filed a complaint against the Oâ€™Guinn Family Funeral Home and they contacted the owner. Donald Oâ€™Guinn, owner of the funeral home, replied with character attacks on me,

along with an admission of guilt! (I have a copy of his response.) Even though he admitted they handed over my husband's cremains to my brother-in-law/mother-in-law/sister-in-law, the Michigan License and Regulation Board agent told me that they did not have any legal authority over the issue at hand. He suggested contacting the Attorney General's office. When I told him, they sent me to him, he said he was sorry, there was nothing he could do and wished me luck. I have been sent in circles for 2 1/2 years and the mental, physical, and emotion distress has been and continues to be overwhelming. I am exhausted, and I need your help!! There have been so many illegal things that have taken place and I can't find anyone willing to stand up for what is right. I am begging you. Please, help me bring my husband home. I have plenty of information to support my claims and prove their wrong doing. I can send you the complaint and the responses from the Michigan Licences and Regulations Board, it will give you a more detail account of what took place. Sincerely,
Lorena Goff Triestram

Lorena Goff Triestram
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