BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

FILED

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel. GLEN
MULREADY, Insurance Commissioner,

Petitioner,

V.

Case No. 20-0571-DIS

BURKHART FUNERAL SERVICE, LLC
d/b/a BURKHART FUNERAL SERVICE
a licensed prepaid funeral benefits
provider in the State of Oklahoma,

Respondent.

CONDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER AND NOTICE OF RIGHT TO BE HEARD

COMES NOW the State of Oklahoma, ex rel. Glen Mulready, Insurance Commissioner, through his attorney, Kayla M. Rochelle, and alleges and states as follows:

JURISDICTION

- 1. Glen Mulready is the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Oklahoma and is charged with the duty of administering and enforcing all provisions of the Oklahoma Insurance Code, 36 O.S. §§ 101, et seq., specifically the Prepaid Funeral Benefits Act, 36 O.S. §§ 6121-6136.18.
- 2. Respondent Burkhart Funeral Service LLC ("Respondent") is a currently licensed prepaid funeral benefit provider in the State of Oklahoma, holding permit numbers 864447 ("Antlers Location"); 864448 ("Talihina Location"); and 864449 ("Clayton Location"). All three permits will expire on December 31, 2020. The address of record for the Antlers Location is 715 East Main St., Antlers, Oklahoma 74523. The address of record for the Talihina Location is P.O.

Box 1059, Talihina, Oklahoma 74571. The address of record for the Clayton Location is P.O. Box 609, Clayton, Oklahoma 74536.

ALLEGATIONS OF FACT

- 3. On or about February 12, 2020, a verified examination report ("Report") relating to Respondent was filed with the Oklahoma Insurance Department ("OID") covering the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.
- 4. On or about February 27, 2020, the OID Financial Division received an initial copy of the Report. The OID Financial Division sent a copy of the Report along with the twenty-day letter by certified mail, with return receipt requested, pursuant to 36 O.S. § 309.4(B). In May 2020, the letter was returned to the OID Financial Division by the USPS and marked as "Unclaimed." As a result, the OID Financial Division made two telephone calls to Respondent and left messages both times. Mr. Burkhart called the OID Financial Division approximately two (2) business days later. The OID Financial Division discussed the examination packet and that it had not been picked up with Mr. Burkhart. Mr. Burkhart assured the OID Financial Division that he would pick up the examination packet.
- 5. On or about June 1, 2020, the OID Financial Division re-sent the Report and twenty-day letter to Respondent's Antlers Location by certified mail, with return receipt requested, and afforded Respondent twenty (20) days to make a written submission or rebuttal with respect to the matters in the examination report in accordance with 36 O.S. § 309.4(B). Based on the package tracking by the USPS, the Report and twenty-day letter were successfully delivered on or about June 18, 2020. Respondent did not submit a response.
- 6. On or about July 29, 2020, the OID entered an Order Adopting the Examination Report ("Order") in accordance with 36 O.S. § 309.4(C).

- 7. A copy of the Order was mailed by certified mail, with return receipt requested, to all addresses of record.
- 8. On or about August 30, 2020, the copies sent to the Antlers and Talihina Locations were returned to the OID by the USPS and marked as "Unclaimed, Unable to Forward." On or about September 2, 2020, the copy sent to the Clayton Location was returned to the OID by the USPS and marked as "Not Deliverable as Addressed, Unable to Forward."
- 9. On or about September 11, 2020, the OID emailed a copy of the Order to the email addresses of record and included delivery and read receipts for the email.
- 10. Pursuant to the Order, Respondent was required to file affidavits within thirty (30) days of issuance of the Order executed by each of its directors stating under oath that they have received a copy of the adopted report and related orders. Respondent was also ordered to provide a written Corrective Action Plan within thirty (30) days of receipt of the Order to the OID verifying how it planned to address the concerns raised in the Report.
- 11. As of the date of this Order, Respondent has failed to file the affidavits and Corrective Action Plan with the OID, pursuant to 36 O.S. § 309.4(D)(1) and the Order.

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF LAW

12. Pursuant to 36 O.S. § 6129.1, "[a]nnually, on or before the fifteenth day of March, and whenever the Insurance Commissioner deems it to be prudent or necessary, each organization operating one or more prepaid funeral trusts shall have a financial examination of each trust and related prepaid funeral accounts for the preceding calendar year, prepared by a licensed public accountant or certified public accountant and in accordance with procedures promulgated by the Insurance Commissioner's office. The examination also shall evaluate and report on the

compliance of each trust with the provisions of Section 6121 et seq. of Title 36 of the Oklahoma Statutes, relating to prepaid funeral benefits."

- 13. Respondent violated 36 O.S. § 6129.1 by failing to timely file affidavits and a Corrective Action Plan in accordance with 36 O.S. § 309.4(D)(1).
- 14. Pursuant to 36 O.S. § 6130(B), the Insurance Commissioner may censure, suspend, or revoke a license, or subject a licensee to a fine of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) and not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or both, for any violation of the Prepaid Funeral Benefits Act, 36 O.S. §§ 6121 through 6136.18.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED by the Insurance Commissioner, subject to the following paragraph, that Respondent is hereby FINED One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for violating 36 O.S. § 6129.1. The \$1,000.00 fine is to be paid within thirty (30) days of the date of this Conditional Administrative Order and made payable to the Oklahoma Insurance Department in the form of a check, cashier's check, or money order.

Respondent is further notified that he may request a hearing within thirty (30) days of the date of mailing of this Order. If Respondent does not request a hearing within thirty (30) days of the date mailing of this Order, this Conditional Administrative Order shall become a FINAL ORDER on the thirty-first (31st) day following mailing of this Order.

A request for hearing shall be made in writing to Kayla M. Rochelle, Assistant General Counsel, Oklahoma Insurance Department, Legal Division, 400 NE 50th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. The request for hearing must state the grounds to set aside or modify this Conditional Administrative Order. Upon such request, a hearing shall be conducted before an independent hearing examiner.

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the Oklahoma Insurance Code, 36 O.S. §§ 101 et seq. and the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, 75 O.S. §§ 250 et seq. If Respondent timely serves a request for hearing, this Conditional Order shall act as a notice of the matters to be reviewed at the hearing, and the Allegations of Fact, Alleged Violations of Law, and penalties imposed in this Conditional Order shall be considered withdrawn, pending final resolution of this matter through hearing.

WITNESS My Hand and Official Seal this 30th day of November 2020.



GLEN MULREADY INSURANCE COMMISSIONER STATE OF OKLAHOMA

s/ Kayla M. Rochelle
Kayla M. Rochelle, OBA #34014
Assistant General Counsel
Oklahoma Insurance Department
400 NE 50th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Telephone: (405) 521-2748

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing *Conditional Administrative Order and Notice of Right to be Heard* was mailed by certified mail, postage prepaid with return receipt requested, by regular first-class mail, and by electronic mail on this 30th day of November 2020, to:

Burkhart Funeral Service, LLC 715 East Main Street Antlers, OK 74523

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 9214 8902 0982 7500 0324 36

Burkart Funeral Service, LLC d/b/a Burkhart Funeral Service 204 Second St.
Talihina, OK 74571
CERTIFIED MAIL NO.
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Burkhart Funeral Service, LLC P.O. Box 609 Clayton, OK 74536 CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 9214 8902 0982 7500 0324 67

CERTIFIED MAIL NO.
9214 8902 0982 7500 0324 67

Thomas Burkhart
413177 E. 1930 Road

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7020 0640 0000 7898 3798

and that a copy was delivered to:

Antlers, OK 74523

<u>tburkhart@yahoo.com</u> <u>burkhartfuneralservice@gmail.com</u>

and that a copy was delivered to:

Financial and Examination Division

Burkhart Funeral Service, LLC d/b/a Burkhart Funeral Service P.O. Box 1059
Talihina, OK 74571
CERTIFIED MAIL NO.
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Burkhart Funeral Service, LLC 129 W Burnett Clayton, OK 74536 CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7020 0640 0000 7898 3781

Kayla M./Rochelle



Insurance Commissioner Glen Mulrea Oklahoma City, OK 73105 400 NE 50th Street Legal Division

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Sherry Standerfer

From: Sherry Standerfer

Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 3:31 PM

To: tburkhart@yahoo.com; BURKHARTFUNERALSERVICE@GMAIL.COM

Cc: Kayla Rochelle

Subject: St v. Burkhart Funeral Service, LLC d/b/a Burkhart Funeral Service/ 20-0571-DIS **Attachments:** 20-0571-DIS KMR Letter to Burkhart Funeral Service, LLC et al 11-30-20.pdf

Tracking: Recipient Delivery

tburkhart@yahoo.com

BURKHARTFUNERALSERVICE@GMAIL.COM

Kayla Rochelle Delivered: 11/30/2020 3:32 PM

Hello,

Attached you will find a letter and Order issued in the above matter. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kayla Rochelle, Assistant General Counsel, at 405-521-2746 or by email at kayla.rochelle@oid.ok.gov.

Sincerely,



Legal Division 400 NE 50th Street Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105 405.521.2748 office 405.522-0125 fax

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Sherry Standerfer

From: Microsoft Outlook

To: tburkhart@yahoo.com; BURKHARTFUNERALSERVICE@GMAIL.COM

Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 3:32 PM

Subject: Relayed: St v. Burkhart Funeral Service, LLC d/b/a Burkhart Funeral Service/ 20-0571-DIS

Delivery to these recipients or groups is complete, but no delivery notification was sent by the destination server:

tburkhart@yahoo.com (tburkhart@yahoo.com)

BURKHARTFUNERALSERVICE@GMAIL.COM (BURKHARTFUNERALSERVICE@GMAIL.COM)

Subject: St v. Burkhart Funeral Service, LLC d/b/a Burkhart Funeral Service/ 20-0571-DIS

Sherry Standerfer

From: Domain postMaster address <postmaster@omes.ok.gov>

Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 3:32 PM

To: Sherry Standerfer

Subject: Your message couldn't be delivered



Your message couldn't be delivered

The message you sent to tburkhart@yahoo.com couldn't be delivered due to: Recipient email server rejected the message.

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Recipient address:

BURKHART FUNERAL SERVICE LLC D/B/A BURKHART FUNERAL SERVICE PO BOX 1059 TALIHINA OK 74571-1059

MAILING DATE: 11/30/2020 DELIVERY DATE: 12/16/2020

USPS CERTIFIED MAIL



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USPS Tracking Label Number: 9214 8902 0982 7500 0324 50

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CASE NUMBER: 20-0571-DIS DEPARTMENT: LEGAL/KMR

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CUSTOM 4: CONDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER & NOTICE OF RIGHT TO BE HEARD