

# Regulation of the Funeral Services Industry: A Legal Research Guide

## Volume 74

By: Tanya D. Marsh

Professor of Law, Wake Forest University

- First and only resource to break down the complex regulatory framework of the funeral services industry
- Includes a valuable bibliography to help researchers quickly locate relevant books relating to the funeral services industry as well as contact information for state funeral boards
- Learn about the FTC Funeral Rules, funeral home requirements, and other aspects of this complex area of law
- Perfect for attorneys, professors, and students researching the fundamentals of law governing the funeral services industry



#### **About This Title**

For most of human history, the preparation of the dead for disposition was a responsibility primarily discharged by families, friends, and religious organizations. This largely philanthropic activity turned almost completely commercial in the first decades of the 20th century, due in large part to increased urbanization and mobility.

In the United States today, the disposition of human remains is mostly delegated to the for-profit deathcare industry. This book focuses on the regulation of providers of services related to the preparation of human remains for final disposition and coordination of memorialization and disposition. The funeral services industry is highly regulated, primarily by state occupational licensing statutes and the Federal Trade Commission's "Funeral Rule." Statutes related to the licensure of crematories and crematory operators, and statutes regulating the sale of pre-need funeral goods and services are closely related to the occupational licensing regime for the funeral services industry and are therefore covered in this book.

This is a very complex area of the law and unfamiliar to most attorneys. This guide is intended to help attorneys and others quickly find relevant laws for litigation and transactional matters involving the industry, and to provide background reading and other contextual sources.

#### **About This Author**

**Tanya D. Marsh** is a graduate of Indiana University, Bloomington and Harvard Law School. She practiced law in Indianapolis for ten years before joining the faculty at the Wake Forest University School of Law in 2010. In addition to teaching courses related to real property and decedents' estates, Marsh teaches the first course on funeral and cemetery law taught at a U.S. law school. She has been elected to the membership of the American Law Institute and the American College of Real Estate Lawyers, and is an active leader in the American Bar Association, Real Property Trust and Estate Law Section and the Association of American Law Schools. Marsh is nationally recognized for her work in the law of human remains. Marsh became a licensed funeral director in the State of California in 2015.

Marsh is the author of the first treatise on funeral and cemetery law since 1950, *The Law of Human Remains* (2015). She is the co-author of the first casebook in this area, *Cemetery Law: The Common Law of Burying Grounds in the United States* (2015). Marsh is also the author of *Disposition of Human Remains: A Legal Research Guide* (2016).

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