Clearinghouse Rule 96-193

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

I, Marlene A. Cummings, Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing and custodian of the official records of the Department of Regulation and Licensing, hereby certify that the annexed rules were duly approved and adopted by the Department of Regulation and Licensing on the 14th day of May, 1997.

I further certify that said copy has been compared by me with the original on file in this office and that the same is a true copy thereof, and of the whole of such original.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the department at 1400 East Washington Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin this 14th day of May, 1997.

Marlene A. Cummings, Secretary Department of Regulation and Licensing

Rule 96-193

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING

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IN THE MATTER OF RULE-MAKING PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION: AND LICENSING

ORDER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING ADOPTING RULES (CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 96-193)

ORDER

An order of the Department of Regulation and Licensing to repeal RL 50.03 and 50.05; to renumber Chapter RL 50 (title), 50.01, 50.04 and 50.06; to renumber and amend RL 50.02; to amend RL 52.02 (2), 52.04 (2) (b), 53.02 (3), 54.04 (1) (b), (3) and (4), 54.05 (2) and (3); and to create Chapter RL 50 and 52.04 (2) (d) relating to the regulation of cemetery authorities, cemetery salespersons and preneed sellers of cemetery merchandise.

Analysis prepared by the Department of Regulation and Licensing.

ANALYSIS

Statutes authorizing promulgation: ss. 157.19, 157.62 (2) and (7), 227.11 (2), 440.91, 440.92 (6) and (7), Stats.

Statutes interpreted: ss. 157.11, 157.19, 157.62, 157.63, 440.91 and 440.92, Stats.

In this proposed rule-making order the Department of Regulation and Licensing renumbers Chapter RL 50 to Chapter RL 51 and creates a new Chapter RL 50 which defines a term used in Chapter 440, Stats., and which specifies the additional information which the department may require of applicants for registration as a cemetery authority, a cemetery salesperson or a preneed seller. 1989 Wisconsin Act 307 initially required the department to establish by rule fees for the registration of cemeteries, cemetery salespersons and preneed sellers of cemetery merchandise. The Act also stated and continues to state that the department may establish by rule a report filing fee. Chapter RL 50 initially established such fees. However, the Biennial Budget Bill, 1991 Wisconsin Act 39, created statutory fees for registering cemetery authorities, cemetery salespersons and preneed sellers. Therefore, Chapter RL 50 was amended to remove the registration fees. It still requires a \$40.00 reporting filing fee, with some exceptions. This rule proposal repeals the report filing fee required of cemetery authorities and preneed sellers of cemetery merchandise. The department proposes removing the report filing fee from the rules because the registration renewal fees in s. 440.08 (2) (a) 21, 22 and 23, Stats., are based on a formula which includes the costs of regulation and enforcement. This formula is used to determine the renewal fees of all professions and occupations regulated by the department. Costs associated with reviewing annual reports and conducting financial audits of care accounts and preneed trust accounts should be included in the registration renewal fee. There is no need for a separate report filing fee in the rule. The rule proposal also repeals obsolete provisions, removes

the requirement that certain application forms or requests be notarized and clarifies several existing provisions in the rules.

TEXT OF RULE

SECTION 1. Chapter RL 50 (title) and RL 50.01 and 50.02 are renumbered ch. RL 51 (title) and RL 51.01 and 51.02, and RL 51.02, as renumbered, is amended to read:

RL 51.02 <u>FILING OF ANNUAL REPORTS.</u> Cemetery authorities required to file an annual report under s. 157.62 (2), Stats., and preneed sellers required to file an annual report under s. 440.92 (6), Stats., shall do so on or before the 60th day after the last day of the reporting period. The annual reports shall be accompanied by the filing fee required under s. RL 50.05 April 1 of each year.

SECTION 2. RL 50.03 is repealed.

SECTION 3. RL 50.04 is renumbered RL 51.03.

SECTION 4. RL 50.05 is repealed.

SECTION 5. RL 50.06 is renumbered RL 51.04.

SECTION 6. Chapter RL 50 is created to read:

Chapter RL 50

AUTHORITY, DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION

RL 50.01 <u>AUTHORITY</u>. The rules in this chapter are adopted pursuant to ss. 227.11 (2), 440.91 and 440.92, Stats.

RL 50.02 <u>DEFINITION</u>. In s. 440.91 (2), Stats. and chs. RL 50 to 54, "expects to sell" means that an individual, after reviewing past sales of a prospective employing cemetery authority and current and anticipated market conditions affecting the sale of the employing cemetery's cemetery lots, reasonably believes that he or she will sell or solicit the sale of 10 or more cemetery lots or mausoleum spaces or a combined total of 10 or more cemetery lots and mausoleum spaces during a calendar year.

RL 50.03 <u>APPLICATIONS FOR CEMETERY AUTHORITY, CEMETERY</u> <u>SALESPERSON AND PRENEED SELLER</u>. (1) OTHER INFORMATION. In addition to the information which the department must require of applicants for registration as a cemetery authority, a cemetery salesperson or a preneed seller pursuant to ss. 440.91 and 440.92, Stats., the department may require all of the following: (a) Information about any crimes committed by the applicant and any charges pending against the applicant.

(b) Information about any surrender, resignation, cancellation or denial of an application for a credential or any disciplinary action taken against a credential held by the applicant in Wisconsin or another licensing jurisdiction.

(c) Information about any disciplinary action pending against the applicant in any jurisdiction and relating to a credential held by the applicant.

(d) Information about any suits or claims ever having been filed against an applicant as a result of professional services rendered by the applicant in connection with cemetery operations.

(e) Information from an applicant for registration as a cemetery salesperson, relating to whether the applicant expects to sell 10 or more cemetery lots or mausoleum spaces or a combined total of 10 or more cemetery lots and mausoleum spaces during a calendar year.

(2) BASIS FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION. The department may limit or deny an application for registration as a cemetery authority, cemetery salesperson or preneed seller for any of the grounds for which the department may discipline a credential holder under s. 440.93, Stats.

SECTION 7. RL 52.02 (2) is amended to read:

RL 52.02 (2) COMPLETE ANSWERS; CERTIFICATION. No application shall be processed until all questions appearing on the application are fully completed, and certified as accurate, and sworn to before a notary public, and all required documents are received by the department.

SECTION 8. RL 52.04 (2) (b) is amended to read:

RL 52.04 (2) (b) The bond shall be payable to the state <u>department of regulation and</u> licensing for the benefit of purchasers of stored property or their assignees.

SECTION 9. RL 52.04 (2) (d) is created to read:

RL 52.04 (2) (d) The bond shall remain in effect throughout the time that the warehouse remains approved by the department and the warehouse keeper shall submit a copy of each bond renewal certificate to the department.

SECTION 10. RL 53.02 (3) is amended to read:

RL 53.02 (3) COMPLETE ANSWERS; CERTIFICATION. No request for approval shall be processed until all questions appearing on the application are fully completed, and certified as accurate, and sworn to before a notary public, the applicant has signed a statement confirming the accuracy of the information provided in the application, and all required documents are received by the department.

SECTION 11. RL 54.04 (1) (b), (3) and (4) are amended to read:

RL 54.04 (1) (b) Publicly traded preferred or common stock of regulated utilities in the United States whose debt is rated AA or above by Standards & <u>Poors Poor's</u> or by Moody's Investors Services. Once the debt rating of the issuing utility drops below an A rating and remains below that rating for 2 consecutive quarters, the cemetery authority shall divest those instruments within 180 days or proceed under par. (e).

(3) No cemetery authority may invest in any entity or company in which an officer or trustee of the cemetery authority has more than a 5% ownership interest is a shareholder who beneficially owns, holds or has the power to vote 5% or more of any class of securities issued by the entity or company.

(4) No cemetery authority may invest in any entity or company in which a spouse or child of an officer or trustee of the cemetery authority or other family member who receives one-half of his or her support from an officer or trustee shall have more than a 5% ownership interest is a shareholder who beneficially owns, holds or has the power to vote 5% or more of any class of securities issued by the entity or company.

SECTION 12. RL 54.05 (2) and (3) are amended:

RL 54.05 (2) If the affidavit submitted to the department pursuant to sub. (1) lists investments in classes other than those described in s. RL 54.04 (1) (a) to (d), the affidavit shall be accompanied by a sworn written statement by a licensed investment advisor or a licensed securities broker, stating his or her belief that such investments will provide safety equal to or greater than the investment classes described in s. RL 54.04 (1) (a) to (d).

(3) If the investment proposal meets the criteria set forth in s. RL 54.04, the department may issue a letter of approval. Investments which are approved <u>A decision by the department not to approve an alternative investment</u> may be appealed under ch. RL 1.

(END OF TEXT OF RULE)

The repeal of s. RL 50.05 of this order applies to annual reports filed on or after January 1, 1998. The remainder of the rules adopted in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin administrative register pursuant to s. 227.22 (2) (intro.), Stats.

Dated 5/14/97 Agency _

Marlene A. Cummings, Secretary Department of Regulation and Licensing

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State of Wisconsin DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 15, 1997

- TO: Gary Poulson Assistant Revisor of Statutes
- FROM: Pamela A. Haack, Rules Center Coordinator Department of Regulation and Licensing Office of Administrative Rules



SUBJECT: Final Order Adopting Rules

Agency: DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING

Clearinghouse Rule 96-193

Attached is a copy and a certified copy of a final order adopting rules. Would you please publish these rules in the register.

Please stamp or sign a copy of this letter to acknowledge receipt.

Thank you.