

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

16 CFR Part 453

RIN: 3084-AB55

Public Workshop Examining Potential Amendments to the Funeral Rule

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Public workshop; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Federal Trade Commission (“FTC” or “Commission”) will hold an in-person public workshop relating to its November 2, 2022, Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“2022 ANPR”) on the Trade Regulation Rule entitled the “Funeral Industry Practices Rule” (“Funeral Rule” or “Rule”). The workshop will explore issues relating to the Funeral Rule’s General Price List (“GPL”) requirements, including whether and how funeral providers should be required to provide price lists electronically or online, and other issues raised in the comments received in response to the 2022 ANPR.

DATES: The public workshop will be held on September 7, 2023, from 9:30am until 3:30pm at the Constitution Center Conference Center, located at 400 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20024. The workshop will also be available for viewing via live webcast. Requests to participate as a panelist must be received by June 19, 2023. Any written comments related to the issues discussed at the workshop must be received by October 10, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may file a comment or a request to participate as a panelist online or on paper, by following the instructions in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below. Write “Funeral Rule, 16 CFR Part 453, Project No. P034410” on your comment

to permit them to mak

Container Price List (“OBCPL”) listing the vaults and grave liners they offer, along with specific disclosures.⁹ Third, funeral providers are required to tell persons “who ask by telephone about the funeral provider’s offerings or prices . . . any accurate information” from the GPL, CPL, or OBCPL, “and any other readily available information that reasonably answers the question.”¹⁰ Fourth, the Rule requires that, at the conclusion of the discussion of arrangements, funeral providers provide consumers with

whether the Rule should be amended to account for new forms of disposition of human remains; (5) whether the Rule's embalming disclosure requirements should be amended; (6) whether the Rule should be changed to improve the readability of the price lists; and (7) whether changes should be made to the Rule to avoid negatively impacting underserved communities.

III. Public Participation Information

A. Workshop Attendance

The in-person workshop, which is free and open to the public, will be conducted in a roundtable format and will be held at the Constitution Center, 400 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20024. For admittance to the Constitution Center, all attendees must show valid government-issued photo identification, such as a driver's license. Please arrive early enough to

support they received in connection with their participation in the workshop. This information will be included in the published panelist bios as part of the workshop record.

C. Electronic and Paper Comments

The submission of comments is not required for participation in the workshop. If a person wishes to submit paper or electronic comments related to the issues discussed at the workshop, such comments should be filed as prescribed in Section IV, and must be received on or before October 10, 2023. The Commission invites comments only on the specific issues discussed at the workshop.

IV. Filing Comments and Requests to Participate as a Panelist

You can file a comment online or on paper. For the Commission to consider your comment, we must receive it on or before October 10, 2023. Write “Funeral Rule, 16 CFR Part 453, Project No. P034410” on your comment. Your comment—including your name and your state—will be placed on the public record of this proceeding, including, to the extent practicable, on the publicly available website, <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Postal mail addressed to the Commission is subject to delay due to heightened security screening. As a result, we encourage you to submit your comments online, or to send them to the Commission by courier or overnight service. To make sure that the Commission considers your online comment, you must file it through the <https://www.regulations.gov> or by mail to the Commission.

identification number, or foreign country equivalent; passport number, financial account number, or credit or debit card number. You are also solely responsible for making sure that your comment does not include any sensitive health information, such as medical records or other individually identifiable health information. In addition, your comment should not include any “trade secret or any commercial or financial information which . . . is privileged or confidential”—as provided by Section 6(f) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and FTC Rule 4.10(a)(2), 16 CFR 4.10(a)(2)—including, in particular, competitively sensitive information, such as costs, sales statistics, inventories, formulas, patterns, devices, manufacturing processes, or customer names.

Comments containing material for which confidential treatment is requested must be filed in paper form, must be clearly labeled “Confidential,” and must comply with FTC Rule 4.9(c). In particular, the written request for confidential treatment that accompanies the comment must include the factual and legal basis for the request and must identify the specific portions of the comments to be withheld from the public record.w

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