

COMMENTS OF SELECTED INDEPENDENT FUNERAL HOMES
TO
THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
REGARDING
PAPERWORK COMMENT: FTC FILE P822108

Selected Independent Funeral Homes (“Selected” or “Association”) respectfully submits these comments pursuant to a request for comment from the Federal Trade Commission (“FTC” or “Commission”) regarding the information collection requirement of the Trade Regulation Rule on Funeral Industry Practices (“Funeral Rule”), 16 CFR Part 453. *See* Notice, 70 Fed. Reg. 11662 (Mar. 9, 2005).

Founded in 1917 as National Selected Morticians, Selected is a not-for-profit international trade association of independent, privately owned and operated funeral firms. Its 1500 member firms are located principally in the United States, and throughout Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Holland, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Philippines, Australia and New Zealand, Bermuda, Guam, Sri Lanka.

Selected has no information that would question the assumptions the FTC used to develop its burden estimates and the Association believes that the Commission’s burden estimates are within accurate ranges.

Selected notes, however, that the Funeral Rule currently applies only to traditional funeral homes that “prepare . . . bodies for burial, cremation, or other final disposition.”

16 C.F.R. § 453.1(j). Consequently, whatever the quantitative or qualitative burdens imposed by the Funeral Rule may be, those burdens disparately impact only a portion of an industry selling the same or similar goods and services. *See August 11, 1999 Comments of National Selected Morticians to Trade Regulation Rule on Funeral Industry Practices*, filed pursuant to the FTC's Request for Comment published in the Federal Register on May 3, 1999 (64 Fed. Reg. 24250) and July 2, 1999 (64 Fed. Reg. 35965), and Robert D. Tollison, *The Funeral Rule After 15 Years: Expand or Sunset?* (Attached to Aug. 11, 1999 Comments at Tab 1).

Respectfully submitted,

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