## State Lobbying

## **Annotated Helpful Resources**

Ray Gurney - Legislative Liaison, FCA of Greater Milwaukee Funeral Consumers Alliance Biennial Conference June 1 – 3, 2006 Edwards University, Austin, Texas

1. Center for Lobbying in the Public Interest. Website <a href="http://www.clpi.org/">http://www.clpi.org/</a>

The one most useful place to start when learning about lobbying regulations affecting 50(c)(3) organizations.

Has an extensive list of links to other useful sites as well.

2. GuideStar. Website http://www.guidestar.org/

The free basic level of service permits access to the IRS Form 990 that non-profits submit annually. This is a good place to review the overall financial position of a non-profit.

3. Funeral Consumers Alliance. Website http://www.funerals.org/

Still the best place to start any research on what consumers need to know about the death care industry.

4. National Funeral Directors Association. Website <a href="http://www.nfda.org/">http://www.nfda.org/</a>

If you've never taken a look at this site, don't delay. Don't forget the NFDA is "dedicated to serving the public." Note their list of Consumer Resources.

5. Federal Trade Commission. Website http://www.ftc.gov/

The governmental agency responsible for implementing the Funeral Rule of 1984 (with revisions in 1994).

See <a href="http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/pubs/buspubs/funeral.pdf">http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/pubs/buspubs/funeral.pdf</a> to read what people in the funeral business are told by the FTC.

Then read <a href="http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/pubs/services/funeral.pdf">http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/pubs/services/funeral.pdf</a> to see what consumers are told by the FTC.

Can you see why FCA affiliates need to do a better job of really educating the public about body disposition, funeral planning, cremation, prepaying, etc.?