



OKLAHOMA FUNERAL BOARD

May 14, 2020

Dear Colleague,

Tomorrow, May 15, 2020 begins "Phase 2" of Governor Stitt's plan to reopen Oklahoma.

What does this mean? The Department of Commerce's website states, "Larger funerals may resume on May 15 with appropriate social distancing guidelines in place. Individuals should consult with the venues to ensure appropriate social distancing and the maximum number of guests. They could offer seating with six feet distance between family groups and/or alternating rows and pews. Funeral service venues should follow guidance for places of worship. Funeral receptions venues should follow guidance for restaurants." Here is the link for additional information:

<https://www.okcommerce.gov/covid19/open-up-recover-safely-ours-plan-faqs/>

As I mentioned in today's Funeral Board meeting I recommend following three simple steps of approval before scheduling funerals with participation larger than 10:

1. Obtain approval from your respective city government. Many municipalities have their own "orders" to follow. Make sure you are informed of what these are.
2. Obtain approval from all places of worship or other hosting venues before obligating a day and time of a funeral or memorial service to a family.
3. Obtain approval from restaurants, receptions centers or other hosting venues before obligating a day and time of a celebration reception or anything related to this.

Also, please note that today's Oklahoma Funeral Board Meeting did not qualify for Continuing Education Credits. We are working towards alternative solutions to allow licensees to obtain the required number of hours to satisfy renewals for 2021.

Please contact the Oklahoma Funeral Board staff at chris.ferguson@funeral.ok.gov with your questions. Thank you for all you do to serve families and your community.

Sincerely,

Chad Vice
President
Oklahoma Funeral Board