



FUNERAL CONSUMERS ALLIANCE OF CALIFORNIA

Summer 2020

Are you interested in finding out what our National FCA and Consumer Federation found out about prices and funeral homes in California this year?

[Click here and learn a lot!](#)

We work to protect you!

This information was provided by Funeral Consumers Alliance (National) funerals.org.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO FCA AFFILIATES AND FRIENDS

In this edition I plan on a brief message to allow the affiliates space for their articles of interest. We are hoping that all of the affiliates throughout the state will participate in this process.

So...I just wanted to remind every affiliate, their board members, volunteers and members about our upcoming annual conference and workshops to be conducted via Zoom. Please see the flyer at the beginning and end of this newsletter to pass along to all interested parties. We hope to see you online!

I look forward to communication with all affiliates this year and can be reached at Phone: 916-904-6577 or 530-367-3018 via Email: cheryllsbestest@gmail.com

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. The Board Members can also be reached via the FCA State Directory:

<https://www.fca-calif.org/> Go to the Find Your Local Affiliate tab and Click on the Directory link.

Warmest regards,

Cheryll M. Moore, President

**FCA-CA
Brochure**

**Funeral Consumers Alliance
of California**



PO Box 6788

Eureka, CA

95502

Phone: 209-427-6086

Website: fca-calif.org

Death Doulas sue California for the right to give families advice on home death care

Death doulas—sometimes called home-funeral guides—advise families on how to care for the bodies of the dead and carry out necessary tasks when the family chooses an old-fashioned funeral at home, without involving a funeral home.

State regulatory boards that oversee the commercial funeral home business have often targeted these helpers with charges of ‘practicing funeral service without a license’, even though the guides may not charge (taking only voluntary donations), and even though the guides’ main function is to give the family information so that it can carry out these tasks on its own.

Sadly, the state of California is trying to shut down this activity. Fortunately, the economic-liberty law firm The Institute for Justice (long a friend to Funeral Consumers Alliance and an advocate for the right of individuals to speak freely to educate each other on private, non-commercial funerals) is on the case. IJ has filed suit against the state.

[To Read More Click Here](#)

MESSAGE FROM MERGING COMMITTEE

Here to Help, our motto.

Wonder what happens when board members drop off and new board members are not found to replace them? Often one person digs in, holds the organization together until they finally can't hold on anymore. Last year this happened twice. FCA Calif was sent the remaining funds from two affiliates and a resignation letter saying they were going to close unless someone stepped in. Here to help is our motto! Volunteers donated time to get the mailing lists cleaned up, membership meetings' dates and times were sent to each member and a pitch was made. Seeing the value of our organization to help people at a time of need and seeing our effort as volunteers, we were successful in having 6 people raise their hands to be nominated and elected to serve on each of two boards. Wow, we were able to revitalize FCA of Northern Calif serving 16 counties and Tri-County Memorial Funeral Society serving San Bernardino, Orange and Riverside Counties in 2019! These boards have been meeting regularly, set up new bank accounts, post office addresses and are moving forward. Thanks to several volunteers, the FCA Calif board for their support and the elected new boards for their hours of work, we are able to serve many people.

Jean Okuye

Past FCACA President

representing the Reorganization/Merging Committee

**Consumer
Complaint Form**

Affiliate Updates:

Bay Area FCA News:

With the onset of the Coronavirus, the Bay Area FCA annual meeting plans were cancelled. We will reschedule for the fall. We will have a program, elect new board members, display our free brochures, and have refreshments.

The office at 463 College Ave., Palo Alto, has been available 9 hours a week all during the Coronavirus pandemic by phone (650/321-6584) and email (office@ba-fca.org), but is not open to visitors in person. Office manager Krystle Bantilan works there from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday. Calls outside of those hours automatically go to a volunteer to handle emergencies.

Current board is Allan Behr of Half Moon Bay, president; Rev. Penny Phillips of Campbell, secretary; Byron Chan of San Francisco and Peter Lee of Mountain View, co-treasurers. There are 3 board vacancies to fill. Consider helping out as a trustee, so we could be more active in marketing, social media, and regulatory issues. We also need representatives from north and east bay to better serve those areas. The board meets by online Zoom sessions once a month.

San Diego Memorial Society:

The San Diego Memorial Society is a nonprofit organization incorporated in 1958. We assist our members with obtaining simple, dignified, inexpensive cremation or burial arrangements. In addition we advocate for planning ahead and deliver talks around the County to raise awareness about this important task.

We partner with 10 participating mortuaries in San Diego County. They have agreed to offer our members their very lowest prices. So if you are facing the death of a loved one, or simply planning ahead you can be assured of the lowest prices anywhere in San Diego County.

Funeral Consumers Alliance of Humboldt (FCAH)

In light of the Covid-19 FCAH had to cancel their spring Annual Meeting like many other FCA's. The board met and we decided to hold the speaker talk virtually via zoom. The topic was Green Burial, we had a local expert give the talk mostly about Green Burial in Humboldt County and what he is doing to try to make this happen. It was a very good talk and I would like to share with you that we will be posting the video on our website for all to view very soon. Please visit our website and join our email list to receive info when it is posted. :)

Thank you

Katherine Ortiz

FCAH President.

Monterey Bay Area FCA

We in the Monterey Bay Area are getting a lot of updates and inquiries about our services. The pandemic has turned people's thoughts to making final plans.

Our main communications are by Ooma phone service to my cell phone and email.

We have had 2 transfers in and 3 new members in the last month.

We have not had an in person board meeting since March but I have asked the members to research all the mortuaries on line for prices. Our last review was 2016 so we need an update!

Marianne Franks , our recorder, recently lost her husband so a break has been good.

We plan to meet, probably by Zoom on Tuesday June 16th.

Keep well and stay 6' apart not "under".

Sylvia Forsyth- President

Truett's Bobo- Treasurer

Jeff Rudisill-Trustee

Marianne Franks-Trustee

Funeral Consumers Alliance of Los Angeles (FCALA)

Check out our new website at fcalosangeles.org

Please save our contact info for future reference.

Funeral Consumers Alliance of Los Angeles (FCALA)

P.O. Box 122

Cressey, CA 95312

Tel: (209) 756-2421

How you can help FCA-CA

Board Members

We are always looking for Board Members, we meet once a month via phone call. And in person once a year. [Contact us for more info.](#)

Donations

We are always accepting Donations, we now have a link to accept donations on our website [Click here to learn more.](#)

Thank you for your support.

ATTENTION AFFILIATES

All dues and donations go toward helping us support all of you. Including financial support to help get FCA's around California get back on their feet again if they are in need of financial support or any other type of other support provided by the state board. Please email or call us using our [Contact Page](#) on our website to let us know if you have any questions or are in need of this type of support.

Thank you



“Rejuvenating Funeral Consumer Alliances”

Saturday, September 12, 2020

1:30 PST

Guest Speaker Josh Slocum

Executive Director, National FCA

Conference held via Zoom

Stay informed via our website:

www.fca-calif.org

Please share this flyer with the public and your members

Donations accepted via the website listed above

Please provide ample information about resources that you may use in another publication.

Include the following:

Author, Publication name, date, page number and year.

Thank you for adhering to the rule of reproducing others work.

Has your contact info changed?

Help us to better serve you by keeping your contact information current. You can either email us at fcacalif@gmail.com or you can go to our [website](#) contact page and contact us through the info there. Thank you.

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