REPORT ON CUSTOMER SERVICE Texas Funeral Service Commission



Fiscal Year 2018

Submitted May 15, 2018

AGENCY OVERVIEW

The mission of the Texas Funeral Service Commission (TFSC) is to protect the public from deceptive practices in the funeral and death care industry through a process of impartial enforcement, inspection, licensing and education in order to guarantee that every citizen's final disposition is conducted professionally and ethically. The TFSC has two major functions - ensuring competent, well-qualified professionals are licensed to serve the public and ensuring compliance with statutory requirements through inspections and the investigation of violations.

CUSTOMER INVENTORY

The agency identified 10 customer groups served by the strategies in both of the TFSC goals (licensing and compliance). Licensees are represented in all strategies.

Inventory of External Customers

A. Goal: Competent Licensees

- Applicants Persons and establishments who make application for licensure to the Commission. Services include: distribution of application packets, application processing, processing of fees, issuance of licenses, website information, review of criminal history, and arrangement for the administration of mortuary law exam.
- Individual Licensees Persons who make application for renewal of individual licenses (funeral director and/or embalmer). Services include: processing of fees, review and issuance of renewal licenses, continuing education audits, quarterly newsletter, continuing education symposiums, website information, and individual correspondence.
- Provisional Licensees Persons who currently hold a provisional license (funeral director and/or embalmer). Services include: processing of fees, review and issuance of renewal provisional licenses, review of case reports, quarterly newsletter, website information, and individual correspondence.
- Licensed Establishments Funeral homes and commercial embalming facilities currently licensed by the Commission. Services include: processing of fees, review and issuance of renewal license, quarterly newsletter, processing of publication orders, website information, individual correspondence, preparation room exemptions, and processing of FDIC/EIC appointment/ removal forms.
- Cemeteries Cemeteries currently licensed by the Commission. Services include: processing of fees, review and issuance of renewal license, quarterly newsletter, processing of publication orders, website information, and individual correspondence.
- Crematories Crematories currently licensed by the Commission. Services include: processing of
 fees, review and issuance of renewal license, process annual report, website information, and
 individual correspondence.
- Continuing Education Providers Providers registered with the Commission. Services include: processing of fees, evaluation of course work, and the issuance of provider and course approval.
- Public/Associations Elected officials, individuals, and groups that interact with the Commission. Services include: presentations, correspondence, information on licensees and agency programs.
- Mortuary Schools Accredited schools who provide mortuary law education/degree. Services include: presentations, correspondence, information on licensees and agency programs.

B. Goal: Enforce Standards (Strategies of Inspections & Investigations)

- Licensees Persons and establishments who are licensed by the Commission. Services include: inspection of establishments, processing of complaints, written notifications, correspondence, settlement negotiations and hearings at SOAH.
- Consumers Persons who have received services from licensees. Services include: processing of complaints, written notifications, correspondence and website information.
- Public/Associations Elected officials, individuals or groups that interact with the Commission. Services include: correspondence and information on complaint status.

SURVEY CONTENTS

The survey consists of five broad categories including Staff, Timeliness of Service/Communications, Facilities, Complaint Handling Process, Internet Site, and Publications. In each of the broad categories the customer was asked to mark specific actions on a scale of 1 to 6 (strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree, and N/A). Each survey allowed for the respondent to make suggestions for process improvements.

For each broad category the specific actions include:

- 1. Staff Courtesy, Friendliness, Knowledge
- 2. Timeliness of Service/Communication Timeliness of returned call, Access to a Live Person
- 3. Complaint Handling East of use, Responsiveness, Timeliness
- 4. Internet Site Ease of use, Content, Renewal Site east of use
- 5. Publications Accuracy, Helpfulness, Presentation

Additionally, the survey asked a yes or no question regarding overall satisfaction.

SURVEY PROCESS

The survey was available beginning in November 2017 through March 1, 2018. The Commission made the survey available by placing a survey in all outgoing mail to external customers, leaving a survey with establishments during inspections and posting the survey on its website.

Customer groups who received surveys include current licensees (individuals and respondents), complainants, continuing education providers, public information requestors, and consumer groups. These groups cover the agency's two goals of licensure and enforcement.

CUSTOMER SERVICE RESULTS & ANALYSIS

The overall results of the survey were extremely favorable to the Commission and its operations. There were approximately 1500 surveys distributed and 128 responses were received. Overall, 91% of the respondents said they were satisfied with the service received from the agency. Each survey category received more favorable responses than negative. The specific category with the highest satisfaction was staff with 80% of respondents strongly agreeing or agreeing staff is courteous, friendly, and knowledgeable. The agency's highest negative category was timeless of service/communications with 18% of respondents disagreeing or strongly disagreeing.

		STAFF		TIMELINESS OF SERVICE		COMPLAINTS		INTERNET		PUBLICA- TIONS		OVER ALL	
STRONGLY AGREE	88	69%	60	47%	31	24%	67	52%	73	57%	117	91%	
AGREE	14	11%	21	16%	8	6%	32	25%	22	17%	0	0%	
NEUTRAL	7	5%	7	5%	10	8%	14	11%	4	3%	0	0%	
DISAGREE	4	3%	17	13%	4	3%	5	4%	3	2%	9	7%	
STRONGLY DISAGREE	0	0%	7	5%	3	2%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	
N/A	14	11%	15	12%	71	55%	7	5%	25	20%	0	0%	
NO MARK	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	2	2%	
Totals:	128	100%	128	100%	128	100%	128	100%	128	100%	128	100%	
Cards Sent		1500											
Cards Returned		128											
Percentage recei	ived:	9%											

COMMENTS

The survey allowed customer groups to provide additional comments. The majority of the comments were kudos to a job well done. Of the 128 responses, the Commission received four negative comments, none of which offered specifics on ways to improve service.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES FY 18

Outcome Measures

91% Percentage of Surveyed Customer Respondents Expressing Overall Satisfaction with Services Received

5% Percentage of Surveyed Customer Respondents Identifying Ways to Improve Service Delivery

Output Measures

1500 Total Customers Surveyed

7500 Total Customers Served

Efficiency Measures

\$0.00 Cost per Customer Surveyed

Explanatory Measures

185,500 Total Customers Identified (estimated)

10 Total Customer Groups Identified

2017 CUSTOMER SERVICE SURVEY TEXAS FUNERAL SERVICE COMMISSION

The Texas Funeral Service Commission (TFSC) is always trying to improve its customer service. Your input will help us attain this goal by telling us how we are doing and how we can improve. Thank you for taking the time to help us serve you better.

Please circle one: Responding as (a) Individual Licensee, (b) Establishment Licensee
(c) CE Provider, (d) Complainant/Consumer, (e) Applicant, (f) Other:

Please rate the TFSC by circling one of the following numbers: 1=Strongly Agree 2=Agree 3=Neutral 4=Disagree 5=Strongly Disagree 6=N/A

Staff:							
Employee courtesy, friendliness		1				5	6
Knowledge		1	2	3	4	5	6
Timeliness of Service/Communications:							
Timeliness of returned calls		1	2	3	4	5	6
Access to a Live Person		1	2	3	4	5	6
Complaint Handling Process:							
Easy to file a complaint		1	2	3	4	5	6
Responsiveness		1	2	3	4	5	6
Timeliness		1			4		6
Internet Site:							
Ease of Use		1	2	3	4	5	6
Information found on the site		1	2	3	4	5	6
Ease of use of online renewal site		1			4		6
Publications:							
Accuracy		1	2	3	4	5	6
Helpfulness		1	2	3	4	5	6
Presentation		1		3			6
Overall were you satisfied with the service you received from the TFSC?	YESNO						
Additional comments:							

RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2018

PLEASE CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS TO RETURN YOUR COMPLETED SURVEY:

- EMAIL to nikki@tfsc.texas.gov
- FAX to 512-479-5064
- MAIL to 333 GUADALUPE ST, #2-110 AUSTIN, TX 78701