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Tim Deutsch
General Manager

ORANGE COUNTY CEMETERY DISTRICT

March 22, 2021

Re: FEMA Reimbursement for COVID-19 Related Funeral Expense Assistance

Dear Orange County Families,

I want to first tell you that we are very sorry for the loss of your loved one during this past year. It has been a difficult year for all of us to have our lives dramatically changed by this pandemic, but certainly more difficult for you and your family due to the death of your loved one because of COVID-19 related symptoms.

I wanted to make you aware that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is providing funding assistance (reimbursement) for your funeral expenses that you and your family have incurred, due to a COVID-19 related death. Based on the information that we have received; you may have the ability to be reimbursed up to \$7,000 per family for funeral costs for COVID-19 related deaths dating back to January 20, 2020. This includes both cemetery and mortuary expenses as described and outlined on the FEMA website, which can be accessed below:

<https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance>

The website outlines the eligibility requirements for funeral assistance which are:

- The death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
- The death certificate must indicate the death was attributed to COVID-19.
- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after January 20, 2020.
- There is no requirement for the deceased person to have been a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien.

If you are interested in seeking reimbursement, you must go to the FEMA website link (listed above) to seek information about how to initiate a claim. The website states that FEMA will begin to implement COVID-19 funeral assistance in April.

Should you have any cemetery service-related questions, please call the cemetery office where your loved one was buried. We hope that this information will be helpful to you and your family.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Deutsch
General Manager