



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 11, 2008

Statement from Cemetery and Funeral Bureau Chief Rick Wallinder Regarding East Union Cemetery

Department of Consumer Affairs will help Bureau protect affected consumers

“It is regrettable that the East Union Cemetery Association’s Board of Directors decided yesterday to resign rather than sign a stipulated agreement with the Cemetery and Funeral Bureau that would have allowed the cemetery to put its problems behind it and move forward.

“The proposed settlement was the result of several months’ worth of work and negotiations. The Bureau began working on the settlement at the request of the East Union Cemetery Board after an Administrative Law Judge handed down a decision that would have revoked the cemetery’s license. The Bureau postponed implementing that decision to give the newly-reconstituted Board time to get the cemetery’s affairs in order. The Bureau had, and continues to have, a genuine desire to spare the community any difficulties that the loss of East Union Cemetery’s license would have created.

“It is important to note that the cemetery is a private business, and as such, the responsibility for its operations does not fall to the state. Should a responsible entity emerge to operate East Union Cemetery, the Bureau continues to stand ready to work to help resolve the cemetery’s problems and become viable once again.”

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