



COMPLAINTS HANDLING POLICY AND PROCEDURES

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1. OBJECTIVE OF THE POLICY

The Best Funeral Society Pty Ltd (**TBFS**) seeks to maintain and enhance our reputation of providing you with high quality products and services. We value complaints as they assist us to improve our products, services, and customer service.

TBFS is committed to being responsive to the needs and concerns of our customers or potential customers and to resolving your complaint as quickly as possible.

This policy has been designed to provide guidance to both our customers and staff on the manner in which TBFS receives and manages your complaint. We are committed to being consistent, fair, and impartial when handling your complaint.

The objective of this policy is to ensure that:

- You are aware of our complaint lodgement and handling processes,
- Both you and our staff understand our complaints handling process,
- Your complaint is investigated impartially with a balanced view of all information or evidence,
- We take reasonable steps to actively protect your personal information,
- Your complaint is considered on its merits, considering individual circumstances and needs.

2. DEFINITION OF A COMPLAINT

In this policy a complaint means an expression of dissatisfaction by a customer relating to a service provided by us.

3. HOW A COMPLAINT CAN BE MADE

If you are dissatisfied with a service provided by us, you should in the first instance consider speaking directly with the staff member/s you have been dealing with. If you are uncomfortable with this or consider the relevant staff member unable to address your concerns, you can lodge a complaint with us in one of the following ways:

- By emailing us at complaints@tbfs.co.za
- By telephoning us on 011 373 8400 / 0860 101 003
- In person, by speaking to any of our customer service staff

If we receive your complaint verbally and we consider it appropriate, we may ask you to put your complaint in writing.

4. THE INFORMATION YOU WILL NEED TO TELL US

When we are investigating your complaint, we will be relying on information provided by you and information we may already be holding. We may need to contact you to clarify details or request additional information where necessary. To help us investigate your complaint quickly and efficiently we will ask you for the following information:

- Your name and contact details
- The name of the person you have been dealing with (if applicable)
- The nature of your complaint
- Details that may be relevant to your complaint
- Copies of any documentation which supports your complaint

5. HELP WHEN MAKING A COMPLAINT

The person receiving or managing your complaint should provide you with any assistance you may need to make your complaint. However, if you consider you need further assistance please contact: complaints@tbfs.co.za

6. RECORDING COMPLAINTS

When we receive a complaint, we will record your name and contact details. We will also record all details of your complaint including the facts and the cause/s of your complaint, the outcome and any actions taken following the investigation of your complaint. We will also record all dates and times relating to actions taken to resolve the complaint and communications between us.

If you lodge a complaint, we will record and use your personal information solely for the purposes of addressing your complaint. Your personal details will actively be protected from disclosure except where necessary to resolve your complaint.

7. FEEDBACK TO CUSTOMER

TBFS is committed to resolving your issues at the first point of contact; however, this will not be possible in all circumstances, in which case a more formal complaints process will be followed. We will acknowledge receipt of your complaint within 24 hours. Once your complaint has been received, we will undertake an initial review of your complaint. There may be circumstances during the initial review or investigation of your complaint where we may need to clarify certain aspects of your complaint or request additional documentation from you.

In such circumstances we will explain the purpose of seeking clarification or additional documentation and provide you with feedback on the status of your complaint at that time.

We are committed to resolving your complaint within 5 (five) business days of you lodging your complaint; however, this may vary on a case-by-case basis. Where we have been unable to resolve your complaint within 5 (five) business days, we will provide an interim response explaining any delays if a full resolution cannot be issued within six weeks.

If we have sought clarification or additional documentation from you and we are waiting on you to provide this information, we may not be able to meet our 5 (five) business day finalisation commitment. In such circumstances, upon receipt of your clarification or additional documentation, we will indicate to you when we expect to be able to finalise your complaint.

Once we have finalised your complaint, we will advise you of our findings and any action we have taken. We will do this in writing, unless it has been mutually agreed that we can provide it to you verbally.

You have the right to make enquiries about the current status of your complaint at any time by contacting us.

If you dissatisfied with the outcome, you may refer to your complaint to the insurer or the National Financial Ombud Scheme (NFO), an independent body that handles unresolved insurance disputes free of charge.

8. OUR SIX POINT COMPLAINT PROCESS

- **We Acknowledge**

Within 24 hours of receiving your complaint we will acknowledge receipt of your complaint.

- **We Review**

We undertake an initial review of your complaint and determine what, if any, additional information or documentation may be required to complete an investigation. We may need to contact you to clarify details or request additional information where necessary.

- **We Investigate**

Within 5 (five) business days of receiving your complaint we will investigate your complaint objectively and impartially, by considering the information you have provided us, our actions in relation to your dealings with us and any other information which may be available, that could assist us in investigating your complaint.

- **We Respond**

Following our investigation, we will notify you of our findings and any actions we may have taken in regard to your complaint.

- **We Take Action**

Where appropriate we amend our business practices or policies.

- **We Record**

We will record your complaint for continuous improvement process and monitoring through regular review and your personal information will be recorded in accordance with relevant privacy legislation.