

FUNERAL CONSUMERS ALLIANCE OF SUNCOAST FLORIDA, INC.

Visit our NEW website www.fcasuncoastfl.com

P.O. BOX 15833 SARASOTA, FL 34277

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941-953-3740

July, 2026

Celebrating our 54th Year serving over 9000 members

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – Summer 2026

Hello Members and Friends,

One of the benefits of your membership is the research we do for you to help you identify what services you want and where you can find the best pricing. Your plan for your survivors to follow. We have completed the TB price survey for the Tampa Bay counties. Over 200 providers. We will post it on our website along side the Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte and Desoto County survey. Many thanks to our VP, Rich Gilbert, for persevering to find GPL's for all those providers and then dissect the information for you can compare pricing. FCA Suncoast Florida is the only remaining active affiliate in Florida. With your support we will be there for you at your time of need. We continue to add valuable, useful information for you by publishing our newsletters twice a year, adding more content to our website <http://www.fcasuncoastfl.com> and locating more participating providers. Tucked inside this newsletter is our donation envelope. This is a great time to send a donation to your Alliance. We are all volunteers, but marketing and newsletters have a price. Thanks to all who have or who will donate to our mission. Finally, a big thanks to our board members and trustees for the ideas they provide and contributions they make on your behalf.

Bo Galford – President

A NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY

Greetings Members,

As the secretary, I answer all the phone calls and queries. I've fielded a few from a distressed family members who are trying to make sense of what their loved one had planned. One common theme is prepaid funerals. We added a spot at the top of our update form if you have prepaid. That information would help your survivors support your final wishes. Sometimes the service record has the answer. If yours is out of date, download an update form from our website and mail it to us completed. The board of your Funeral Consumers Alliance continues to meet quarterly, and we continue to welcome new members and new board members. As always, we can use your help to share the benefits of belonging to our Alliance with your friends and families. Let us know if you would like extra brochures mailed to you or have anyone interested contact us. Contact us if you want to confirm the provider you have chosen or if you would like to change providers. As always make your choice of funeral provider based on what best fits your needs and **SHARE YOUR WISHES WITH THOSE WHO WILL BE FOLLOWING THEM!** We have a good supply of brochures and other informative pamphlets that can help in the planning process. **JOIN US!** We have room on our board. If you are interested in becoming a part of our board, contact us at 941-953-3740 or by email at fcasuncoastfl@gmail.com. . Current participating funeral providers are shown below.

Christopher White – Secretary

PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL TO CONFIRM WE HAVE YOURS OR IF IT HAS CHANGED

CURRENT PARTICIPATING FUNERAL PROVIDERS & PRICES

Your Traditions Cremation & Funeral Chapel - 2118 Constitution Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34231 941-921-4247

Direct Cremation with minimum container \$1090, \$35 medical examiners fee is included for members of FCA *Prices subject to change

All Veterans All Families Funerals & Cremations – 7 South Lime Street, Sarasota, FL 34237 941-377-1060 Simple Cremation \$795.00 for members plus \$35 medical examiners fee and Death Cert. FD is Jason Jacques *Prices subject to change

Maloney Funeral Home - 2401 Cattlemen Road., Sarasota, FL 34232, 941-759-3133. Family owned. Direct Cremation with minimum container \$1090.00, \$35 medical examiners fee is included for members of FCA. Death Cert \$10. FD is Dean Maloney *Prices subject to change

Sound Choice, 5200 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL, 34232 941-312-6371 Simple Cremation Package \$1040 for FCA members (normally \$1295) and includes \$35 medical examiners fee, 1 death certificate, temporary urn and complimentary placement at Beautiful Palms Memorial Park.

All Veterans All Families Cremations – 693 Old Englewood Rd., Suite B, Englewood, FL 34223 941 460 5324 Simple Cremation \$895.00 for members plus \$35 medical examiners fee and Death Cert. FD is Cathy Cornish *Prices subject to change

Brewer and Sons Funeral Home, 3328 S. Dale Mabry Highway Tampa, FL 33629, 813.835.4991, Brewers has very competitive pricing and discounts for our members with multiple chapels across central Florida. Our contract and Brewer's GPL are posted on our website. **Great news, Brewer has added another location in New Port Richey.**
Michels & Lundquist Funeral Home & Cremation Services, (727) 845-1957.

A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

For the period January- June 2026, our contribution revenue totals \$250.00 and our new membership dues total \$150.00 for a grand total of \$400.00 for the quarter. This is an increase of \$368.00 from last year. Total YTD in revenue is 11,240.00 (includes the \$10K donation from December) Expenses for this period were \$795.34 compared to \$268.25 from last year. We have a year-to-date surplus of \$9738.54. I want to give a sincere thank you to all of you who have donated to our organization.

Chuck Treadway – Treasurer

2026 GIVING CHALLENGE

The 2026 Giving Challenge was a real success for your FCA Suncoast Chapter. We raised \$3,093.16 from about 15 donors after fees were removed. We also won a \$250 prize from the Community Foundation of Sarasota. That funding goes a long way in shoring up our reserves. The Giving Challenge is held every other year with the Patterson Foundation matching \$100 donations. While we don't fare as well as the pet charities and children's organizations, we did as well as any other year. Thanks to all who participated. Thank you notes will be coming and you may be able to deduct that donation from your taxes.

THE 2026 TAMPA BAY PROVIDER PRICING SURVEY

The 2026 Tampa Bay Provider Pricing Survey is complete and can be found on our website at FCASuncoastFL.com. This pricing survey covered nearly 200 providers from Pinellas County to Hillsborough, Polk, Pasco and Hernando. Many thanks to our VP, Rich Gilbert who did the heavy lifting for this. After gathering the General Price Lists for each provider, Rich, mined the GPLs for each type of funeral service and annotated the spreadsheet. This allows for side-by-side comparison of pricing. He also identified corporate owned from family owned.

Our provider in the Tampa Bay area is Brewer and Sons, they offer direct cremation for \$950.00 to our members. Their non-member price is \$3195.00. The most inexpensive I found was \$695.00 from Tampa Cremation and Burial Services. The most expensive direct cremation was \$4220.00 from ANDERSON MCQUEEN FUNERAL HOME, corporate owned by Foundation Partners. Over all they were more expensive than SCI owned properties.

Funeral home overhead and director services vary from \$1090.00 for Brewer and Sons to \$3950.00 at DAVID C GROSS FUNERAL HOME, and SCI property. These costs are more difficult to detect when service bundles are offered, such as the \$695.00 direct cremation bundle mentioned earlier.

We have a huge repository of General Price Lists from all over Tampa Bay. After reviewing the spreadsheet, just email us which GPLs you would like and we will send them to you. Having the GPL can be useful as many providers have service bundles or packages that we cannot really show on the spreadsheet. We also analyze those GPLs for compliance with the FTC and the State of Florida regulators. If a provider is out of compliance, Rich has marked them with a color code and explanation of why they are out of compliance. We would advise that you look elsewhere with so many providers to choose from.

One other area of observation is minority owned providers. They cater to the Hispanic and Black populations in their communities. Often their GPLs are non-compliant, and they don't answer the phone, nor email or even a knock on the door. While they are listed, there is no GPL information to view. Another characteristic is the inflated prices for services. These minority communities like big, expensive flashy funerals. They often have burial insurance so the family can have a big send off. The prices for Funeral Director and overhead vary from \$1350.00 to \$3095.00. These providers are marked in yellow at the top of the spreadsheet. You will note that many have no pricing as they failed to send a GPL. Surprisingly, there are 22 minority providers in our 5 county area. Much higher than what we find in our southern counties.

Need something? Want to help? Let us know by using the form below. Complete the form and return it to:
Funeral Consumer's Alliance of Suncoast Florida, Inc., P.O. Box 15833, Sarasota, FL 34277.
If you need additional information or have questions, call us at (941) 953-3740

NAME(S) _____

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

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I WOULD LIKE _____ COPIES OF THE ALLIANCE BROCHURE FOR MY FRIENDS.

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I WISH TO UPDATE MY RECORDS. PLEASE SEND ME A BLANK SERVICE RECORD FORM.

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I WILL SERVE ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES. HAVE SOMEONE CALL ME AT:

_____.

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PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION OF \$ _____ TO SUPPORT THE ALLIANCE.

Funeral Consumers Alliance
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Sarasota, FL 34277

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