

Unprecedented Challenges...



The Covid-19 pandemic has presented the entire world with unprecedented challenges. An immediate and particular area of concern for family offices is having to prepare for the unfortunate reality of funeral planning, especially when such arrangements have not been made in advance.

Although it may be uncomfortable to contemplate, the reality of the growing necessity of funeral planning presents family offices with a sudden and unexpected series of events. Arrangements must be organized and executed within a unique set of challenges and restrictions in the current environment created by the regulations and guidelines established by federal, state, and local health agencies. Covid-19 has brought the conversation regarding funeral, cremation and memorial planning and contingencies to the forefront among many, if not all, family offices and estate planners. These unique realities during the Covid-19 pandemic are all aspects to take in consideration.

Families and friends alike are concerned that they will be unable to attend or participate in funeral and memorial services in any way because of regulations banning gatherings or limiting gatherings to 10 or less. These concerns present families and friends with immense difficulties and bring a sense of alienation during such an emotional time as the death of a loved one. However, options are available to allow families and friends to virtually make arrangements and attend and participate in funeral and memorial services in a safe, yet meaningful way.

Many funeral service providers throughout the country, including LHT Consulting, have developed and deployed several practices during the Covid-19 social distancing that allow family offices, as well as individuals, to make funeral arrangements at the time of need without physically visiting the funeral establishment. By utilizing virtual conferencing platforms, a complete and thorough arrangement conference with a full range of options can be safely discussed.

Another option in response to social distancing is to live-stream funeral and memorial services via virtual platforms, allowing any number of people to view and participate in the services as the family chooses. This unique approach enables families to memorialize and celebrate the lives of their loved ones without risking exposure to large gatherings, or travel from one location to another during these challenging times. It also provides a way for the participants to support and connect to each other. Options such as a graveside service with a celebration of life gathering held at another time should also be considered and discussed as part of planning.

LHT Consulting Group highly recommends that family offices take proactive steps to address funeral, cremation and memorial arrangements in advance. In the swiftly changing and highly stressful environment that the Covid-19 pandemic has presented, making arrangements in advance will allow family offices and their clients to make thorough, thoughtful, and unhurried decisions from the comfort and safety of their own homes.

We remain committed to providing family offices and their client's safe and secure options for funeral, memorial, cemetery, and cremation options.

Please contact LHT Consulting Group to discuss these issues at 866.860.4438, or visit us online at <http://www.lhtgroup-us.com>



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