

**John Wirth, Attorney  
Court-Appointed Receiver**



**22 East Mifflin Street, Suite 1010; Madison, WI 53703 / 608-256-1757**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Sept. 26, 2012

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
Evan Zeppos  
414-270-7283 / 414-491-6610  
[ezeppos@laughlin.com](mailto:ezeppos@laughlin.com)

**COURT-APPOINTED RECEIVER ANNOUNCES CHANGES AT  
WISCONSIN FUNERAL TRUST AND WFDA**

**New Investment Advisor Retained to Oversee Trust Assets,  
Executive Director no longer with Association**

Madison, Wis. – The court-appointed receiver for the Wisconsin Funeral Directors Association (WFDA) and the Wisconsin Funeral Trust today announced two changes that are aimed at helping to restore confidence in the Trust as well as strengthening and streamlining operations at the trade group. The Trust administers funeral deposits for more than 10,500 Wisconsin residents. WFDA represents an estimated 500 funeral homes in Wisconsin.

John Wirth, a Milwaukee business attorney who was appointed earlier this month by a Dane County Circuit Court to serve as a receiver for the Trust and WFDA, announced that the Trust has retained the services of Ziegler Lotsoff Capital Management, LLC and its Red Granite division to advise the Trust on the best way to handle the pre-paid funeral assets of the Trust. Ziegler Lotsoff and Red Granite have offices in Milwaukee and Chicago and have about \$3.7 billion under management.

- more -

**CONSUMER INFORMATION: 1-855-947-9900 / [WirthFuneralReceiver@gmail.com](mailto:WirthFuneralReceiver@gmail.com)**

“Ziegler Lotsoff and Red Granite practice a strict adherence to careful management of assets to produce predictable returns through all market cycles while emphasizing risk controls. They have a track record of success and a strong commitment to client service that dates back more than a century. They have proven to be ethical, trust-worthy advisors that will help us protect the Trust assets for the benefit of those we serve,” Wirth said. “They also will work with us to ensure the Trust complies with applicable law.”

He added that “a fresh set of eyes from the outside” will greatly benefit the Trust as it deals with a projected \$21 million shortfall.

Red Granite assumes the responsibilities previously performed by BluePoint Investment Counsel of Madison. Wirth emphasized that none of these actions have an impact on Requia Life Insurance Company, an entity affiliated with the Trust.

“Requia is sound and continues to write insurance policies and pay claims. Customers of Requia should have confidence that their insurance policies have not been affected by these events.”

Additionally, Wirth announced that Scott Peterson is no longer with the organization. Peterson had served as the Executive Director of the WFDA since 2006.

Wirth added that he would temporarily assume Peterson’s responsibilities with assistance from existing staff at the WFDA. Wirth intends to coordinate a search for a new Executive Director.

“Neither of these changes are intended to indicate anything other than my belief that it’s best to have a clean slate as we sort through various issues,” said Wirth.