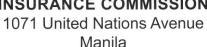


## Republic of the Philippines Department of Finance INSURANCE COMMISSION 1071 United Nations Avenue





## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to reiterate the Notice issued by the Insurance Commission on 30 January 2024 informing the Public about the CEASE AND DESIST ORDER (CDO) against KOINONIA FUNERAL HOMES OPC (KFHO) and KOINONIA GROUP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES, INC. (KGBMI) for illegally engaging in pre-need business and/or acting as a pre-need company without the required license under Republic Act No. 9829, otherwise known as the *Pre-Need Code of the Philippines*.

KFHO and/or KGBMI, with several branches in Visayas and Mindanao region of the Philippines, are operated by Mr. Jose Suelto Pancho, with known principal addresses at Main Branch, Khan Commercial Arcade, Yakal Street, National Highway, Barangay Tubtubon, Sibulan, Negros Oriental; and Sitio Talisay Koinonia Group of Believers Ministries Building, Bato, Toledo City, Cebu.

Recently, the Insurance Commission has received various reports regarding the continued illegal pre-need activities of KFHO and/or KGBMI despite the issued CDO against the companies. After thorough investigation, it was found that KFHO/KGBMI are continually selling and offering pre-need products to the public, through sub-selling of existing pre-need plans without a license from this Commission, which is a circumvention and a violation of the Pre-Need Code.

Likewise, it must be mentioned that **KOINONIA LIFE PLAN CORPORATION (KLPC)** is operated by the President of **KFHO/KGBMI**, Mr. Jose Suelto Pancho. While this Commission recognizes KLPC's registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission, it is worthy to note that the company **does not** possess a license or certificate of authority to engage in pre-need business from the Insurance Commission. Hence, **KLPC** is **not authorized** to sell or offer any pre-need products to the public absent said license or certificate of authority from the Insurance Commission.

Let it be drawn to the public's attention that selling or offering to sell pre-need plan by an unregistered person, as well as selling or offering to sell an unregistered pre-need plan or any product that has pre-need plan features are CRIMINAL in nature. Thus, we advise everyone to be vigilant from availing said plans, such as those layaway programs offered by the KFHO/KGBMI or any of its subsidiaries, as the contracts thereof are considered void, inexistent and unenforceable in the eyes of the law for being illegal.

This Notice also serves as a final warning to the KFHO/KGBMI to obey the Cease-and-Desist Order against it and demands that the company IMMEDIATELY STOP the selling/offering or sub-selling of its layaway program to the public, including the collection of fees/premiums, provision of services to its existing clients, and other related undertakings without the proper license from the Insurance Commission.

KFHO/KGBMI is also ordered to return/refund all contributions paid by its members relative to the layaway program, without prejudice to the right of said members to file appropriate cases. For KFHO/KGBMI's failure to comply with the CDO, the Insurance Commission will be instituting a criminal action against the officers/agents of the company.

However, this does not preclude any interested persons from filing civil/criminal actions to the regular courts against the officers/agents of **KFHO/KGBMI**, in accordance with the Pre-Need Code.

For complaints relative to the activities of KFHO/KGBMI or any of its subsidiaries, kindly call 8523 8461 local 103 or e-mail us at repd@insurance.gov.ph.

The public is consistently advised to transact only with duly licensed pre-need companies or intermediaries. The list of licensed regulated entities can be found in our official website at https://www.insurance.gov.ph/category/regulated-entities/.

Finally, we urge the public to report to the Insurance Commission any suspicious activities relative to the selling/offering of any insurance, pre-need, or HMO products through e-mail at pamd@insurance.gov.ph or contact number 8523 8461 local 103.

For the information	n and	APR 24	2024	general	public
Manila, Philippine	S.				

REYNALDO A. REGALADO Insurance Commissioner