

MOUNT ZION UNITED JEWISH CEMETERY, INC.

Rules And Standards For Funeral And Burial Procedures And Markers/Monuments

1. Eligibility for Interment. All members of the Jewish People are eligible for burial in all of the Mount Zion Gardens (“Mount Zion”). Each of the rabbis of Chabad of Dallas, Chabad of Plano, Kesher Jewish Center, Ohev Shalom, Ohr HaTorah, Sephardic Torah Center, Shaare Tefilla and Young Israel (the “Sponsoring Synagogues”), the JFS Community Chaplain, or such other rabbinic authorities as deemed appropriate by Mount Zion may certify that a person is eligible for burial in Mount Zion.
2. Management. The Mount Zion Gardens are owned and administered by Mount Zion United Jewish Cemetery, Inc. (“MZUJC”).
3. Preparations for Burial. Proper respect and preparation of the Deceased for burial is of paramount concern. Preparation of the Deceased for burial shall be according to *Halacha* (*Taharah* and *Tachrichim*), and shall be performed by the Chevra Kadisha of Dallas, or by any other Chevra Kadisha approved by Mount Zion or a rabbi of one of the Sponsoring Synagogues. The funeral home, the *Chevra Kadisha* or the rabbi of the Sponsoring Synagogue that will officiate at a funeral shall provide for a “*Shomer*” to remain with the Deceased until burial. Embalming and cremation are prohibited. Viewings or open caskets are not permitted at any time.
4. Caskets. Only *Halachally* acceptable caskets that are made entirely from wood may be used. Mount Zion shall designate certain caskets as acceptable and appropriate, and Mount Zion reserves the right to make changes in such designation as it may deem appropriate. If desired, caskets may be covered at both the funeral and burial with a velvet cover provided by Mount Zion or the funeral director.
5. Funerals. Traditional Jewish funeral practices as established by the rabbis or cantors of the Sponsoring Synagogues shall be followed. The rabbis or cantors of the Sponsoring Synagogues may officiate at funerals, burials and unveilings. Other members of the *Klei Kodesh* (rabbis and cantors), with the permission of a rabbi of one of the Sponsoring Synagogues, may officiate or co-officiate at funerals, burials and unveilings. If observed at the funeral or graveside, *K’ria* (tearing of garments) shall be performed with an actual garment (no ribbons). The grave shall be closed before reciting *Kaddish*.
6. Flowers. Flowers are a non-Jewish custom and are discouraged. Artificial flowers, balloons, Mylar ribbons, figurines, etc. are not permitted.
7. Concrete Liner. Only concrete grave liners that meet with *Halachic* standards as determined by Mount Zion may be used. These liners have no bottom and therefore, consistent with *Halacha*, the casket rests on and is surrounded by the earth.

8. Monuments and Markers. All monuments and markers, and all inscriptions, symbols and designs thereon, must be approved in advance by Mount Zion. All monuments and markers shall first contain in Hebrew:

- (a) “*Pey Nun*” (here lies)
- (b) Hebrew name (e.g., Deceased’s name; followed by “*ben*” or “*b’reb*” for males or “*bat*” for females; followed by Deceased’s father’s name, or, for Sephardim who follow the custom, the mother’s name may be substituted for the father’s name). If applicable, *Hakohen* or *Halevi*.
- (c) Family Name
- (d) “*Niftar*” or “*Niftaharah*” for females and Hebrew date of death (*Yarhzeit*)
- (e) *Hey’ Vav’ Tzadee’ Nun’ Tav’* (“may his/her soul rest in peace”). (This may be at the bottom following English.)

English language data may follow and may include:

- (f) Names
- (g) Dates of birth and death
- (h) Quotes, endearments or symbols (e.g., lodges, fraternal associations or military affiliations) as approved in writing by Mount Zion.

The family name shall be inscribed in Hebrew on the back side of all monuments or, if desired by family and approved by Mount Zion, a Holocaust memorial for family.

Monuments and markers may include the Jewish symbols approved by Mount Zion.

Marker spaces may have individual flat stones for single graves or double flat stones for two graves. A monument (raised stone) may be erected for two or more monument spaces for graves at Mount Zion at Hillcrest Memorial Park Phase I. Single or double monuments may be erected at Mount Zion at Restland and Mount Zion at Hillcrest Memorial Park Phase II. Monument spaces may also have flat stones. All stones shall be headstones and no stones shall be erected at the foot of a grave.

All monuments and markers shall be made exclusively of granite or such other stone as may be approved by Mount Zion. Bronze markers or plaques, raised lettering and images (e.g., photographs or engravings of individuals) are not permitted. All monuments and markers must otherwise conform to the rules and regulations of Hillcrest Memorial Park or Restland Memorial Park. The maximum width for a monument base is 50% of the width of the graves covered plus one foot; for two spaces a base of 4 ½ feet is permitted. The standard double monument is 32 inches in height. The maximum height for a double monument is 40 inches plus 8 inches for the base. The maximum height for a triple monument is 32 inches plus 8 inches for the base. Monuments for estates must be approved in advance by Mount Zion.

Permanent vases, urns or other receptacles for flowers, and artificial flowers, are not permitted in Mount Zion.

9. Infant Section. Families should consult with their rabbi regarding appropriate funeral or mourning practices in the case of an infant, as many of the laws governing mourning do not apply in the case of an infant that did not live 30 days. A standardized 18" x 12" marker is the only permitted marker in the Infant Section. All markers shall conform to the requirements set out in Section 7, except that with respect to infants that did not live for 30 days *Tinuke/Tinuket* (Infant) followed by the family name in Hebrew shall be used in place of a Hebrew name.
10. Financial Obligations. The Deceased's family is responsible directly to the funeral home, cemetery or monument vendor for all funeral, interment and monument expenses and costs, and responsible directly to the Chevra Kadisha for any charges imposed for its services or articles provided. The Deceased's family is responsible directly to Mount Zion for payment for interment rights (i.e., burial plots). However, the funeral home may collect for Mount Zion the applicable fees for interment rights (i.e., the burial plots) provided a Rabbi of one of the Sponsoring Congregations accompanies the family to the funeral home and fills out all necessary paperwork.
11. Burial/Interment Rights. No burial/interment rights may be transferred or assigned without the prior written consent of Mount Zion, and in no event may burial/interment rights be transferred or assigned to any person who is not eligible for burial as described in Section 1 above. If requested by the purchaser of burial rights, Mount Zion may, but shall not be obligated to, repurchase burial/interment rights for two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the purchase price paid.

If a person who has purchased (or, with permission of Mount Zion, has been assigned) burial/interment rights at Mount Zion shall cease to be eligible for burial as set forth in Section 1 above, such person's burial rights shall immediately terminate; and, in such event, Mount Zion shall refund one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the purchase price paid within six months from the date on which Mount Zion makes any determination that such person has ceased to be eligible for burial.

Designees acknowledge Mount Zion's designation to them of rights of interment are not assignable and may be abandoned. Such designation of rights of interment shall be deemed abandoned if Designees fail to respond in writing to three written requests for verification of current mailing address and desire to retain rights of interment, mailed certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address indicated following Designee's signature. Designees may change address for purpose of this agreement by delivering written notice to Mount Zion at 11711 Parwen Drive, Dallas, Texas 75230, or at such substitute address as Mount Zion shall designate in writing.

12. Disinterment. Disinterment shall only be permitted in conformity with *Halacha* and when authorized in writing by the Deceased's next-of-kin and approved in writing by a rabbi of one of the Sponsoring Synagogues, or such other rabbinic authority as may be approved by Mount Zion.

13. Further Rules. Mount Zion reserves the right to amend, revise, supplement, revoke or add such additional rules, and standards as it deems appropriate; and in doing so, Mount Zion may rely on such Orthodox rabbinic authorities as it deems appropriate on matters of *Halacha*.
14. Hillcrest Cemetery Rules. All interment rights purchased shall be subject to the rules and regulations of Hillcrest Memorial Park or Restland Memorial Park; provided, however, neither shall not adopt or enforce any rule or regulation that restricts or prohibits Orthodox Jewish funeral or burial practices.
15. Funeral Homes. Sparkman Hillcrest Funeral Home, Restland Funeral Home and Dallas Jewish Funerals are approved by Mount Zion for funerals and burials and are accustomed to working with Jewish families, the local Chevra Kadisha and area Rabbis. On the express condition that a Rabbi of one of the Sponsoring Congregations, or such other rabbinic authority as deemed appropriate by Mount Zion, oversees and certifies in writing on such documentation as required by Mount Zion compliance with the *Shulcan Aruch* (Code of Jewish Law) and the Rules and Regulations of Mount Zion, funeral homes other than the three listed above may be utilized.
16. Monument Vendors. Spradling Monument Service, Inc., Sparkman Hillcrest, Schecter Memorials, and Restland are approved by Mount Zion for memorials and are accustomed to working with Jewish families, Hebrew lettering and Mount Zion's requirements.

Effective: February 23, 2017