



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



## **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 and guidance of the general public.

Manila, Philippines. \_\_\_\_\_

APR 24 2024

  
**REYNALDO A. REGALADO**  
Insurance Commissioner

