



Order of the
Golden Rule

Email from: PMR Post Mortem Restituo Sweden AB

We have a challenging situation, without any doubt. The Swedish government have waited much too long before real action. All of the countries around us closed their borders, closed down the schools and daycare and so on. Today the authorities here took the decision of closing universities and higher education. But NOT all other schools. People are encouraged to stay home from work, and we already see a lot of companies on their way out of business.

The funeral sector are in a "non priority situation", with no or very limited access to personal protection items. In fact the Swedish undertakers and the companies that serve the communities with "First Calls", still waiting for guidelines for conducting their job. We can not rely on the numbers of COVID-19 in the country, because we are not testing the population any more. The only ones that are undergoing tests, are those already ill that are in the closed hospital care.

There is a impact on the way funerals are conducted, and I guess this is only the beginning. We are all affected by the economical impact these days.

On the behalf of PMR, we are doing pretty well. In a very early stage I ordered masks,high risk gloves, aprons and gowns that hopefully will give us possibility to give our society continued support for at least a month. A few days later, it was impossible to order anything at all. The hospitals are out of stock, and mechanical and industrial suppliers are selling or donating their stock to the hospitals.

In this case, the authorities have ordered (but too late) and paid for supply from different European counties, but the items are not allowed to leave the origin country now. Because they need it themselves, of course.

Email from: Rowland Brothers International, UK

Today was the first time we had a virus death call, then we had a second all within an hour.

We have been told that many of our local churches are not allowing funeral services so it is affecting us as the numbers of families are having hearse direct funerals to the Crematorium' s so no use for limousines.

Funerals have gone down from 14 funerals a day to 4 to 6 a day but could go back up. One good thing is that if they all have hearse direct to the crematorium we will not be using any of our part time staff so it won' t be all bad. We are OK for disaster suits, glasses, masks and gloves.

We have a wholesale company and just had several thousand of each of the above thanks to our international department will be in trouble as no one is going on holiday so our number of cases will be down by quite a lot down.

Email from: C.P.J. Field & Co. Limited UK

The COVID-19 pandemic is causing significant disruption in the UK. I've seen the comments about suitable Personal Protective Equipment in the USA and we' re definitely experiencing the same issue. Our government has downgraded the PPE required to handle a COVID-19 case and there is a concern that is not because the risk is lower than first thought but because of a global shortage of PPE.

We're not officially on lock down yet although I suspect that is coming. The Government advice has a very similar effect. The streets are quiet and everyone that can work from home is.