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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Selected Educational Trust Announces New Appointments to the Board of Trustees

LINCOLNSHIRE, IL — October 15, 2025— The Selected Independent Funeral Homes Educational Trust is pleased to announce the appointment of five new members to its Board of Trustees:

- Cy Hume, A.S. Turner & Sons Funeral Home and Crematory, Decatur, GA
- Michael Pierson, Pierson's Funeral Service, Ltd., Calgary, AB, Canada
- Allison Walden, Downing & Lahey Mortuary, Wichita, KS
- G. Todd Walton, Welch & Cornett Walton Funeral Service, Inc., Linton, IN
- Daniel Kochapski, Carmon Community Funeral Homes, Windsor, CT, *Liaison to the Selected Board of Directors*

“It is an honor to join the Selected Educational Trust Board of Trustees. I am honored to support the mission of the Trust and I look forward to learning more about how the Trust can help develop the next generation of funeral professionals,” said Allison Walden.

“I am truly honored to join the Selected Educational Trust Board of Trustees. I believe this board serves as a vital ambassador for the funeral service profession and plays a crucial role in safeguarding its future through dedicated efforts,” said Todd Walton. “I look forward to collaborating with fellow independent funeral professionals from Selected to further support and advance the Trust’s mission. I am inspired by the achievements thus far and remain optimistic about the Trust’s continued impact and growth.”

Trustees serve 3-year terms and work to guide the programming and fundraising efforts of the Trust. “The Trust has seen immense growth over the past three years, and that’s in no small part to the guidance and efforts of the Board of Trustees,” said Stefanie Favia, the Trust’s Executive Director. “We are honored to welcome this impressive roster of fresh voices to our Board of Trustees as we continue this trajectory of growth.”

For more information about the Selected Educational Trust, visit www.selectedtrust.org or contact Stefanie Favia at stefanie@selectedtrust.org.



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About the Selected Educational Trust

The mission of the [Selected Educational Trust](http://www.selectedtrust.org) (www.selectedtrust.org) is to provide the best educational opportunities for the advancement and support of all who work within the independent funeral service profession. To fulfill this mission, the Trust provides programs which offer scholarships to mortuary science students and funeral service professionals and networking and employment opportunities through its *Workforce Development Centers*.

Images included: Headshots of Cy Hume, Daniel Kochapski, Michael Pierson, Allison Walden, Todd Walton