1. **Call to Order, Preliminary Remarks, and Roll Call**

Mr. Jody Brandenburg, Chair – Ms. Simon, will you please do your preliminary remarks and accomplish the roll call?

Ms. Ellen Simon – Yes, Mr. Chairman. My name is Ellen Simon. I am Assistant Director for the Division of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services. Today is January 3, 2019, and it’s approximately 10:00 A.M. This is a public meeting of the Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services. This meeting is being held by teleconference, and notice of this meeting has been duly published in the Florida Administrative Register. An agenda for this meeting has been made available to all interested persons. The call-in number was placed on the agenda. The Board staff present for this meeting are in the Claude Denson Pepper Building in Tallahassee FL. Ms. LaTonya Bryant is recording the meeting and minutes will be prepared. Persons speaking are requested to identify themselves for the record each time they speak. Participants are respectfully reminded that the Board’s Chair, Mr. Brandenburg, runs the meeting. Persons desiring to speak should initially ask the Chair for permission. At this time, Mr. Chairman, I will call the roll:

Joseph “Jody” Brandenburg, Chair  
Keenan Knopke, Vice Chair  
Jean Anderson  
Francisco “Frank” Bango {ABSENT}  
Andrew Clark  
James “Jim” Davis {ABSENT}  
Lewis “Lew” Hall  
Powell Helm  
Ken Jones  
Darrin Williams {DELAYED}

Also noted as present:  
Mary Schwantes, Executive Director  
Tom Barnhart, Board Legal Advisor  
LaTonya Bryant, Department Staff  
Jasmin Richardson, Department Staff

Ms. Simon – Mr. Chairman, there is a quorum present for the business of the Board.

Chair – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Good morning everyone, and Happy New Year. I’d like to declare my affiliation with SCI Funeral Services of Florida. This affiliation will in no way effect my ability to make a fair and impartial decision on anything coming before the Board today. Ms. Simon?

2. **Application(s) for Preneed Sales Agent**

   A. **Informational Item (Licenses Issued without Conditions) – Addendum A**

Ms. Simon – Thank you, sir. This item is informational only. Pursuant to s. 497.466, F.S., the applicants have been issued their licenses and appointments as preneed sales agents.

3. **Application(s) for Continuing Education Course Approval**

   A. **Recommended for Approval without Conditions – Addendum B**

   (1) Cremation Association of North America (16008)  
   (2) FuneralCE (43)  
   (3) International Order of the Golden Rule (2201)  
   (4) National Funeral Directors and Morticians Association, Inc. (15608)  
   (5) National Funeral Directors Association (136)
Ms. Simon – Pursuant to s. 497.147, F.S., and Board Rule 69K-17.0041, F.A.C., the courses presented have been reviewed by the CE Committee and the Committee, as well as the Division, recommends approval of the applications for the number of hours indicated.

**MOTION:** Mr. Ken Jones moved to approve the applications. Mr. Lew Hall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. **Application(s) for Approval as a Continuing Education Provider**  
   A. **Recommended for Approval without Conditions – Addendum C**  
      (1) University of Florida (33408)

Ms. Simon – Pursuant to s. 497.147, F.S., and Board Rule 69K-17.0041, F.A.C., the entity listed on Addendum C has been reviewed by the CE Committee, and the Committee, as well as the Division, recommend approval of the application to become a CE provider.

**MOTION:** Mr. Keenan Knopke moved to approve the application. Mr. Hall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

5. **Application(s) for Florida Law and Rules Examination**  
   A. **Informational Item (Licenses Issued without Conditions) – Addendum D**  
      (1) Funeral Director – by Internship and Exam  
          (a) Bolvez, Keith A
      (2) Funeral Director and Embalmer – by Endorsement  
          (a) Hommel, Michael  
          (b) Parsons, Connie J  
          (c) Stanley, Jessica G
      (3) Funeral Director and Embalmer – by Internship and Exam  
          (a) Gibson, Travis B  
          (b) York, Tiffany A

Ms. Simon – This is an informational item. Pursuant to Rule 69K-1.005, F. A. C., the Division has previously approved these applications.

   B. **Recommended for Denial**  
      (1) Funeral Director – by Endorsement  
          (a) Turner, Rodney

Ms. Simon – An application for a funeral director by endorsement license was received by the Division on November 16, 2018. The application was complete when submitted. A background check revealed no relevant criminal history. The applicant is currently licensed as an embalmer (F090855) but does not meet the educational requirements to become licensed as a funeral director by endorsement, per s. 497.374(1), F.S. For an applicant to be approved pursuant to s. 497.374(1), F.S., the applicant must meet the criteria listed on the coversheet in your Board package, and the applicant does not meet the minimum educational requirements. As a result, the Division is recommending denial.

Chair – Fellow Board members, I'm sure we’ve all given considerable deliberation to Mr. Turner’s request.

**MOTION:** The Chair moved to approve the application for funeral director by endorsement with the condition that the funeral director in charge, where Mr. Turner is employed, informs the Board in writing in June 2019 and December 2019 detailing Mr. Turner’s license activities, including any written complaints received from client families or from his professional interactions. Mr. Jones seconded the motion.

Darrin Williams – I have a question.

Ms. Simon – Yes?
Mr. Williams – Mr. Chair, this is Darrin Williams. I have a question.

Chair – Mr. Williams, we didn’t have you present on the roll call. Thank you for joining us and we’ll mark you as present.

Mr. Williams – Yes, sir. I have a question, if I may?

Chair – Please.

Mr. Williams – This question is for staff. What was the reason for denial?

Ms. Simon – The reason for denial of the application was due to the educational requirements of the statute not being met. Mr. Brandenburg? If I could just mention, I have a concern as to what happens if the supervisor does not report in those two (2) times. I’m not sure that we have jurisdiction over the supervisor during today’s meeting. I’m not sure that that requirement could be on the supervisor.

Chair – This is merely a request from the Board for the funeral director in charge, where he is employed. It’s a request from the Board that they inform the Board, in writing, in June and in December. If it doesn’t happen, it’s merely a request from the Board.

Lisa Coney – And this is Lisa Coney speaking on behalf of the licensee. I would be more than happy to make the commitment from our funeral director in charge to report on Mr. Turner’s activity.

Chair – There’s been a motion made, and it’s been seconded. All those in favor, aye?

Board members – Aye.

Chair – And any opposed? I didn’t hear any opposed, so the motion carries. Thank you.

Ms. Simon – Mr. Brandenburg? If I may. As a result of that motion, are we finding that the requirements in the statute that the educational background of Mr. Turner is substantially similar to those requirements of s. 497.373, F.S.?

Chair – I didn’t make that connection.

Ms. Simon – There is a requirement that the educational requirements or the requirements be substantially satisfied by the background of the applicant. I want to make sure that that is what’s being done here, that the Board is finding that the background of Mr. Turner is substantially similar to the requirements of s. 497.373, F.S.

Mr. Jones – Mr. Chair, if I may? This is Ken Jones.

Chair – Mr. Jones?

Mr. Jones – Yes, Ms. Simon. That is the reason I seconded that, being he was licensed in 1991 in West Virginia, 1992 in Pennsylvania. There’s one (1) year difference in his requirements for education from an embalmer to what our statute said and all those years of experience, I equated it to that.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Mr. Jones.

6. Application(s) for Internship
   A. Informational Item (Licenses Issued without Conditions) – Addendum E
      (1) Funeral Director
         (a) Person, Angelina D F329136
      (2) Funeral Director and Embalmer
         (a) Boatwright, Marsha L F328406
         (b) Delgado, Alexandria F328195
Ms. Simon – This is an informational item. Pursuant to Rule 69K-1.005, F. A. C., the Division has previously approved these applications.

7. **Application(s) for Embalmer Apprentice**
   
   **A. Informational Item (Licenses Issued without Conditions) – Addendum F**
   
   (1) Price, Garrett J F329135
   
   (2) Vadi, Mabel F110470
   
   (3) Young, Keith F080921

Ms. Simon – This is an informational item. Pursuant to Rule 69K-1.005, F. A. C., the Division has previously approved these applications.

8. **Notification(s) of Change in Location**
   
   **A. Informational Item – Addendum G**
   
   (1) ABO Funeral Services LLC d/b/a Eden Funeral Services Miami (F060082) (Homestead)
   
   (2) SCI Funeral Services of Florida LLC d/b/a National Cremation Society (F041477) (The Villages)

Ms. Simon – This item is informational only. Pursuant to ss. 497.380(12)(b), 497.604(7), 497.606(7), F. S., the establishments have previously applied for approval of a change of location of their businesses. The Board has requested to be notified of these changes in location. The only criteria for approval is that the new location pass inspection by the Division of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services. In each instance listed on the addendum, the inspection of the establishment has not been completed and the change of locations have not yet been approved by the Division.

9. **Consumer Protection Trust Fund Claims**
   
   **A. Recommended for Approval without Conditions – Addendum H**

Ms. Simon – The CPTF claims presented on the Addendum have been reviewed by the Division and the Division recommends approval for the monetary amounts so indicated.

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved to approve all the claim(s), for the monetary amounts indicated. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

10. **Application(s) for Cinerator Facility**
    
    **A. Recommended for Approval with Conditions**
   
    (1) Millennium Crematory LLC d/b/a Millennium Cremation Service (Vero Beach)

Ms. Simon – An application for a Cinerator Facility was received on December 6, 2018. The application was complete when submitted. The Funeral Director in Charge will be James Young (F042919). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the facility passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff.

**MOTION:** Mr. Powell Helm moved to approve the application subject to the condition that the facility passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff. Ms. Jean Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(2) **Williams-Thomas Funeral Home, Inc. (Gainesville)**

Ms. Simon – An application for a Cinerator Facility was received on November 19, 2018. The application was complete when submitted. The Funeral Director in Charge will be Alan Dean (F043231). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the facility passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff.
MOTION: Mr. Andrew Clark moved to approve the application subject to the condition that the facility passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

11. Application(s) for Direct Disposal Establishment  
   A. Recommended for Approval with Conditions  
      (1) Arnex LLC d/b/a Apollo Cremations (Hialeah Gardens)

Ms. Simon – An application for a Direct Disposal Establishment was received on October 26, 2018. The application was incomplete when submitted. The application was deemed complete on November 19, 2018. The Funeral Director in Charge will be Nadine Maignan (F065703). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff.

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the application subject to the condition that the establishment passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff. Mr. Helm seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

   (2) Millennium Crematory LLC d/b/a Millennium Cremation Service (Vero Beach)

Ms. Simon – An application for a Direct Disposal Establishment was received on December 6, 2018. The application was complete when submitted. The Funeral Director in Charge will be James Young (F042919). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff.

MOTION: Mr. Helm moved to approve the application subject to the condition that the establishment passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff. Mr. Jones seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

12. Application(s) for Preneed Branch License  
   A. Recommended for Approval without Conditions – Addendum I

Ms. Simon – Pursuant to s. 497.453, F. S., the applicants listed have applied for a preneed branch license. All Division records indicate that the applicants qualify for branch licensure. The Division is recommending approval.

MOTION: Mr. Helm moved to approve the application(s). Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

13. Application(s) for Removal Facility  
   A. Recommended for Approval with Conditions  
      (1) Miami VIP Removal Service LLC (Hialeah)

Ms. Simon – An application for a Removal Service was received on November 2, 2018. The application was incomplete when submitted. The application was deemed complete on December 12, 2018. A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the facility passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff.

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the application subject to the condition that the facility passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff. Ms. Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

   (2) Nature Coast Mortuary Transport, Inc. (Beverly Hills)

Ms. Simon – An application for a Removal Service was received on November 19, 2018. The application was complete when submitted. A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the facility passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff.

MOTION: Mr. Helm moved to approve the application subject to the condition that the facility passes an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff. Ms. Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
14. Collective Application(s) for Registration as a Training Agency – Foundation Partners of Florida LLC
   A. Recommended for Approval with Conditions
      (1) Petition for Waiver of Rule 69K-18.004
         (a) Foundation Partners of Florida LLC d/b/a Florida Mortuary Funeral & Cremation Services (Tampa)
         (b) Foundation Partners of Florida LLC d/b/a Loyless Funeral Home (Land O’ Lakes)
         (c) Foundation Partners of Florida LLC d/b/a Loyless Funeral Home (Tampa)

Ms. Simon – Foundation Partners of Florida LLC (FPG), a limited liability company, previously submitted applications for approval of three funeral establishments based upon a change of ownership. These change of ownership applications were reviewed and approved at the December 5, 2018 Board meeting. Under previous ownership, these establishments had been registered as training agencies. These newly licensed establishments are now seeking approval of a waiver of Rule 69K-18.004, Florida Administrative Code, regarding certain requirements for licensure as a training agency. Additionally, these three establishments are seeking to continue their training agency status. These three funeral establishments are as follows:

1) Loyless Funeral Homes LLC d/b/a Florida Mortuary Funeral & Cremation Services, a licensed funeral establishment, license #F040835, located at 4601 N Nebraska Ave, Tampa, FL 33603
2) Loyless Funeral Homes LLC d/b/a Loyless Funeral Home, a licensed funeral establishment, license #F040834, located at 5310 Land O Lakes Blvd, Land O Lakes, FL 34639
3) Loyless Funeral Homes LLC d/b/a Loyless Funeral Home, a licensed funeral establishment, license #F075751, located at 19651 Bruce B Downs Blvd Ste E2, Tampa, FL 33647

The Division recommends that Rule 69K-18.004, Florida Administrative Code, be waived as requested by the licensees, provided there has been no dispute by the public within 30 days of the date the request was published.

Mr. Clark – Mr. Chairman?

Chair – Mr. Clark?

Mr. Clark – I would like to state for the record my affiliation with Foundation Partners Group of Florida. I will not be voting in this matter or Item 15. A. (1) on this agenda. I am available for questions should the Board have any.

Chair – Thank you so much. I appreciate that disclosure. Is there a motion?

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the request for rule waiver subject to the condition provided there has been no dispute by the public within 30 days of the date the request was published. Mr. Helm seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Simon – The Division also recommends that the Applications for Registration of a Training Agency be granted so that the three aforementioned funeral establishments may continue to be registered as Training Agencies under the new ownership.

MOTION: Mr. Helm moved to approve the Applications for Registration of a Training Agency be granted so that the three aforementioned funeral establishments may continue to be registered as Training Agencies under the new ownership. Mr. Knopke seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

15. Contract(s) or Other Related Form(s)
   A. Recommended for Approval with Conditions
      (1) Pre-Construction Trust Agreement
         (a) FPG Florida LLC (F060727) (Belleview)

Ms. Simon – In accordance with ss. 497.272, Florida Statutes, FPG Florida, LLC (FPG), License # F060727, submits a request for approval of a master pre-construction trust agreement to be utilized in conjunction with various construction projects at FPG cemetery locations. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that Licensee provides to the Division the above listed trust agreement, fully executed by all parties, within 60 days of this Board meeting.
MOTION: Mr. Helm moved to approve the agreement subject to the condition that the Licensee provides to the Division the above listed trust agreement, fully executed by all parties, within 60 days of this Board meeting. Mr. Jones seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. Information Item
(1) Notification of Trust Transfer
(a) White City Cemetery Association (F039624) (Fort Pierce)

Ms. Simon – White City Cemetery Association is designating a successor trustee to transfer its cemetery care and maintenance trust funds from SunTrust Bank, N.A. to Seacoast Bank, N.A. (Seacoast). Seacoast is or will be the successor trustee and will continue to operate under the existing trust agreement for this trust account. There is no motion that is needed by the Board on this matter.

16. Executive Director’s Report
A. Operational Report (Verbal)

Ms. Simon – At this time I will turn the meeting over to the Executive Director, Mary Schwantes?

Ms. Schwantes – Good morning. Very, very briefly this time. We only have one (1) item on the Operational Report to talk about. I’m pleased to report that the Division’s Examination Team is now fully staffed. Alexandra French and Donald Carr joined the Division in mid-December and are based out of our Tampa office. We now only have one (1) vacancy for the Division. That is a licensing position in the Tallahassee office, which we plan to advertise this month. So, we are approaching full staffing as it is approved by the Legislature, at this time. The next Board meeting will be an in-person meeting, which takes place in Tallahassee on February 7, 2019. As a reminder, all 2019 Board meetings have been noticed and are posted on our website. This ends the Operational Report. Thank you, Mr. Chair and Happy New Year to everybody.

Chair – Thank you.

B. Report: Payment of Disciplinary Fines and Costs (Informational)

Ms. Simon – This item is informational only. Are there any questions?
17. Chairman’s Report (Verbal)

Chair – There’s no report.

18. Public Comments (Verbal)

Ms. Simon – Are there any public comments?

Wendy Wiener – Ms. Simon? This is Wendy Wiener. I just have a quick question for the Board and wondered if they might consider accommodation to Mr. Turner. I noticed that he did not check the provisional license box. I know he intended to check that, but failed to do so. Would the Board consider approving his temporary licensure while he awaits the final conclusion of the licensure process as is customary?

Chair – What is the practical result of approving this?

Ms. Simon – For a provisional license, the Board does not need to approve that. If the applicant submits the application and fee that will be taken up by the Division.

Ms. Wiener – Thank you very much. I appreciate your accommodation there. Thank you.

Chair – Any other public comments? Next item, please.


A. Attorney General’s Rules Report

Ms. Simon – Mr. Barnhart?

Mr. Tom Barnhart – Yes, thank you. Good morning, Board members.

Chair – Good morning.

Mr. Barnhart – A lot of those rules, the language should be submitted in final form very quickly into the Florida Administrative Register. So, at the February meeting, I should have a lot of updates on some of these open rules that you see on the report.

Chair – Thank you. Appreciate your work on that.
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Mr. Barnhart – The one item of business we have for you this morning, if you look at Rule 69K-25.0025, F.A.C. The proposed deletion of that language is to take out the words that would normally go to only for that Veterans Bill, which exempted certain fees for veterans and members of the Armed Forces. The reason that language got in there was just because we had been doing so much work on the Veterans Bill that that same language for the exemption from fees worked its way into this provision. This would also satisfy the JAPC letter we received questioning the authority of this restriction. This is just to open up the rule to all members of the Armed Forces and veterans. It has nothing to do with that restriction that was applicable to the fees. What I’d like is for someone to make a motion to approve the proposed language there is yellow. It would be to remove that language so it is in accordance with the statute, and that’s all we’d have to do this morning for that particular rule.

MOTION: The Chair moved to approve the proposed changes to the language. Mr. Helm seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
(a) Proof of an associate’s degree in mortuary science from a school or college approved by the American Board of Funeral Service Education or by the Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services;
(b) Either proof of passing the Arts section of the national board examination administered by the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards with a score of at least 75% on all sections of the examination, or proof of passing a funeral director examination administered by a licensing authority of another state;
(c) Proof of having had the appointed duties of a mortician or mortuary specialist in the military;
(d) Proof of successful completion of the Florida Laws & Rules examination; and
(e) A copy of a military identification card, military dependent identification card, military service record, military personnel file, veteran record, discharge paper, or separation document that indicates such member is currently in good standing or such veteran was honorably discharged.

(2) A member of the United States Armed Forces, such member’s spouse, and a veteran of the United States Armed Forces who separated from service within the 2 years preceding application for licensure whose appointed duties in the military is/was to act as a mortician or mortuary specialist, is eligible for licensure as an embalmer if the following are submitted:

(a) Proof of successful completion of a course, embracing at least the subjects specified in section 497.368(1)(d), F.S., at a school or college approved by the American Board of Funeral Service Education or by the Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services;
(b) Either proof of passing the science section of the national board examination administered by the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards with a score of at least 75% on all sections of the examination, or proof of passing an embalmer examination administered by a licensing authority of another state;
(c) Proof of licensure to practice embalming in another state in the United States of America;
(d) Proof of having had the appointed duties of a mortician or mortuary specialist in the military;
(e) Proof of successful completion of the Florida Laws & Rules examination; and
(f) A copy of a military identification card, military dependent identification card, military service record,
   military personnel file, veteran record, discharge paper, or separation document that indicates such member
   is currently in good standing or such veteran was honorably discharged.

(3) A member of the United States Armed Forces, such member’s spouse, and a veteran of the United States
   Armed Forces who separated from service within the 2 years preceding application for licensure whose appointed
   duties in the military is/was to act as a mortician or mortuary specialist, is eligible for licensure as a direct disposer if
   the following are submitted:

   (a) An official transcript showing a college level course in Florida Mortuary Law and a college level course
       in ethics;
   (b) A copy of a high school diploma or GED certificate;
   (c) Proof of having had the appointed duties of a mortician or mortuary specialist in the military;
   (d) Proof of successful completion of the Florida Laws & Rules examination; and
   (e) A copy of a military identification card, military dependent identification card, military service record,
       military personnel file, veteran record, discharge paper, or separation document that indicates such member
       is currently in good standing or such veteran was honorably discharged.

(4) A licensee who is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States and was caused to be
    absent from the State of Florida because of the spouse’s duties with the Armed Forces shall be exempt from all
    licensure renewal provisions under these rules during such absence. The licensee must show proof to the Board of the
    absence and the spouse’s military status.

Rulemaking Authority 497.103, 497.168, 497.393, 497.602(4) FS, Law Implemented 497.168, 497.393, 497.602(4) FS.
History—New

20.  Upcoming Meeting(s)
    A.  February 7th (Tallahassee – Pepper Building, Room G-01, 111 W Madison Street)
    B.  March 7th (Teleconference)
    C.  April 4th (Tampa – Embassy Suites by Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore, 555 North Westshore Boulevard)
    D.  May 2nd (Teleconference)
    E.  June 18th (Orlando – Rosen Plaza Hotel, 9700 International Drive)
    F.  July 11th (Teleconference)
    G.  August 1st (Tallahassee – TBA)
H. September 5th (Teleconference)
I. October 3rd (St. Petersburg/ Pinellas Park – St. Petersburg College, Health Education Center, 7200 66th St. N)
J. November 7th (Teleconference)
K. December 5th (Jacksonville – Embassy Suites by Hilton Jacksonville Baymeadows, 9300 Baymeadows Road)

21. Adjournment

Chair – Board members? Any comments? Any good of the cause?

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.