

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF FUNERAL, CEMETERY, AND CONSUMER SERVICES**  
**VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER 7, 2024 - 10:00 A.M.**

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

Ms. Jill Peeples – Good morning, this is Jill Peeples, Chair of the Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services. It is 10:00 A.M, on November 7, 2024, and I'd like to call this meeting to order. I'll turn it over to Ms. Simon for preliminary remarks and roll call.

Ms. Ellen Simon – Thank you, ma'am. Good morning. My name is Ellen Simon. I am the Assistant Director for the Division of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services. Today is November 7, 2024, and it is approximately 10 AM. This is a public meeting of the Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services. This meeting is being held by videoconference. Notice of this meeting has been duly published in the Florida Administrative Register. An agenda for this meeting has been made available to interested persons. Both the link and call-in number are on the agenda, which has been made available to the public. The link and call-in number and other information relating to this Board meeting has also been published on the Division's website. Ms. LaTonya Bryant is recording the meeting and minutes will be prepared.

As this is a videoconference of the Board, there are some items I need to draw your attention to. For one, as a general rule, please do not utilize your video camera for the meeting unless you are a Board member, Board counsel, or an authorized Division employee. If you have a matter listed on the agenda and intend to appear before the Board to represent yourself, or if you are an attorney that is representing a client, only turn your video camera option on when we have reached the agenda item that you want to be heard on or when you hear your name called. Then turn your video camera option off again as soon as your matter has been addressed by the Board.

As always, we need everyone that is on the call to place their phone or audio feed on mute, if you are not speaking. The ambient noise coming from someone's phone or audio, which is not muted, causes severe disruption to the meeting. If you are not muted, you may be muted by Division staff. As a result, you may need to call back into the meeting because that may be the only way to unmute your phone. Also, if you are using your computer or smartphone for your audio feed, please remember to speak directly into the microphone on your device. To do so otherwise negatively impacts the recording of this meeting. Just as in a live meeting, persons speaking are requested to identify themselves for the record each time they speak. Participants are respectfully reminded that the Board Chair, Ms. Peeples, runs the meeting. Persons desiring to speak should initially ask the Vice Chair for permission.

As a reminder to Board members, you are to refrain from commenting on facts not included within your Board packages, and instead base your decision solely on the information in your Board packages, as well as testimony provided at this meeting. Additionally, ongoing investigations are private and confidential and are not to be discussed, even for the purposes of confirming there is an investigation. Just a few words about Item Z on your agenda, which is Public Comment. Public Comment is reserved for general comments by the public and not for re litigation of any matter before the Board. Please be aware that if Public Comment is used as an attempt to re litigate a matter that has been heard on this agenda, the Board will be instructed that the comment is not appropriate for Public Comment, and it should not be considered for further discussion.

As a final reminder, Board meetings are public meetings under Florida Law, and anything said via chat is subject to a public records request. This feature should only be used for technological issues you may be experiencing, and all inquiries in chat should be directed to Mary Schwantes, our Executive Director. She is monitoring the chat feature and, as necessary, will forward your inquiry to someone who can assist in resolution of the problem. At this point I will call the roll:

Jill Peeples, Chair  
Andrew Clark, Vice Chair  
David Chapman  
Sanjena Clay  
Vincent "Todd" Ferreira  
Christian "Chris" Jensen  
Kenneth "Ken" Jones

Janis Liotta  
William "Bill" Quinn  
Darrin Williams

**Also noted as present:**

Mary Schwantes, Executive Director  
Rachelle Munson, Board Legal Advisor  
Kimberly Marshall, Department Legal Counsel  
Jared Woliver, Department Legal Counsel  
LaTonya Bryant, Department Staff

Ms. Simon – Madam Chair, there is a quorum present for the business of the Board. If we can I'd like to take part of the Executive Director's Report out of order at this time. Is that acceptable?

Chair Peebles – Yes ma'am, thank you Ms. Simon.

Ms. Simon – Ms. Schwantes?

Ms. Mary Schwantes – Thank you. Good morning, everyone. On September 10th, CFO Jimmy Patronis appointed or reappointed members to the Board. Since the Board did not have an October meeting due to Hurricane Milton, this is the first time the Board is meeting with the new appointments. So first we would like to congratulate Mr. Clark, Sanjena Clay, and Chris Jensen on their reappointment to the Board for another four-year term ending in September 2027. We're glad to have you back. And we want to welcome our two newest Board members, David Chapman. Mr. Chapman is affiliated with Gulf Coast Wilbert Inc. in Crestview and takes the position requiring a principal of a monument establishment. Mr. Chapman has also been appointed to a four-year term ending in September 2027. Mr. Bill Quinn is affiliated with Aycock Riverside Funeral and Cremation Center in Jupiter. He takes the position which became vacant on Jody Brandenburg's death and will serve for the remainder of that term which ends in September 2025. So welcome both of you all.

Next, I'm pleased to announce CFO Jimmy Patronis' appointment of the Board Officers for the next year. Jill Peebles will continue to serve as Board Chair and Andrew Clark as Vice Chair. Please join me in congratulating Chair Peebles and Vice Chair Clark on their reappointments to their positions.

And on behalf of Chair Peebles and this Division, I would like to read into the record a proposed resolution and recognition and appreciation of Jay Lyons' service to Board and public. Is Mr. Lyons on the call today? I don't hear him, and I wasn't sure he was going to be able to attend. So, I'm going to read the resolution:

**RESOLUTION  
IN RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION OF  
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE  
BY  
JAY LYONS**

**WHEREAS**, Sections 497.101 and 497.102, Florida Statutes, effectively establish the composition and authority of the Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services (the "Board"), which is comprised of ten members who serve 4-year staggered terms for the general purpose of overseeing the licensing and regulation of Florida's death care industry;

**WHEREAS**, Jay Lyons was appointed by the Governor of Florida as a Board member in 2021 and graciously volunteered his time and expertise to the Board, providing invaluable insights, perspective, and guidance throughout his term with the Board;

**WHEREAS**, Jay Lyons served on the Board with great professionalism, dedication, and distinction;

WHEREAS, Jay Lyons’s participation in Board activities, and recommendations throughout the years have greatly assisted the Board in fulfilling its mission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services acknowledges and extends its gratitude to Jay Lyons for his dedicated service to the Board, his notable contribution to the Board’s mission, and his dedicated service thereby to Florida’s death care industry and consumers.



Adopted by the Board of Funeral, Cemetery,  
and Consumer Services  
On November 7, 2024

*Jill C. Peoples*

Jill Peoples, Chair  
Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services

*Mary Schwantes*

Mary Schwantes, Executive Director  
Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services

Adopted by the Board of Funeral Cemetery and Consumer Services on this day, assuming the Board approves it. So, at this time Madam Chair, it would be appropriate for the Board to vote on the resolution.

Chair Peoples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Chris Jensen moved to adopt the resolution. Mr. Darrin Williams seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Schwantes – Thank you Board members. The record will show that this resolution was adopted by the Board today on November 7, 2024. A framed copy of the resolution will be mailed to Mr. Lyons and again we very much appreciate his service and that is amazingly what the resolution will look like for those who have not received one before. Madam Chair with that, I would like to turn the meeting back over to Ms. Simon for continuation of the items on the agenda.

Chair Peoples – Thank you ma'am. Ms. Simon?

**B. Action on Minutes**  
*(1) September 5, 2024*

Ms. Simon – It would be appropriate at this time for a Board member to make a motion to accept those minutes if appropriate.

Chair Peoples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ken Jones moved to adopt the minutes of the meeting. Ms. Sanjena Clay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**C. Old Business**  
*(1) Application(s) for Monument Establishment Builder*  
*(a) Recommended for Approval with Conditions*  
*1. Prestigious Monument Company LLC (Sanford)*

Ms. Simon – An application for monument establishment builder licensure was received on May 30, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on June 23, 2024. A background check of the principals revealed criminal history for Jeffery E. Merthie. On May 7, 2010, Jeffery E. Merthie was adjudicated guilty on one count of for possession of controlled substance, a felony of the third degree. Merthie was sentenced to four (4) months in Orange County Jail, with credit of thirty-nine (39) days timed served, and two (2) years suspension of driver’s license. Subsequent to license approval at the August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services, the inspection supervisor determined that the applicant’s location did not meeting local zoning requirements. Therefore, the applicant could not pass the inspection. On August 28, 2024, the applicant submitted a new application for monument establishment licensure with a new location address. The application was complete when submitted. The Division recommendation is slightly different than that on your cover sheet. The Division is recommending approval subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division staff, and that the applicant be placed on probation for one year following licensure.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Todd Ferreira moved to approve the application subject to the condition that the establishment passed an inspection by a member of Division staff, and that the applicant be placed on probation for one year following licensure. Ms. Janis Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**D. Disciplinary Proceeding(s)**

**(1) Motion for Determination of Waiver and Request for Informal Hearing and for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact (Probable Cause Panel A)**

**(a) The Caisson Team LLC: DFS Case Nos. 315261-23-FC and 316262-23-FC; Division Nos. ATN-41574 and ATN-41619 (F571266)**

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of the Caisson Team on the call today?

Ms. Wendy Wiener – Yes. Wendy Wiener and Kyle Johnson, who was on camera a little while ago and should be back on shortly.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Ms. Wiener. Presenting for the Department is Kimberly Marshall.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon.

Mr. Bill Quinn – Excuse me, Madam Chairperson. This is Bill Quinn. Can I just make a quick statement, please?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Quinn – As a newly appointed Board member affiliated with SCI and our local hospice, I want to assure this Board that my approach to decision-making will be guided by impartiality, fairness, and objectivity. After thoroughly reviewing the agenda, I'll make my decision based on the facts and the information presented. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Quinn. Mr. Jones?

Mr. Jones – Yes. I was on Probable Cause Panel A. I just want to put that on the record, and I will not be voting on this.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Jones. Ms. Marshall?

Ms. Kimberly Marshall – Thank you, Madam Chair. Kimberly Marshall on behalf of the Department. The above-referenced matter is presented to the Board for consideration of the Motion for Determination of Waiver and Request for Informal Hearing and for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact (Motion) in the matter of The Caisson Team LLC (“Respondent”). The Department conducted an inspection of Respondent and found as follows: At all times material to the allegations herein, Respondent was licensed as a removal facility, license number F571266. Respondent failed

to respond to a Department request for documents pursuant to a complaint. Respondent further failed to completely cover one (1) or more bodies being held in storage on its premises. The disciplinary guidelines for these violations are as follows:

- Count I: *failing to respond to a Department request for records*: Reprimand, fine of \$1,000 to \$2,500 plus costs. In addition, probation for six (6) months to one (1) year with conditions, suspension up to one (1) year, or permanent revocation of license may be imposed.
- Count II: *failing to completely cover bodies in storage*: Reprimand, fine of \$1,000 to \$2,500 plus costs. In addition, probation six (6) months to one (1) year with conditions, suspension up to one (1) year, or permanent revocation of license may be imposed.

The Motion demonstrates that Respondent failed to timely file a responsive pleading contesting the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint, requests that the Board adopt the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint, and requests that the Board issue an appropriate penalty in this matter. I'll now move on to my motions. At this time, it would be appropriate for the Chair to entertain a motion determining that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and failed to timely respond, thus waiving the right to elective method of resolution in this matter.

Chair Peebles – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved that Respondent has been properly served with the Administrative Complaint and has failed to timely respond, thus waiving its right to elect a method of resolution in this matter. Ms. Clay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Marshall – The Department asks that the Chair entertain a motion determining that there are no material facts in dispute in this case.

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved that there are no material facts in dispute. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Marshall – Now that the Board has determined that there are no material facts in dispute in this matter, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion to adopt the allegations of fact as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

**MOTION:** Mr. Williams moved to adopt the allegations of the facts as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Mr. Jensen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Marshall – Okay. Now would be an appropriate time to hear from the Respondent if their counsel would like to speak.

Chair Peebles – Thank you, Ms. Marshall. Ms. Wiener?

Ms. Wiener –Yes. Thank you. Good morning, Board, and welcome new Board members. I'm Wendy Russell Wiener, and I represent the Caisson Team in this matter. So, during this informal hearing, you are authorized and actually are by rule directed to consider mitigating factors as set forth in Rule 69K-30.001. Those factors are as follows: the danger to the public; the length of time since the date of violation; the number of complaints filed against the licensee; the length of time the licensee has practiced; the actual damage; physical or otherwise caused by the violation; the deterrent effect of the penalty imposed; the effect of the penalty upon the licensee's livelihood; any efforts for rehabilitation; the actual knowledge of the licensee pertaining to the violation; attempts by the licensee to correct or stop violations or refusal to do so; related violations against a licensee in another state; and penalties imposed for related offenses under these guidelines. All of the mitigating factors in this case actually run in favor of the licensee. Of course, the violations resulted in no danger to the public. They occurred more than a year ago. I don't believe that this Board has ever heard a disciplinary matter regarding the Caisson Team, at least not one of which I'm aware. There have not been any related violations or actual damage incurred. There's no need for a deterrent effect regarding this discipline.

Regarding specifically Items H and J from that list of mitigating factors, Mr. Kyle Johnson is here and can speak to some issues momentarily. But he'll talk to you about the change in protocol related to covering decedents that was actually put in place on the same day that Mr. Brimmer brought to the attention of Mr. Johnson, that these decedent's feet were slightly uncovered. The feet were uncovered as the result of the strict chain of custody requirements at the licensee's location. There were

identification checks and checks on the decedents in the coolers that were being performed, and decedents simply were not recovered. Since that time a new protocol has been put into place, which is to place every decedent, upon receipt, into either a body bag or an alternative container, so that this can never happen again.

Regarding the failure to respond to inquiries from Mr. Brimmer, the investigator, we're all sort of dumbfounded about that and apologize. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Brimmer worked together regularly on issues, any inquiries actually assisting Mr. Brimmer with something that he was trying to get done relating to another licensee in the community. And so, we just don't know why that happened, but don't dispute that it did. So, we would ask that this Board, if it cares to hear from Mr. Johnson, swear him in and hear about the new protocols that have been put in place, if it feels that is necessary and that this Board consider the lowest penalty available to the Board, which I believe would be a Notice of Noncompliance, in both of these matters. Thank you.

Chair Peebles – Thank you, Ms. Wiener. Mr. Johnson, if you'd like to address the Board, we need to have you sworn in, sir.

Ms. Simon – Please raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. William Johnson – I do.

Ms. Simon – Please state your name and spell your last name for the record.

Mr. Johnson – It's William Kyle Johnson, J-O-H-N-S-O-N.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, sir.

Chair Peebles – Mr. Johnson, would you like to address the Board regarding Ms. Wiener's previous insertion, sir?

Mr. Johnson – Yes, ma'am. Wendy did a very good job of going over on the high level of what we did. We take every opportunity for a process failure whether it's by our staff or a failure in the process itself, to evaluate both training as well as if there's improvements that can be made on the process. In this situation the same day that I had engagement with Mr. Brimmer, I actually discussed the matter with him to seek some guidance even on his end. And we all came into an agreement that using any kind of sheet or material other than a bag or an alternative container is just leaving too much opportunity for a similar issue to take place again. So effective that same day, we changed our process to all decedents are placed into either a body bag of whatever type, or they're placed immediately into an alternative container. There's no exception to that rule for anybody that goes into the cooler. And that has prevented this issue for the last eighteen (18) months or so since the original finding was made by Mr. Brimmer.

Chair Peebles – Thank you, Mr. Johnson. Board members, do you have any questions for Ms. Wiener or Mr. Johnson? Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes. Question for Ms. Wiener. Good morning, Ms. Wiener.

Ms. Wiener – Good morning.

Mr. Jensen – I'm looking at this and basically, I mean, there is an issue with the uncovering, you know, according to the Department. I don't personally see that as a terrible big deal, but the big deal I see is the non-response. And I understand there were apparently mitigating factors here. What are you asking for, you know, compared to the disciplinary guidelines? What are you looking for?

Ms. Wiener – Well, I believe based on the mitigating factors that you can deviate from the guidelines and go lower on the penalty for a Notice of Noncompliance. Mr. Johnson can also speak to the good relationship that he has with Mr. Brimmer. No one really understands how communication was not properly conveyed back to Mr. Brimmer. If you read through the documentations, they had a phone call, and then there was going to be a follow-up with some documentation that Mr. Brimmer says he followed up twice by U.S. Mail. In my experience, Mr. Brimmer is an emailer and not a U.S. Mailer. I'm not



sure if that's where it got messed up or not. Mr. Johnson says he simply did not receive those communications and so did not respond. There has never been any lack of cooperation between this licensee and the Division. Other inquiries have been posed by Mr. Brimmer. He comes for inspections. In fact, he did reach out to this licensee to resolve an issue with another licensee where Mr. Brimmer was looking for another licensee to be brought into the care of another licensee, and he selected this particular licensee to do so. So, this is not part of an ongoing pattern or practice or anything of that nature. We just don't know how it so happened.

Mr. Jensen – Follow-up, Ms. Peebles?

Chair Peebles – Yes, sir, Mr. Jensen.

Mr. Jensen – Yes, a question for Ms. Simon. Do we have any proof of a registered mail or anything to where we can show that Mr. Johnson actually received this complaint or received everything he was supposed to and just chose not to respond?

Ms. Simon – We see the letter on Page 62, and that's what we have for the facts in this matter. That this letter was sent by Certified Mail. The sixteen (16) digits are not included; however, we do have that. I am assuming that we can track that down after this meeting if you would prefer, but that was sent out by Certified Mail. And yes, the indicia of that being sent by Certified Mail is what is listed on top of the letter.

Mr. Jensen – But you don't have the return, the little green thing that you normally get back from Certified Mail. You don't have that that got returned back to the Department?

Ms. Simon – That was not included in the investigative file, but I could get that at another time. I just cannot do that while this case matter is on the agenda right now.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. Thank you.

Chair Peebles – Mr. Jensen, does that complete your question, sir?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, ma'am, pretty much. I just would like some sort of proof. Mr. Johnson seems like he's pretty standup here. I do see one (1) Certified Mail receipt in the packet for August 1, 2023, on Page 53. It looks like it was signed for. So, Ms. Simon, it looks like there is one on Page 53. I assume that was for the complaint.

Ms. Simon – Actually that's what I am looking at now. I found that at the same time you did, sir. And it does appear that that is the indicia of the item being sent out by Certified Mail.

Mr. Jensen – Okay.

Chair Peebles – So Mr. Jensen, does that complete your questions, sir?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, ma'am.

Chair Peebles – Thank you.

Mr. Jensen – Thank you.

Chair Peebles – Mr. Williams, I saw your hand, sir.

Mr. Williams – Yes, ma'am. I was going with Mr. Jensen with his question. I guess my question is have we decided to move forward with email as well as a follow-up in terms of letters and things like that just as a backup? I know in previous cases we've had the same kind of conversation in reference to just having the checks and balances with the certified letter as well as an email just to ensure that the Respondent gets the information.

Ms. Simon – If I may?

Chair Peeples – Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Mr. Williams, that is repeatedly done. I understand that the Certified Mail is the last-ditch effort as other means of communication are attempted. That is something that was requested by the Division to use the Certified Mail as the last-ditch effort, if anything is not being responded to.

Mr. Williams – Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira, I saw your hand also, sir.

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, ma'am. I take Mr. Jensen's ideas, you know, as I pretty much feel the same way he does. I do feel that we need to make some changes in regard to the rule as far as handling bodies in storage. There are so many different types of applications now. For instance, you know, if a family is going to come in for a viewing of human remains, you typically, we learned this years ago, you don't cover the face because it will distort the features, the nose, and different things. So, I think we really have to look at this. And then, you know, you have to have access to the name on the ankle. And if it's in an alternative container, you can't go by the name on the alternative container. You have to look at the ankle. So, I just think we need to look at that again because there's so many different applications with the way we're doing business. The only heartburn I would have in this whole scenario would be the lack of response. So that's important. You can't ignore the Department. So, I'm ready to make a motion.

Chair Peeples – If you will, Mr. Ferreira. I saw Ms. Wiener had her hand. May we visit her real quick, sir? Ms. Wiener?

Ms. Wiener – Thank you, Chair Peeples. We're not disputing that the licensee received the certified letters if they were sent certified. We're not disputing that actually at all. We're simply saying that in terms of the mitigating factors, this is a licensee that regularly works with the Division, would not have purposely not have responded to Mr. Brimmer under any set of circumstances. And again, long after that, Mr. Brimmer actually approached this licensee for assistance with another matter. So, there's still a good and strong relationship with Mr. Brimmer. So, I simply want the Board to come away with an understanding that this is a good licensee that cooperates with the Division and that this failure to respond on this one particular matter would have totally been oversight and nothing more.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Wiener. Board members? Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, I just wanted to point out if other Board members would look at the pictures. And in my opinion, I mean, this gentleman is not, not storing bodies correctly. I mean, I see two (2) feet uncovered. If Mr. Brimmer and him were on good terms, Mr. Brimmer should have said, "Hey, why don't you just cover those up? They're supposed to be covered." I don't know that this is -- I don't see anything too egregious here. As Mr. Ferreira pointed out, the biggest heartburn I had was a non-response. But I do see where it was sent to him. So, I think maybe a little something might be in order here. And I'll listen to Mr. Ferreira's motion. Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to point out the pictures.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Jensen. Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – Let's also remember when we go to a hospice facility, it's been for years and years, we never cover the face of the deceased. So, and there are times that families walk out to our vehicle with us watching us place their loved one in the vehicle. So, you don't cover that head while the family is sitting there, right? So, there are just things we really need to look at because, you know, the rule says, you know, leaving the facility, it's got to be completely covered, and that just isn't always correct. So, I think we need to look at that. Certainly, I think we ought to impose the minimum, whatever that is, Ms. Simon. I would make a motion that we impose the minimum to Count 1 and then Count 2, just dispose of it.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira, if you will, that needs to be addressed to Ms. Marshall. And Ms. Marshall, do you have any comment? I know in our cover page you have placed the information from the minimum to the maximums. Do you have any other comment, Ms. Marshall?

Ms. Marshall – Madam Chair, only to note that I do have one more motion I need to make before we can get to the penalty phase of this case.



Chair Peeples – Okay. Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Marshall – The Department offers into evidence the investigative report with exhibits, a copy of which has been previously furnished to the Board to establish a prima facie case for the violations alleged in the Administrative Complaint. And as the Board has adopted the findings and fact in this case, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion finding that these facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

Mr. Jensen – So Ms. Marshall, just to understand -- Madam Chair, may I? I'm sorry.

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir, Mr. Jensen.

Mr. Jensen – Ms. Marshall, just to understand what you're saying, we're basically acknowledging that the letter was sent, they knew about it. I can see where they received it. So, we're acknowledging that yes, there was a letter put at that location. Is that what we're acknowledging?

Ms. Marshall – Yes, essentially. So, you're simply acknowledging that the actions do constitute statutory violations as we've laid it out in the complaint.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. Thank you.

Ms. Wiener – Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, Ms. Wiener.

Ms. Wiener – So if I understood Mr. Ferreira correctly, he had moved that the Board find that the failure to have those decedents properly covered did not actually constitute a violation because of the ambiguity set forth in the law. And so, I think that the motion could perhaps be bifurcated to address Count 1 and then Count 2.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Wiener, in reply to your question, I think we're in the phase where we accept the conclusions of law and that we have a violation of Florida Statutes. Then when we get to the penalty phase, we can discuss Count 1 and Count 2. Is that correct, Ms. Marshall?

Ms. Marshall – Yes, Madam Chair. The Department continues to maintain that there's not an ambiguity here. These bodies were not at the facility where they were being picked up. They were being held in storage on the Respondent's premises. And thus, there is not any ambiguity there. They absolutely should have been completely covered.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Marshall. So, Board members, we need to have a motion regarding the investigative report, except in the conclusions of law and that there were violations of Florida Statute.

Mr. Jensen – Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, I still have a question on that. I don't know that I'm willing to accept the violations of the actual covering of the feet, but I am willing to accept the part about the non-response that, you know, hey, there was a letter sent, the Department did what they were supposed to do, and by whatever means, it was not a response. So, if I understand Ms. Marshall correctly, those are not separate. That is altogether. If we say yes, we're accepting, then we are also accepting that, you know, once technically by the law, he committed the violation there. But I think what Mr. Ferreira was referring to, if there's some way that we could separate out the violation for the not covering the feet, and also another violation for the non-response to the Department. Is there some way to do that?

Chair Peeples – Ms. Marshall?

Ms. Marshall – Thank you, Madam Chair. If that is the Board's pleasure, if you'd like to make such a motion and vote on it, that is your prerogative.

Chair Peeples – Board members, what is your pleasure regarding the conversation we've just had regarding the acceptance of Count 1 and Count 2? Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – I believe we should separate them out. I mean, that's common sense, simple to do.

Chair Peeples – That's what I'm asking, Mr. Ferreira. What is the Board's pleasure regarding the two (2) separate counts, sir? Would you like to make a motion, sir?

Mr. Ferreira – I'll make a motion. Whatever the minimum is on Count 1.

Chair Peeples – No, sir. No, sir, we're not on the penalty phase right now, sir. We've got to accept that there were violations of 497 Florida Statute, accept the investigative report and the conclusions of law. So, Mr. Ferreira or Mr. Jensen?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved that that the facts in Count 1 constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint, but there are no violations on Count 2. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion.

Chair Peeples – We have a motion by Mr. Jensen and a second by Mr. Ferreira to receive Count 1 in the cover page that's listed in your packet and to delete Count 2, which is also listed on your cover pages. Is there any discussion on this motion by any of the Board members before we take a vote? Mr. Williams?

Mr. Williams – Yes, ma'am. Okay. So, in reference to Count 2, where do we draw the line? And I guess my question is, so if in the future we have a person that does not cover the arm will we utilize the same premise, or if they don't cover the head? Like where do we draw the line? I guess that's my question before voting. Because this time it's the feet, but what about an arm or a head, or like, I'm just trying to get some clarity on that before I'm able to vote.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Williams, I appreciate your comment and I would just like to say, and I kind of reiterate what Mr. Jensen said earlier about not filing a notice of election and they've had information, it has been a while that this has been an ongoing situation, which concerns me. Therefore, just like all of us, those of us that have establishments, we must follow the same processes and the same procedures throughout the State of Florida. So, I am not comfortable, as Board Chair, to reduce Count 2 because there's a violation. If the Respondent had made an election, we might have had a little bit of levity there. But I concur with you, sir, and I just want to make that comment to you as a licensee.

Mr. Williams – Okay, thank you. I just wanted to just get some clarity. Because I mean, I think we're in some muddy areas and I just, you know, just want to look out for the future of cases that may have come before the Board like this.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir.

Ms. Wiener – Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, Ms. Wiener. One second please, ma'am. Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes. And in response to Mr. Williams there, just to kind of point out, where you draw the line here. In my opinion, this is kind of like a speeding ticket. The officer has a little discretion, and I think that maybe they could have used a little discretion. While I do agree that technically it is a violation because it does say cover the whole body, but in this business doing this every day, I can see exactly how this happened. And looking at the pictures, you can tell a lot. He's not mis-storing bodies. So, I think there could have been a little discretion here and Mr. Brimmer just maybe told him, "Hey, you know, cover those up." You know, kind of like a speeding ticket, the officer has discretion. Yes, you technically violated the law, but could they just let you off with a warning? And I think something like that should have been a warning. Thank you, Chair.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Jensen. Ms. Wiener?

Ms. Wiener – Yes. Actually, I just want to clear up the law on one (1) point. The licensee did not respond to the Administrative Complaint, which means only that it admitted the facts as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. It did not admit that those facts supported any conclusion that they violated the law. To Mr. Williams' specific question, the reason that we have a Board in the State of Florida, and not just a this happens and then this, is so that you can hear each case on a fact-by-fact, case-by-case basis, so that the Board members can make a reasoned determination about whether facts do rise to the level of a violation. So, you need not worry that by considering a certain set of facts that you establish a precedent except for that exact same set of facts or very similar facts in the future. So, where do you draw the line? I think you've heard from some of our practitioners. We probably need to address this in our rules so that it more closely aligns with how the industry actually works. But I simply wanted to make clear that by admitting to the facts, the licensee did not waive its right to make any argument that these facts are not a violation of Florida law. Thank you.

Mr. Williams – Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir, Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams – Since we're in the discussion phase, if I may offer a friendly amendment to the motion that Mr. Ferreira stated, if we would accept both violations and then at the penalty phase have this discussion in reference to what type of penalty?

Chair Peeples – Mr. Williams, if I may, Ms. Munson, I see she has her mic on. Ms. Munson, would you have any other items to add?

Ms. Rachelle Munson – No, I have nothing to add. Mr. Williams' suggestion if he deems that there is a violation that should be noted, addressing it in the penalty phase is another option.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. And Mr. Williams, to your comment, Mr. Jensen made the motion.

Mr. Williams – I apologize.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. So, Mr. Jensen, would you like to add an amendment to your motion?

Mr. Jensen – Well, yes, I guess I kind of got to because I can see that there was technically a violation issued. I think there should have been some grace. So yes, I will agree with what Mr. Williams said, and we can address it on the penalty phase.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira, will you accept the amendment?

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Okay. We have an amended motion on the table that we are accepting Counts 1 and Counts 2. We're accepting the investigative report, conclusions of law in violation of Florida Statute. Is there any other Board member have a discussion? Hearing none. All in favor of the motion to say yes.

Board members – Yes.

Chair Peeples – All opposed, say no. Motion carries. Ms. Marshall?

Ms. Marshall – Thank you, Madam Chair. The Department's recommendation for discipline in this case is a fine of \$2,500 and one (1) year of probation.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Marshall, is that for both counts or just one?

Ms. Marshall – It is for both counts.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

Mr. Williams – Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, Mr. Williams?

Mr. Williams – So, Ms. Marshall, is it possible to split the two (2) for penalty's sake, or are they together in your recommendation?

Ms. Marshall – So that is a combined recommendation for both cases because they're together on one (1) Administrative Complaint. I have delineated on the first page of the materials for this case what the guidelines are for Count 1 and Count 2. So, the Board is free to do as it wishes, you know, with keeping those guidelines in mind.

Mr. Williams – Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Marshall. Ms. Wiener?

Ms. Wiener – Yes, I would just remind the Board that it is free to deviate from the penalty guidelines. The minimum penalty, actual penalty that you can impose is a Notice of Noncompliance with regard to this matter, which seems more than appropriate in a situation such as this, where every single mitigating factor goes to the issue.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Just practically speaking, a Notice of Noncompliance while provided in the disciplinary guidelines is used at the time of being in the field. It really is not something that practically can be issued at this point. I would ask the Board to just think about that, that a Notice of Noncompliance is issued out in the field, and having it right now, I do not see it as a practical discipline.

Ms. Wiener – Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, Ms. Wiener?

Ms. Wiener – Thank you. I would remind Ms. Simon that that is the actual recommendation to the Board in two (2) cases coming up in just a few minutes, Notice of Noncompliance.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Wiener, we're talking about this case, not other cases on the agenda. Please, ma'am.

Ms. Wiener – I understand. But Ms. Simon indicated that a Notice of Noncompliance is not something that the Board would issue suggesting to them that they must meet out more stringent discipline and that's actually not the case if the Board has looked through its packet.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Wiener. I'm going to make a motion that we accept the \$2,500 fine. And Ms. Marshall, did it include probation?

Ms. Marshall – Yes, Madam Chair, one (1) year of probation.

**MOTION:** Chair Peeples moved to accept the \$2500 fine and one-year probation.

Mr. Jensen – Madam Chair, may I clarify your motion?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir, Mr. Jensen.

Mr. Jensen – Is that per count or is that total?

Chair Peeples – It's for both, sir.

Mr. Jensen – Okay.

Mr. Williams – I'll second the motion.

Chair Peeples – Is there any discussion on the motion? Hearing none. All in favor of the motion, say yes.

Board members – Yes.

Chair Peeples – Okay. Let's do a roll call vote really quick, Ms. Simon, because we kind of had sporadic yeses, please.

Ms. Simon – Yes, ma'am. All of those in favor of the motion, please respond by saying yay. Otherwise nay. Mr. Clark?

Mr. Andrew Clark – Yay.

Ms. Simon – Mr. Quinn?

Mr. Quinn – Yay.

Ms. Simon – Ms. Clay?

Ms. Clay – Yay.

Ms. Simon – Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – No.

Ms. Simon – Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – No.

Ms. Simon – Mr. Jones?

Ms. Wiener – He's recused.

Mr. Jones – I was on Probable Cause.

Ms. Simon – Excuse me. Ms. Liotta?

Ms. Janis Liotta – Yay.

Ms. Simon – Mr. Chapman?

Mr. David Chapman – No.

Ms. Simon – Mr. Williams?

Mr. Williams – Yes.

Ms. Simon – And Ms. Peeples?

Chair Peeples – Yes.

Ms. Simon – And that motion passes.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Thank you, Ms. Wiener. Thank you, Mr. Johnson. Ms. Simon?

(2) *Motion for Determination of Waiver and Request for Informal Hearing and for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact (Probable Cause Panel B)*  
(a) *Tim White's Vault Company of Crestview: DFS Case No. 305157-23-FC; Division No. ATN-39074 (F037654)*

Ms. Simon – Presenting for the Department is Mr. Woliver.

Mr. Williams – Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, Mr. Williams?

Mr. Williams – Yes, ma'am. Madam Chair, I need to recuse myself as I served as on the Probable Cause Panel B for D(2)(a), (b), D(3)(a), D(4)(a), and (b).

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Williams. Mr. Woliver?

Mr. Jared Woliver – Thank you, Ms. Peeples. The above-referenced matter is presented to the Board for consideration of the Motion for Determination of Waiver and Request for Informal Hearing and for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact (Motion) in the matter of Tim White's Vault Company of Crestview ("Respondent"). The Department conducted an inspection of Respondent and found as follows: At all times material to the allegations herein, Respondent was licensed as a monument establishment retailer. Respondent employed one or more individuals who were not licensed as monument establishment sales agents. The disciplinary guidelines for this violation are as follows:

- Count I: *Aiding, assisting, procuring, employing, or advising any person to operate or to operate an establishment regulated by this chapter without the required licensure*: Reprimand, fine of \$1,000 to \$2,500 plus costs. In addition, probation for six (6) months to one (1) year with conditions, suspension up to one (1) year, or permanent revocation of license may be imposed.

The Motion demonstrates that Respondent failed to timely file a responsive pleading contesting the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint, requests that the Board adopt the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint, and requests that the Board issue an appropriate penalty in this matter. At this time, it would be appropriate for the Chair to entertain a motion determining that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and has failed to timely respond and thus waived the right to elect a method of resolution in this matter.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and has failed to timely respond and thus waived the right to elect a method of resolution in this matter. Ms. Clay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – The Department asks that the Chair entertain a motion determining that there are no material facts in dispute in this case.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Clark moved that there are no material facts in dispute. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – Now that the Board has determined that there are no material facts in dispute in this matter, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion to adopt the allegations of fact as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Chapman?

Mr. Chapman – Madam Chair, I need to recuse myself from this case because he's my competitor and that's why I've not been saying anything on this case.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Chapman, if you will, as a new Board member, if you'll update that when we're getting ready to have the case read so that we can have it at the beginning and we do accept your information. So, thank you, sir, for recusing.

Mr. Chapman – All right. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Ms. Clay moved to adopt the allegations of the facts as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – The Department offers into evidence the investigative report with exhibits, a copy of which has been previously furnished to the Board to establish a prima facie case for the violations alleged in the Administrative Complaint. And now that the Board has adopted the findings and fact in this case, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion finding that these facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved that that these facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – Board members, there was a penalty guideline provided to you on the memo that was just read. However, the Department's penalty recommendation against Tim White would be \$1,500 and one (1) year of probation.

Chair Peeples – Board members? Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Yes. I just want to recognize, is a representative of Tim White's Vault Company of Crestview here today? Hearing no response. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Board members, what is your pleasure regarding the penalty phase and the recommendation?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved for a fine of \$1,500 and one (1) year of probation. Mr. Jones seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Woliver. Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Yes, ma'am.

- (b) Related Cases – Division Nos. ATN-40675, ATN-40730, ATN-42011, ATN-42590*  
*1. Hancock, Charles A.: DFS Case Nos. 310248-23-FC, 320261-23-FC, 320265-23-FC, 321775-24-FC;*  
*Division Nos. ATN-40675, ATN-40730, ATN-42011, ATN-42590 (F029660)*

Ms. Simon – Mr. Hancock is here today and presenting for the Department is Ms. Marshall.

Ms. Marshall – Thank you, Ms. Simon. And again, my apologies to the Board, I'm having technical difficulties. I cannot get my camera to work today. In any event, this matter is being presented to the Board for consideration of the Motion for Determination of Waiver and Request for Informal Hearing and for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact (Motion) in the matter of Charles A. Hancock ("Respondent"). The Department conducted an inspection of Respondent and found as follows: At all times material to the allegations herein, Respondent was licensed as a funeral director and embalmer, license number F029660. At all times material to the allegations herein, Respondent acted as the funeral director in charge of Hancock Funeral Home, Inc. ("HFH"), a licensed funeral establishment and apprentice/intern training agency holding license number F039972. HFH failed to timely ship cremains, failed to timely respond to three (3) consumer



complaints, failed to place preneed funds in trust, failed to provide requested documents in response to a Department investigation, failed to timely file five (5) death certificates, failed to promptly ship a body overseas, and failed to properly inspect and treat a body for mold and mildew. As funeral director in charge of HFH, Respondent is responsible for these violations. The disciplinary guidelines for these violations are as follows:

- Counts I and XI: *failing to timely honor a contract*: Reprimand, fine of \$500 to \$1,000 plus costs. In addition, probation for up to one (1) year with conditions, suspension up to one (1) year, or permanent revocation of license may be imposed.
- Counts II, IV, and XII: *failing to promptly respond to a consumer complaint, second violation*: Reprimand, fine of \$3,000 to \$5,000 plus costs. In addition, probation for up to three (3) years with conditions, suspension up to three (3) years, or permanent revocation of license may be imposed.
- Count III: *failing to place preneed funds in trust*: Reprimand, fine of \$250 to \$1,500 plus costs. In addition, probation for up to two (2) years with conditions, suspension up to two (2) years, or permanent revocation of license may be imposed.
- Count V: *failing to make records available to the Department in response to an investigation*: Reprimand, fine of \$1,000 to \$2,500 plus costs. In addition, probation for 6 months to one (1) year, suspension up to two (2) years, permanent revocation of license and/or restitution may be imposed.
- Counts VI-X: *failing to timely file death certificates, second violation*: Reprimand, fine of \$2,500 to \$5,000 plus costs. In addition, probation for up to two (2) years with conditions, suspension up to five (5) years, permanent revocation of license and/or restitution may be imposed.
- Count XIII: *failing to regularly inspect and treat a body for mold and mildew*: Reprimand, fine of \$500 to \$2,500 plus costs. In addition, probation for up to two (2) years with conditions, suspension up to two (2) years, or permanent revocation of license may be imposed.

The Motion demonstrates that Respondent failed to timely file a responsive pleading contesting the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint, requests that the Board adopt the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint, and requests that the Board issue an appropriate penalty in this matter. So, at this time, it would be appropriate for the Chair to entertain a motion determining that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and has failed to timely respond, thus waiving a right to elect a method of resolution in this matter.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Marshall. Board members?

**MOTION:** Ms. Clay moved that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and has failed to timely respond, thus waiving a right to elect a method of resolution in this matter. Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Marshall – The Department asks that the Chair entertain a motion determining that there are no material facts in dispute in this case.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved that there are no material facts in dispute. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Marshall – Now that the Board has determined that there are no material facts in dispute in this matter, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion to adopt the allegations of fact as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved to adopt the allegations of the facts as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Ms. Clay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Simon – Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – If I may, can we ask Mr. Hancock to show himself on video? This might be the time if he is interested.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. Mr. Hancock, if you'd like to turn your camera on and join us, please, sir.

Ms. Simon – Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Ms. Marshall?

Ms. Marshall – Yes. Madam Chair, I was actually just about to say since the Respondent's representative is here, if you'd like to hear from him now, now would be an appropriate time for him to speak.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. I see Mr. Hancock's trying to connect back. Thank you, Mr. Hancock. If you'd like to address the Board, we will need to swear you in, sir. Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Please raise your right hand, sir. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God? You're on mute, sir.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock if you could turn your mic on, please, sir?

Ms. Simon – He is here. Let's try this again. If you could turn your mic on.

Mr. Charles Hancock – Yes, ma'am, I have a little bit of connecting issues here, the Wi-Fi.

Ms. Simon – Can we try this again? Can you please raise your right hand? You're frozen again.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, will you please raise your right hand to be sworn in, sir?

Ms. Simon – Please raise your right hand. Please raise your right hand, sir.

Mr. Hancock – Okay.

Ms. Simon – Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. Hancock – Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Simon – Please state your name and spell your last name for the record.

Mr. Hancock – Charles Hancock, H-A-N-C-O-C-K.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, sir.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, would you like to address the Board, sir? I think we have a connection issue for Mr. Hancock. Mr. Hancock, are you back connected with us?

Mr. Hancock – Yes, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Would you like to address the Board, sir?

Mr. Hancock – Yes. Regarding these complaints, to start with the first one (1) regarding the shipping of cremains, that one (1) was, there was a lady, an elderly lady who lived in her retirement community here. Very good friend of mine. Her husband passed away. Her children lived up north, and she wanted me to ship her husband's ashes to an outer-line cemetery. And I told her I needed a name, a specific place, an address, but she didn't know it. We searched and it was just like an old country cemetery somewhere. Then she told me just to hold onto it here at the funeral home until her daughter or son came, which I did. And then when her daughter got here, she couldn't understand why her father's ashes hadn't been shipped. And I explained to her what was going on and told her we needed an exact name and date because I couldn't ship those ashes just to some unknown person that may or may not be in charge of the cemetery at this point. They didn't have that information.

Finally, we got that information and shipped those ashes. The other case regarding the body being shipped out of state or out of the country was this was a migrant worker who was an illegal in this country.

Chair Peeples – I think we have a connection issue again. Mr. Hancock, are you able to move your computer or your phone, however, you're connected/

Mr. Hancock – Yes, I'm back now. And it was, and I don't want to reveal cause of death information, but it was self-inflicted. And it was almost a month after the cause of death and the death that we got the body from the local Medical Examiner's Office. There was one (1) family member in Miami who did not speak any English. There was one (1) bossman who was working with the family to get the information needed. And when he couldn't contact me, because they were coming up to the funeral home after hours at eight, nine o'clock at night and ringing the doorbell when nobody was here, and he'd call my phone to leave a message, he had my cell phone number. When I would call him back, it would go to voicemail and then it would cut off. I could not leave him a message. So, he called the local Medical Examiner's Office, and the lady there told me personally that she thought the body was just laying here decomposing because she thought it was being cremated when it was not. It was embalmed. It was in a sealed casket that the family and representative had selected. And any mold issues were because of cause of death, and everything was done by the embalming process to prohibit anything like that. It was cold, wet time of year. And it was just something that could not be controlled as natural decomposition takes place even in embalmed body over time.

The death certificates situation, we were inundated with a lot of calls. I'm the only funeral director here. And my mother had passed away not long before that. And I, to this day, am still having a very difficult time with that. My dad had remarried, moved out of town. He is now eighty-two (82) years old. I've been in this business for thirteen (13) years, I mean, excuse me, for thirty-eight (38) years, and we've been in this building for eighteen (18) years since I purchased it. And as I told Ms. Simon the other day when I called her, we have now closed this funeral home because after thirty-eight (38) years, I am over, and the funeral business is not what it used to be. The people in the funeral business are not what they used to be. And my dad is eighty-two (82) and retired. And we are moving on as the money situation is not in the funeral home anymore.

There's another allegation in here about us not depositing preneed money. I wanted to hit on that because this was a local man who was very mentally challenged. For years he paid us \$20 a month on a \$5,600 preneed agreement. And after four (4) or five (5) years, I asked him because it was costing IFDF, us more –

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, you're frozen again, sir. Mr. Hancock, would you like --?

Mr. Hancock – I asked him if he could save his -- yes. Yes.

Chair Peeples – Sir, you froze for a couple of minutes there, so we lost you. Where you mentioned the last comment was about the death certificates that you were talking about and then the preneed gentleman paying.

Mr. Hancock – Yes. Yes, about the death certificates, you know, we were inundated with calls at one point. And my mother had recently passed away. She did a lot of the bookwork for us. And there were just a lot of circumstances involved where everything got done. It may not have been exactly on time, but it was done. To this day, I'm still having a very difficult time with that situation. But moving on from that, I will admit the death certificates were late. That's no issue.

The preneed situation, this was a gentleman that was very mentally challenged and had signed up for a \$5,600 prearranged funeral agreement with us years ago and was paying \$20 a month and it was costing IFDF and myself more time, money, and postage than what he was paying almost. And I asked him if he could take his money and hold it and bring us one check of \$100. And he said he would do that. When the first check came, he said he had changed banks. Then he brought us another one (1) on that same closed bank account. And then another one (1). I still have all three (3) checks here. And then he filed a complaint about us not depositing his checks. Well, I couldn't because he had told us not to on a closed account. So, there are issues here with each one of these that are not being seen from the funeral director's point of perspective and things that happened.

And I want to touch base back on the man being shipped out of the country real quick. I contacted Inman Services on the procedure to do that as we do not ship bodies out of country, hardly ever. That was the first in years. They told me the man

had to have a legal U.S. ID, passport, driver's license of some sort. He had none of those because he was illegal. And I kept trying for weeks and weeks and I told the representative of the family that he had to have something of that for us to ship him from what I was being told. And that was never provided to us.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, does that complete your comments or would you like to still address the Board, sir?

Mr. Hancock – I'm done, I guess, with the connection issue.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. Are there any Board members that have questions for Mr. Hancock?

Mr. Ferreira – I've got a question.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – Mr. Hancock, you said you have closed your facility. You've closed the funeral home down?

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock? Mr. Hancock? Mr. Ferreira, give me one moment, sir. Mr. Hancock, Mr. Ferreira has a question for you, sir. Are you still connected?

Mr. Hancock – Yes.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, sir. You mentioned moments ago that you have closed your funeral home.

Mr. Hancock – As of October 31st. My dad is eighty-two (82) years old and after thirty-eight (38) years I'm done. You know, I've come to a point that I do not want to be in the funeral business anymore because it is just not the same as it used to be.

Mr. Ferreira – So if your phone rang today, what would you do?

Mr. Hancock – We're not accepting any calls. In fact, we had a call not long after that, but we rejected it and gave it to the other local funeral home here.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira, does that complete your question, sir?

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Clay, one moment please. As a follow-up to Mr. Hancock from Mr. Ferreira's question, Mr. Hancock, you mentioned you have closed your funeral establishment facility. Have you relinquished that license to the Division office?

Mr. Hancock – I talked with Ms. Simon on Tuesday and told her that, and it was going to be a question of the Board and the due process of doing all that. We are working with another funeral home at this point of transfer of preneed arrangements and getting those done. We're just going through this process trying to make sure that everything is correctly done and notification, business-wise, we have not made a formal announcement yet. It will be done this week. But we wanted kind of instruction from the Board on the exact closing because we had never done this before.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, that would be an item you would need to talk to Division staff after the meeting. They would be able to guide you. And Ms. Simon, can you confirm Mr. Hancock's comment that he spoke to you and relayed that information?

Ms. Simon – Yes, ma'am. I did speak with Mr. Hancock. I informed him that I was not certain that the Board would accept a relinquishment at this point based upon his past history and based upon the matters involving this case. I also did not think that the prosecutor would recommend that at this point due to the past history.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Ms. Clay, you had a question, ma'am?

Ms. Clay – I actually have two (2). One (1) was regarding the preneed and the closing of the funeral home. So, I think that Mr. Hancock has responded to that. My second question regarding the preneed is you talked about your consumer who had a \$5,600 preneed arrangement or contract with you, and that he was paying \$20 per month. And I was just wondering, was that the agreement when you set forth the contract? The \$20 per month payment?

Mr. Hancock – Yes, ma'am. It was on a conditional that at some point he could pay more because this was [audio cuts out].

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, we're having a connection issue, sir. Mr. Hancock, would you like to reply to Ms. Clay's question, sir?

Mr. Hancock – Yes, ma'am. If you can hear me, yes. Yes, the gentleman was paying the \$20 a month and it was agreed that at some point he would increase the amount because he was on a budget, and I agreed with his budget requirements just to help him out, knowing his situation. It was more of a community gesture to do it that little at that time.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Clay, does that complete your questions?

Ms. Clay – I have one (1) more question. And that question is, Mr. Hancock, I know you've given us rationale for the charges, but are you denying that the charges are valid?

Mr. Hancock – Well, that all depends on how you look at it. Yes, it did happen. Is there circumstantial evidence that would change that and that is not being really looked at? It's easy for someone who's not in the funeral business to walk in here and see, you know, mold on a body or, you know, all these different things and not know the underlying causes and what all happens. Anybody that doesn't have the training and the knowledge of what goes on, you know, kind of behind the scenes with regards to bodies and decomposition, and things like that that happen, it's not easy to understand that something should have been done one way and it's turning out another. I mean, I started in this business when I was sixteen (16) years old. I'll be fifty-four (54) the 24<sup>th</sup> of this month. And I've seen a lot of different things and a lot of things that have caused –

Ms. Clay – Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Mr. Hancock, we're having connection issues again. Are you back connected, sir?

Mr. Hancock – Yes.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes. Thank you, Madam Chair. I have a question for Ms. Marshall. Is she still on the call?

Ms. Marshall – Yes, sir, I'm here.

Mr. Jensen – So, question for you. If Mr. Hancock has given up his license the probation and stuff that you have here, permanent revocation kind of is a moot point and why these things happen is kind of a moot point. If he just gives up everything and closes the business, then we don't have to worry about that part. But my question is, what happens to the fines? How does that work? If somebody just says -- because I mean, you add up all eight (8) counts, there's quite a dollar amount there. So, what happens to that money if he just shuts business and he's done with funeral business, as he says?

Ms. Marshall – Yes, sir. Okay. Well, a couple of things on that. This particular case is concerning his personal license, not the business's license. So, we would like to see both of those licenses relinquished, well really revoked by the Board. Because the difference is a relinquishment first of all has not happened yet. He has said he's intending to, but he has not taken any of the steps to make that happen for either license. And we'll get to the penalty phase of this. I still have a couple more motions to make, but our recommendation will be that the Board permanently revoke the license. The difference is the revocation would be permanent. He would not have an option to reapply later. And if he were to, the Board would be able to quickly deny it based upon this Final Order. Also, by hearing this case would put that discipline on his record. Probation obviously would be

moot if the license was revoked. If the Board were to impose a fine, which we are not recommending in this case, there's not any practical way to enforce it, simply because if he doesn't have a license anymore, the Board doesn't have any way to enforce the payment to that fine.

Mr. Jensen – Thank you, Ms. Marshall.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – Mr. Hancock?

Mr. Hancock – Yes?

Mr. Ferreira – I understand that your intentions are to close your business. Have you thought about your personal license? What's your intention there?

Mr. Hancock – Yes. Yes, I have. And as I spoke to Ms. Simon on Tuesday, I was going to ask that my personal license be placed on inactive status.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira, does that complete your question, sir?

Mr. Ferreira – Is that an option, Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Yes, sir, that I don't know. That would be something that the Board would have to entertain, but if somebody places their license on inactive status, they can always get out of inactive status. If there is a permanent revocation as suggested by Ms. Marshall, then that option would not exist.

Mr. Ferreira – So, Mr. Hancock, I'm asking you, so if you want to keep your license, then we're going to have to entertain these counts. Is that what we're saying?

Ms. Simon – Actually no, sir. I apologize, Madam Chair.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – I do not think so. I think that the Board, right now, is in a position of dealing with this particular matter. We have had no relinquishment. This particular matter and the recommendation by Ms. Marshall. I don't think that we're at the place, Ms. Munson can weigh in on this, but I don't think we're at the place of doing anything else other than entertaining this matter in front of you.

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, I understand, but it matters to me if Mr. Hancock is going to keep his license. I think that will help me decide on how to move forward. So, thank you for that. Thank you for answering that, Mr. Hancock.

Mr. Hancock – Yes, sir.

Chair Peeples – Board members, any other questions for Mr. Hancock? Mr. Clark?

Mr. Clark – Yes. A couple of questions, Mr. Hancock. Since you know, there's now the discussion about your license. I thought when you talked about relinquishing your license, we were talking about this and the funeral home. So, for the family that wanted their loved ones shipped to Guatemala, I'm just curious, did you do any preservation outside of arterial embalming? You know, we have images of the mold and the amount of mold. But did you do anything to mitigate that after arterial embalming?

Mr. Hancock – Yes. Yes, there was. And the time that the inspector came in here the body had been placed in a sealed casket. It was checked. It was right at Christmas time. Our funeral home is over a hundred (100) years old and, you know, these old houses get colder inside than they are outside. And the body was consistently placed in at least close to 45° to 50° in the room

that it was in and the sealed casket. When the inspector asked me if it had been done every day, it was during right at Christmas time, and no, I had not been in there every day. You know, it was a three or four-day period, but it was, what was happening with the body was because the man had hung himself. You know, everything was from the neck up. It wasn't all over the body. And those items were dealt with during the embalming process and afterwards.

Mr. Clark – Okay. And the family's original claim had stated that you at one point just refused to answer their phone calls, when they came to the funeral home, no one would open the door. Is that correct?

Mr. Hancock – Well, that's because when they came here, they were migrant workers. They came here after they got off work at seven or eight o'clock and were coming up here ringing the doorbell, you know, at eight, nine o'clock at night when no one was here. When the gentleman had my cell number, he would call my cell number and if I didn't get his call, I talked to him several times, kept him updated, but if he did not get a hold of me on my cell phone, and I tried to call him back, he did not have a voicemail set up and I couldn't leave a message. And there's a lot of circumstances here that are not being looked at. I've done everything I could. I did everything I could to help these people, as I always do. And you know, for somebody to sit back and say, "Oh, your license needs to be revoked because you didn't do this," that's simply not true. All I've ever done here is try to do what I can to help people. You know, we're closing the business now, partially because of cremation is up. We're a small firm that does fifty (50) to sixty (60) calls a year and when you get 50% cremation, that doesn't tally out really well. And you know, I haven't had my regular paycheck since July. I'm having to sell my personal belongings in order to survive, and I've even got my house in pre-foreclosure now because the money is not here. That's why I'm having to go somewhere else, you know, to even survive.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Clark, does that answer your question, sir?

Mr. Clark – I have two (2) more quick ones. On the case for the decedent named Bill Maxey. on the cremation authorization, there's clearly an address to a funeral home. It looks like the cremation authorization was signed by you and the family on January 13th. Was that address added at a later time or was it on the cremation authorization when you signed it?

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, are you still connected, sir?

Mr. Hancock – The address to the funeral home?

Mr. Clark – In Illinois, yes.

Mr. Hancock – Oh, Illinois?

Mr. Clark – The cremation authorization clearly stated an address for the cremains to be shipped to.

Mr. Hancock – Right. The address to Illinois was added, I think it was added on there after the cremation was done simply for recordkeeping because the address to where to ship them to was not known by the wife. She told me just to look it up on Google Search, and it was an outer line cemetery. There was no address. I told her that we needed to ship it to a funeral home, and she did not want to do that and incur any extra charges. The charges that were done on this case, they were originally signed up with the Neptune Society years ago. And this lady was in my choir, as I was the music director at the local church, and I simply told her we would do the cremation for the amount that they paid the Neptune Society, which was about \$300 or \$400, fifteen (15) years prior, and we still haven't collected that money.

Mr. Clark – And that was my last question. Why haven't you collected that money? Because you stated that you contacted SCI Neptune multiple times, they would never answer your call, or you were on hold for twenty (20) minutes. While I know it's the investigator, the investigator got an answer within minutes where they found the file. So why haven't you gotten paid on that contract?

Mr. Hancock – I don't know what you're talking about that you said I called and was on hold for twenty (20) minutes. That's not a true comment.



Mr. Clark – I will find it. It's the letter response to Mr. Schuller. Give me one moment. I'll give you the page number for the Board. That's what you stated in response to Mr. Schuller.

Mr. Hancock – Okay.

Mr. Clark – Madam Chair, may I have a moment?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Hancock – Because I have the SCI paperwork here that needs to be sent to those. And we've done that, and I've had a couple of others over the years. Because as we inherited this funeral home after several sales, when you go to look for these things, there's some money that's deposited in SCI for merchandise and some money that's deposited into now ClearPoint, which was Forethought, for services, which was done by the Loewen Group years ago.

Mr. Clark – All right, Madam Chair, may I?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir, Mr. Clark.

Mr. Clark – And I'll be brief. For the Board's benefit, this is Page 80. Mr. Hancock, this is an email from you to Kurt Schuller. Approximately halfway down the page, it says, "We've been yet to be paid by anything on this account and have yet to get a copy of the contract from SCI. I have called SCI countless times to get this information and wind up getting their automated system staying on hold for fifteen (15) to twenty (20) minutes at a time and having to hang up but have yet to talk to anyone." That's what you wrote to the inspector in this case.

Mr. Hancock – Okay. And if that is so that maybe that is, but this has been three (3) or four (4) years ago. And secondly, I feel –

Chair Peeples – You're frozen again, Mr. Hancock.

Mr. Hancock – Can you hear me?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Hancock – Okay. Secondly, I want to make note that I feel like we have been pinpointed by Mr. Schuller. Since the beginning of this year, it has been nearly monthly and especially since July, that there have been allegations constantly that have been started by himself. And it's just ongoing and it's so mentally stressing that if anything's late, it's no wonder why, because you can't get anything else done for dealing with it.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Yes, Madam Chair?

Mr. Hancock – And I'm going to be filing a complaint against Mr. Schuller.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, one second, sir. Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Madam Chair, I'd like to remind the Board that there are still some motions that need to be handled by Ms. Marshall. Just to remind the Board that that will need to occur before discipline can be meted up.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon, and I appreciate you kind of bringing that up. Board members, I think we've had a time of discussion, which I would like to ask Mr. Hancock really quick. There was a complaint in March of 2023, sir. You've made a motion that you've been inundated this year, and I hope that word's okay to use, inundated, by Mr. Ricky Williams about looking in the packet about a prearranged trust agreement irrevocable. Would you like to address that, sir?

Mr. Hancock – I have. That's the one I was talking about that he was paying \$20 a month on.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock?

Mr. Hancock – Yes?

Chair Peeples – Is this the one (1) about the gentleman that was paying \$20 a month, sir?

Mr. Hancock – Yes, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Okay. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Hancock – Yes, ma'am.

Mr. Chapman – Madam Chair, I have a question.

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir, Mr. Chapman?

Mr. Chapman – Mr. Hancock, \$20 a month for a \$5,600 preneed, it's twenty-three (23) years. That's a long time to be having a preneed contract. That's my first question. And my second question is if you're wanting to keep your license, is it your decision to go work for another funeral home? Is that why you're wanting to put your license into an inactive status so that you can get it an active status when you go work for another funeral home in a different location?

Mr. Hancock – No, sir, it's not.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, you're frozen again, sir.

Mr. Hancock – And that is not an option that I want to come back into the funeral service at all. Once I walk away and I want to place my license on inactive status, I just want it to be inactive and not done.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, there's a difference between inactivity of a license and relinquishment of a license.

Mr. Hancock – I understand that.

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir, if you'll give me just a moment, sir. Inactive status means that you can bring it back into active at any time.

Mr. Hancock – Yes, ma'am, I know what inactive means, and I do want to keep it inactive just to retain my license because I worked very hard for it but I do not intend to use it anymore.

Chair Peeples – The question I'm asking you, sir, is there's a difference if you relinquish your license as we ask about the establishment and as well as your individual funeral director license. That's kind of one of the questions that I think the Board members need to hear from you regarding your individual and your establishment.

Mr. Hancock – The establishment license will be closed. My personal license, I want to be put on inactive status. I don't have any intention of ever using it again, but I do want to retain it because I worked very hard. I've got basically two (2) degrees in mortuary science. I was on the American Funeral Director magazine "Ones to Watch" in 2015 out of ten (10) people in the whole United States. I was introduced into the America's Who's Who. I did not get those by doing things that I wasn't supposed to or doing things against the community. I've done everything I can to help the community and do things I was supposed to. There are circumstances that happen on individual cases that some may not realize –

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, you're frozen again, and we greatly appreciate your contributions to the profession and your years of you and your family service. Board members, I think we need to go back. Mr. Hancock, if you will, please, sir.

Mr. Hancock – Yes.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Marshall, do we need to entertain a motion, ma'am?

Ms. Marshall – Yes, Madam Chair. I do have one (1) more motion if we are done hearing the Respondent's presentation.

Chair Peeples – Yes, ma'am, we are.

Ms. Marshall – Okay. So, the Department offers into evidence the investigative report with exhibits, a copy of which has been previously furnished to the Board to establish a prima facie case for the violations alleged in the Administrative Complaint. And as the Board has adopted the findings and fact in this case, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion finding that these facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

**MOTION:** Ms. Clay moved that that these facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Marshall – And now as to the penalty phase of this case as I stated before, the Department is recommending a permanent revocation of this license. And the reasons for that are the totality of the circumstances outlined in this Administrative Complaint and as supported by the investigative reports that were included with your materials along with the two (2) recent final disciplinary orders that the Respondent has had against him, one in 2021 and one in 2023, both of which were included with your materials. All of these documents demonstrate a continued pattern of neglect of professional responsibilities. And for this reason, this is why the Department is recommending permanent revocation of this license.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Marshall. Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, just quickly going back to what Mr. Ferreira said earlier. I think what Mr. Ferreira was trying to do is let Mr. Hancock go out with a little bit of dignity. So, I would like to ask Mr. Hancock, would he voluntarily permanently release his funeral director's license and his establishment license to avoid a revocation on your record? Because it looks like that's the direction it may be heading.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock?

Mr. Hancock – Just to give it up, and is that the same as basically being put on an inactive status voluntarily?

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, as I mentioned earlier, they're two (2) separate avenues.

Mr. Hancock – I understand that completely.

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Hancock – But is by giving it up, is that the same as me saying, yes, please place it on inactive status to go with what the Board is wanting to do?

Chair Peeples – I'm trying to answer your question, sir, and we've spent a lot of time on this case. We've given you a lot of brevity here, but the difference is –

Mr. Hancock – Well, that's good because there's a lot of issues and a lot of information that y'all aren't hearing that would go with all this. I could go over another three (3) hours.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, inactive status and answer to your question means that your license is not active as it is today. It's in an active status.

Mr. Hancock – Correct.

Chair Peeples – It means that any time in the future you can bring it back to an active status. A relinquishment is you're relinquishing your license, and you will no longer practice as a licensee, whether it's an individual or whether it's an entity. That is what Mr. Jensen has proposed to you. Would you relinquish your license today?

Mr. Hancock – If that stops it from being revoked, yes, because I have no intention to use it anymore.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen, does that answer your question, sir?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, ma'am, it does. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – Is there a way that he can be placed on inactive status and if he decides to reenact his license, it will come back before us, or is it an automatic deal?

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira, I'm not going to speak for the Division, but as I mentioned to Mr. Hancock, I think we've been very generous in our time today because we have his entity case that's coming up next. Inactive means he can bring it back to active status at any time. So, any discipline will follow him, but I personally do not feel that's an option he needs to consider because of the information –

Mr. Hancock – I'll sign a legal document saying that I will not ever –

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, please, sir, I have not recognized you. Please give us a minute. Thank you. Mr. Ferreira, I do not feel that that is an option of inactivity because we have seen violations in the past. We have violations now, a number of counts. So, I think that needs to be our main focus. Any follow-up, Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – That's it.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. We are at the penalty phase. Board members, what is your request? Mr. Jensen?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved to allow Mr. Hancock to permanently give up his license in lieu of a revocation, but it has to be a permanent give up.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Simon or Ms. Munson, do you have a comment regarding that motion?

Ms. Simon – Ms. Munson, you're on mute.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Munson? Ms. Munson, you are on mute, ma'am.

Ms. Simon – She was trying to. If I may?

Chair Peeples – Yes, Ms. Simon.

Ms. Simon – Mr. Hancock has serious discipline in his past history, and this is a matter that's facing him now, that is even more the issues that have been raised against him, even more than have been before. If the Board chooses to let him permanently relinquish his license as opposed to having more discipline on his record, that is what the Board could choose to do if Mr. Hancock can follow through with that verbally on this call. But by allowing him again to relinquish his license, that means there will be no more discipline issued. And that is, of course, the Board's discretion.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Ms. Munson?

Ms. Munson – If I may, now that I'm off mute, I'm having a little bit of technical difficulties as you can see, but just a couple of things. It's actually the Office of General Counsel who has presented this information, so, the penalties they've presented is based on the information that you see before you. We don't have a voluntary relinquishment, and I want to be clear to Mr.

Hancock if that's what you're wanting to do, it needs to be understood that that voluntary relinquishment is not administrative, it is disciplinary. So that represents discipline on your record regardless of whether you choose to do it or choose to take the discipline or choose to submit to the discipline that you see that's being presented here today. So, this statement about an oral voluntary relinquishment, I don't think that's something that we can enforce quite honestly. I think it needs to be a written voluntary relinquishment of which is not presented today. I don't want to step into the lane –

Mr. Hancock – That's what I just tried to tell that I would do.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Hancock, sir, please, I have not recognized you. Ms. Munson?

Ms. Munson – And I don't want to step into the lane of the prosecutor, Ms. Marshall, because this is something that the Office of General Counsel would need to iron out. So, but I just want to clarify that it seems like we were kind of just mixing terms a little bit. Your voluntary relinquishment would in fact be disciplinary, and 2, it cannot be verbal. It would have to be something in writing that the Board can actually have before it to review.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Munson. Ms. Clay?

Ms. Clay – I am wondering if we can table this while Mr. Hancock takes the time to determine if he wants to relinquish his license. Otherwise, I have a motion to permanently revoke his license.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Clay, we already have a motion on the table by Mr. Jensen for a voluntary relinquishment, so we need to discuss that.

Ms. Clay – I don't believe there's such -- I'm sorry, Madam. Chair, I don't believe there's such thing as a voluntary relinquishment.

Chair Peeples – Yes, ma'am, that's what Ms. Munson was giving us the summary. So, we do have a motion though, that we have to deal with. So, if we can, Mr. Jensen, are you willing to remove your motion, sir?

Mr. Jensen – You know, Mr. Hancock just stated that he is certainly willing to permanently give up. I'm just trying to let the gentleman's thirty-eight (38) years have a little dignity going out. And Ms. Munson cleared up that it will show as discipline, but it won't be a revocation, you know, maybe it's just a terminology. I understand. It's basically the same thing.

Ms. Munson – So, the reason I'm indicating, and again, I don't want to step into Ms. Marshall's lane here, that it really needs to be written because it's a complete removal of his license. So, to have this type of negotiation on the record discussion and then it be stated that, well, I wasn't clear it was going to be this or that, even if he's saying it right now. So that's the area that I don't think the Board might want to enter into. Ms. Clay is suggesting if you're wanting the table it and see if he comes back with clarity as to what he wants, not just in this discussion saying what -- "Well, I think that's what I --" that's fine. But to present a written document for this Board to consider legally, then I think that would be the better path. I'm not suggesting that we table it, but I'm just indicating, again, not stepping in Ms. Marshall's lane that the information you have before you is what you can vote on. Or if you feel that there is something else to consider outside of that that would mean a permanent removal of his license in a different manner, I think that would be something that needs to be presented in writing to this Board.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Munson.

Ms. Munson – Because there's no document here to approve for a written voluntary relinquishment, and that's going to be the title, "Written Voluntary Relinquishment," and the Board will have to accept it and the verbiage in it will say that this is a disciplinary action.

Ms. Simon – And if I may?

Chair Peeples – One second, Ms. Simon. Mr. Jensen, does that complete your comment question?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, ma'am. And I'll withdraw my motion. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – I have nothing. Excuse me, Madam Chair.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Clay, would you like to make your motion now? Mr. Jensen has removed his motion, so would you like to make your motion?

Ms. Clay – I'm kind of torn whether the motion that we take – okay...

**MOTION:** Ms. Clay moved to table this matter to allow Mr. Hancock to submit a written statement regarding his license until next month.

Chair Peeples – Board members, if we don't get a second, this will fail. Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Madam Chair, I was only going to ask if that would be a permanent relinquishment.

Ms. Clay – Yes.

Ms. Simon – Thank you. If that's the option of the Board.

Chair Peeples – Do we have a second on the motion? Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Question on the motion. So, can we not say that Mr. Hancock has to produce to the Department within thirty (30) days or twenty (20) days or whatever it may be, a written voluntary permanent relinquishment of his license and not have to revisit this again?

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen and Ms. Clay, I greatly appreciate your compassion, but I feel like that we don't need to table this item. We need to address this item today. We need to go forward with this case and the next case. And I don't feel like that we need to. This gentleman has exhibited that he has not been the licensee that he needs to be in my viewpoint for the State. So, I don't feel like we need to table this. So, Ms. Clay, I'll go back to your hand next, ma'am, then Mr. Chapman.

Ms. Clay – Madam Chair, that motion failed because there was not a second.

Chair Peeples – Correct.

**MOTION:** Ms. Clay moved to permanently revoke the license of Mr. Hancock. Chair Peeples seconded the motion.

Chair Peeples – Is there any discussion on the motion? Mr. Chapman, you had your hand up, sir?

Mr. Chapman – I was going to make the same motion she did.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion? Hearing none. Ms. Munson?

Ms. Munson – It's just a matter of clarity. If we're going to accept it based on the AC, I was just noting that there are a couple of paragraphs in the AC that just left off a certain -- I think it's 59 and 60 that refers to rules 69K-33.0011g. It should be 001(1)(g) for both of those if we're going to attach that AC to whatever motion we're going to make and rule on. If that amendment can be noted and the Department can make that amendment in their AC.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Marshall, will you be making that amendment item as Ms. Munson requested?

Ms. Marshall – I'm sorry. Could you please restate that?

Ms. Munson – I think it's Paragraphs 59 and 60 of the AC where it says it references the rule violation 69K-33.0011g. It should be 001(1)(g).

Ms. Marshall – Okay. Yes. So noted and verbally amended on the record.

Ms. Munson – That was it.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. And Ms. Clay, you accept that amendment to include that information about the Administrative Complaint in your motion?

Ms. Clay – Yes.

Chair Peeples – And I second, so I accept that. Hearing no discussion on the motion. All in favor of the motion, say yes.

Board members – Yes.

Chair Peeples – All opposed, say no. Motion carries. It is 11:59. We're going to take a 10-minute restroom break and we'll come back. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Hancock.

\*\*\*\*\*BREAK\*\*\*\*\*

Chair Peeples – We're back with the meeting. We're back with the meeting. It's 12:11 and I was able to join by camera. Got that fixed. Thank you. We will go to Ms. Simon for the next item, please.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, ma'am.

**2. *Hancock Funeral Home, Inc.: DFS Case Nos. 310247-23-FC, 320246-23-FC, 321768-24-FC; Division Nos. ATN-40675, ATN-40730, ATN-42590 (F039972)***

Ms. Simon – Presenting again for the Department is Ms. Marshall

Ms. Marshall – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Kimberly Marshall on behalf of the Department. The above-referenced matter is presented to the Board for consideration of the Motion for Determination of Waiver and Request for Informal Hearing and for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact (Motion) in the matter of Hancock Funeral Home, Inc. (“Respondent”). The Department conducted an inspection of Respondent and found as follows: At all times material to the allegations herein, Respondent was licensed as a funeral establishment and apprentice/intern training agency. Respondent failed to promptly ship cremains, failed to timely respond to three (3) consumer complaints, failed to place preneed funds into trust, failed to make documents available for the Department’s inspection upon request, failed to promptly ship a body, and failed to inspect and treat a body for mold and mildew. The disciplinary guidelines for these violations are as follows:

- Counts I and VI: *failing to timely honor a contract*: Reprimand, fine of \$500 to \$1,000 plus costs. In addition, probation for up to one (1) year with conditions, suspension up to one (1) year, or permanent revocation of license may be imposed.
- Counts II, IV, and VII: *failing to promptly respond to a consumer complaint, second violation*: Reprimand, fine of \$3,000 to \$5,000 plus costs. In addition, probation for up to three (3) years with conditions, suspension up to three (3) years, or permanent revocation of license may be imposed.
- Count III: *failing to place preneed funds in trust*: Reprimand, fine of \$250 to \$1,500 plus costs. In addition, probation for up to two (2) years with conditions, suspension up to two (2) years, or permanent revocation of license may be imposed.
- Count V: *failing to make records available to the Department in response to an investigation*: Reprimand, fine of \$1,000 to \$2,500 plus costs. In addition, probation for six (6) months to one (1) year, suspension up to two (2) years, permanent revocation of license and/or restitution may be imposed.
- Count VIII: *failing to regularly inspect and treat a body for mold and mildew*: Reprimand, fine of \$500 to \$2,500 plus costs. In addition, probation for up to two (2) years with conditions, suspension up to two (2) years, or permanent revocation of license may be imposed.

The Motion demonstrates that Respondent failed to timely file a responsive pleading contesting the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint, requests that the Board adopt the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint, and requests that the Board issue an appropriate penalty in this matter. So, at this time, it would be appropriate for the Chair to



entertain a motion determining that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and has failed to timely respond, thus waiving the right to elect the method of resolution of this matter.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and has failed to timely respond, thus waiving the right to elect the method of resolution of this matter. Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Marshall – The Department asks that the Chair entertain a motion determining that there are no material facts in dispute in this case.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved that there are no material facts in dispute. Mr. Jensen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Marshall – Now that the Board has determined that there are no material facts in dispute in this matter, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion to adopt the allegations of fact as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to adopt the allegations of the facts as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Is Mr. Hancock going to be joining us back on this case to the meeting? Hearing no response that the Respondent is not joining the meeting back. Ms. Marshall?

Ms. Marshall – Okay. Since the Respondent's representative is not present we'll move on. The Department offers into evidence the investigative report with exhibits, a copy of which has been previously furnished to the Board to establish a prima facie case for the violations alleged in the Administrative Complaint. And now the Board has adopted the findings and fact in this case, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion finding that these facts constitute a violation of Florida Statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved that the facts constitute a violation of Florida Statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Marshall – And now as to penalty the Department is recommending permanent revocation of this license given the fact that there are thirteen (13) counts in this matter, all of which include permanent revocation within their guidelines and along with the prior recent disciplinary histories, the reason for that recommendation.

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved for permanent revocation of this license. Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Marshall.

Ms. Marshall – Thank you.

- (3) Motion for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact (Probable Cause Panel B)*
  - (a) Related Cases – Division No. ATN-40196*
    - 1. Camel Funeral Services, Inc. d/b/a Camel Funeral Home: DFS Case No. 305803-23-FC; Division No. ATN-40196 (F040017)*

Ms. Simon – Presenting for the Department is Mr. Woliver. Before Mr. Woliver presents his case, is there a representative of Camel Funeral Services on the call today?

Ms. Lauren Pettine – Lauren Pettine here representing Camel Funeral Home.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Ms. Pettine. Mr. Woliver?

Mr. Woliver – Thank you, Ms. Simon. The above-referenced matter is presented to the Board for consideration of the Motion for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact (Motion) in the matter of Camel Funeral Services, Inc., d/b/a Camel Funeral Home (Respondent). The Division conducted an investigation of Respondent and alleges as follows: Respondent is a licensed funeral establishment and apprentice/intern training agency, holding license number F040017. Respondent failed to report a change in funeral director in charge for approximately seven (7) months. Respondent further failed to display the name of its current funeral director in charge at its entrance. I will point out that on the memo included within your packets, the disciplinary guidelines for both counts were included for a first-time violation. I will mention that there was discipline in 2020 against this licensee. So, the proper disciplinary guideline for this violation is as follows:

- Count I: *Failing to timely notify the Department of change in FDIC*: \$500 fine.
- Count II: *Failing to display the FDIC's name at the entrance of the establishment*: A reprimand, a fine of \$1000 - \$5000, up to two (2) years of probation, up to two (2) years of suspension, or permanent revocation of the license.

The Motion demonstrates Respondent has alleged that there are no material facts in dispute and for this matter to proceed as an informal hearing before the Board, and requests the Board adopt the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint and issue an appropriate penalty. At this time, it would be appropriate for the Chair to entertain a motion determining that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and submitted a timely request for an informal hearing.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved that the Respondent has been properly served with the Administrative Complaint and submitted a timely request for an informal hearing. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – The Department asks that the Chair entertain a motion determining that there are no material facts in dispute in this case.

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved that there are no material facts in dispute. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – Now that the Board has determined that there are no material facts in dispute in this matter, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion to adopt the allegations of fact as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to adopt the allegations of the facts as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – Now is an appropriate time to hear from Respondent's counsel if they wish to speak.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Woliver. Ms. Pettine?

Ms. Pettine – Thank you. These counts rise from a matter where the funeral director in charge for both the Belle Glade and the Clewiston locations for Camel Funeral Home left abruptly. Ms. Pearl Mathews took over as FDIC and acted as FDIC from the June date but did fail to file the form and update the signage until later that year. As of today's date, the sign out front of the Belle Glade location, the blue building, does have their current FDIC there. And they always had an individual acting as FDIC at that location and simply failed to file the form at the correct time which are mitigating factors, which should be considered. If the Board has any additional questions regarding this matter, I'm here to answer them.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Pettine. Board members, any questions for Ms. Pettine? Hearing none. Mr. Woliver?

Mr. Woliver – Thank you, Ms. Peeples. The Department offers into evidence the investigative report with exhibits, a copy of which has been previously furnished to the Board to establish a prima facie case for the violations alleged in the

Administrative Complaint. And now that the Board has adopted the findings and fact in this case, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion finding that these facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved that the facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – Board members, the only thing I'd advise here is that like I said before this license holder did face prior discipline before the Board in 2020, and as a result, I would ask for an enhanced penalty of \$2,000 fine and one (1) year of probation, which are within the guidelines of the re-offense category. Thank you.

Chair Peebles – Ms. Pettine?

Ms. Pettine – I actually have a question for Mr. Woliver. I'm looking at a copy of the disciplinary guidelines here and 380(14), which is the failure to display the name of the FDIC for a second offense is a citation of \$500. That's going to be Line 132 and Line 131, which is the failing to promptly report the following changes to the funeral establishment, change of a funeral director in charge, is also a citation of \$500. I am seeking clarification on which part of the disciplinary guidelines allows for the enhanced inclusion of a \$2,000 fine.

Chair Peebles – Mr. Woliver?

Mr. Woliver – Oh, sure thing. Sorry. Thank you. I have the guidelines pulled up here for 497.380(14), failure of a funeral establishment to conduct business under its license name. Penalty range subsequent offenses, I'm seeing reprimand fine of \$1,000 to \$5,000 plus costs.

Ms. Pettine – But that was not the violation in question here. The violation in question here is the name of the full-time funeral director was not included on the sign. The name is included under the name of what it was done. So, I'm seeing a citation of \$500 as the second offense. I believe that's the difference between Line 133 versus 132 on the disciplinary guidelines.

Mr. Woliver – Yes, I would say that that was my mistake. I was actually looking at the wrong line in the penalty guidelines. Yes, it's actually broken up. Both of those are penalties for 380(14), and I merely pulled the wrong one. She's right that the penalty range for subsequent offenses are both citations of \$500. And I apologize for that oversight.

Chair Peebles – Thank you, Ms. Pettine. Board members?

Mr. Jensen – Yes. Quick question, Madam Chair.

Chair Peebles – Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, Mr. Woliver, so are you now stating you're asking for a \$500 fine for each count and that's it?

Mr. Woliver – That would be a yes. It would be two counts, a \$500 fine each. Yes, sir.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. Thank you. Madam Chair.

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved for a \$500 fine for each count. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion.

Chair Peebles – Okay. Mr. Jensen, you had a moment where you kind of blanked out. What was your motion, sir?

Mr. Jensen – My motion was \$500 fine for both counts.

Chair Peebles – Thank you. And Mr. Ferreira, did you have a second on that?

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Okay. I think I see Mr. Quinn. We have a lot of connection issues.

Mr. Quinn – Is that \$500 total?

Chair Peeples – No, sir. It's \$500 per count, for \$1,000 total.

Mr. Quinn – Thank you.

Chair Peeples – So, we have a motion by Mr. Jensen for a \$1,000 fine, \$500 per count. We have a second by Mr. Ferreira. Is there any further discussion or any questions for Ms. Pettine? And Ms. Pettine, did you have your hand up?

Ms. Pettine – I did. I simply wanted to remind the Board that that \$500 is a maximum and that they're welcome to go below that due to some of the mitigating factors.

Chair Peeples – We appreciate that. We have a motion and a second. Is there any further discussion? Hearing none. All in favor of the motion, say yes.

Board members – Yes.

Chair Peeples – All opposed, say no. Motion carries. Thank you, Ms. Pettine, Mr. Woliver.

## **2. Mathews, Willie Pearl: DFS Case No. 305808-23-FC; Division No. ATN-40196 (F084725)**

Ms. Simon – This is a companion case. As such, Ms. Pettine is the attorney representing this entity, and Mr. Woliver for the Department.

Mr. Woliver – Thank you, Ms. Simon. The above-referenced matter is presented to the Board for consideration of the Motion for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact (Motion) in the matter of Willie Pearl Mathews (Respondent). The Division alleges conducted an investigation of Respondent and alleges as follows: Respondent is a licensed funeral director and embalmer, holding license number F084725. At all times material to this matter, Respondent was the funeral director in charge of Camel Funeral Services, Inc., d/b/a Camel Funeral Home, a licensed funeral establishment and apprentice/intern training agency, holding license number F040017. The establishment failed to report a change in funeral director in charge for approximately seven (7) months. The establishment further failed to display the name of its current funeral director in charge at its entrance. As funeral director in charge, Respondent is responsible for these violations. As Ms. Mathews has not faced prior disciplinary history, the disciplinary guideline for these violations is as follows:

- Count I: *Failing to timely notify the Department of change in FDIC*: Notice of noncompliance
- Count II: *Failing to display the FDIC's name at the entrance of the establishment*: Notice of non-compliance

The Motion demonstrates Respondent has alleged that there are no material facts in dispute and for this matter to proceed as an informal hearing before the Board, and requests the Board adopt the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint and issue an appropriate penalty. At this time, it would be appropriate for the Chair to entertain a motion determining that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and has timely submitted a request for an informal hearing.

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and has timely submitted a request for an informal hearing. Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – The Department asks that the Chair entertain a motion determining that there are no material facts in dispute in this case.

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved that there are no material facts in dispute. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – Now that the Board has determined that there are no material facts in dispute in this matter, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion to adopt the allegations of fact as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to adopt the allegations of the facts as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion.

Mr. Woliver – If Respondent's counsel wishes to be heard at this time.

Ms. Pettine – Only here for questions at this point. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Pettine. Any questions, Ms. Clay?

Ms. Clay – No.

Chair Peeples – Okay. Mr. Woliver?

Mr. Woliver – Yes, Ms. Peeples. The Department offers into evidence the investigative report with exhibits, a copy of which has been previously furnished to the Board to establish a prima facie case for the violations alleged in the Administrative Complaint. And as the Board has adopted the findings and fact in this case, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion finding that these facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved that the facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – And for the penalty recommendation, I would just point out that the guidelines state that for a first violation what is called for is a Notice of Noncompliance to the license holder.

Chair Peeples – Before we get a motion on that, Mr. Woliver, had I blanked out and did we get a motion for the third phase? Because I have 1 and 2, I have 4 that we just did, and 5 as penalty. Did we have a motion for the third phase?

Mr. Woliver – I'm sorry. I believe so. I'm sorry. What are you asking for?

Chair Peeples – I usually write down five (5) different motions for these cases, and I have a motion for the first, the second, usually, we have three (3) motions, then we have the Respondent or representative speak. Then we do the motion that you just did, and then we go to five (5), penalty phase. I don't have anything for my record for the third motion.

Mr. Woliver – I believe that I did make all of the relevant motions. Is that adopting the allegations of fact as set forth in the Administrative Complaint?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Woliver – Well then just in an abundance of caution I may have been clipping out then. Now that the Board has determined that there are no material facts in dispute in this matter, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion to adopt the allegations of fact as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

Chair Peeples – Thank you.

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved to adopt the allegations of fact as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Ms. Clay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. Now we're in the penalty phase, the fifth aspect.

Mr. Woliver – And Board members, the only other thing that I would advise beyond the Notice of Noncompliance is that as this is a disciplinary action, we would be requesting a reprimand to follow this, a Final Order issuing that reprimand so that the discipline is on the license holder's record, even though there's no fine necessarily to be provided here.

Chair Peebles – Ms. Pettine?

Ms. Pettine – I will note that in the guidelines a reprimand is treated differently from a Notice of Noncompliance. As we were discussing Line 133 earlier, a reprimand is considered to be a separate part or a separate item in certain disciplinary guidelines. The only discipline that is appropriate for these two (2) violations as first offenses is a Notice of Noncompliance.

Chair Peebles – Mr. Woliver?

Mr. Woliver – I'm reading the statutes the same way that Ms. Pettine has.

Chair Peebles – Perfect. So, Mr. Woliver, your suggestion to the Board is a Notice of Noncompliance?

Mr. Woliver – Yes, Ms. Peebles.

Chair Peebles – Thank you. Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved to issue a Notice of Noncompliance in this matter. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peebles – Thank you, Ms. Pettine. Thank you, Mr. Woliver.

Ms. Pettine – Thank you, Board.

Ms. Munson – If I may?

Chair Peebles – Ms. Munson?

Ms. Munson – Yes, I'm sorry. I apologize, Board. May I just clarify on the Camel case? I know that the motion was regarding the \$500 fine for both counts. I know that the Department presented the request that there it include a one-year probation. Did that motion include the one-year probation to be included in the Order?

Chair Peebles – No, ma'am. It was just the \$500 fine per count for \$1,000.

Ms. Munson – Thank you. Sorry about that. I apologize, Ms. Simon.

Chair Peebles – That's okay.

*(4) Related Cases - Division No. ATN-39967 (Probable Cause Panel B)*

*(a) Motion for Determination of Waiver and Request for Informal Hearing and for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact*

*1. D.M. Baker Mortuary LLC; DFS Case No. 305179-23-FC; Division No. ATN-39967 (F086888)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today? Hearing no response. Mr. Baker, are you representing the entity? You're on mute, sir.

Mr. Damon Baker – I do apologize. Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, sir.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Simon, before we go to Mr. Woliver, Mr. Baker, you may have your cell phone connected and your computer and we're getting feedback. Will you just talk with me real quick just to make sure we got a clear connection?

Mr. Baker – Is that better?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir. Perfect.

Mr. Baker – All right.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir.

Mr. Baker – Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – I was introducing Mr. Woliver for this matter.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Mr. Woliver?

Mr. Woliver – Thank you, Ms. Peeples. The above-referenced matter is presented to the Board for consideration of the Motion for Determination of Waiver and Request for Informal Hearing and for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact (Motion) in the matter of D.M. Baker Mortuary LLC (“Respondent”). The Department conducted an inspection of Respondent and found as follows: At all times material to the allegations herein, Respondent was licensed as a funeral establishment. Respondent advertised on-site cremation on its website when Respondent did not have an on-site crematory. In doing so, Respondent engaged in fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading advertising. The disciplinary guideline for this violation is as follows:

- Count I: *fraudulent, false, deceptive, or misleading advertising*: Reprimand, fine of \$500 to \$2,000 plus costs. In addition, probation for 6 months to 1 year with conditions may be imposed.

The Motion demonstrates that Respondent failed to timely file a responsive pleading contesting the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint, requests that the Board adopt the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint, and requests that the Board issue an appropriate penalty in this matter. It would be appropriate for the Chair to entertain a motion determining that Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and failed to timely respond and thus waived the right to elect a method of resolution in this matter.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved that Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and failed to timely respond and thus waived the right to elect a method of resolution in this matter. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – The Department asks that the Chair entertain a motion determining that there are no material facts in dispute in this case.

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved that there are no material facts in dispute. Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – Now that the Board has determined that there are no material facts in dispute in this matter, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion to adopt the allegations of fact as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to adopt the allegations of the facts as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Baker, if you would like to address the Board, we need to swear you in, sir.



Mr. Baker – Sure.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Please raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. Baker – Absolutely.

Ms. Simon – Please state your name and spell your last name for the record, sir.

Mr. Baker – Damon Baker. Last name B-A-K-E-R.

Ms. Simon – Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Baker. Would you like to address the Board members, sir?

Mr. Baker – I would. So, we have, and we still do today have a third-party company who handles our website. So, that company created the website for us. So, there is a webmaster, as I was saying, who designed our website and who holds our website. He made the mistake of adding that information on the website. We do not handle that, nor do we monitor. The only thing we do is submit to him the deaths that occurred, and he add those to that. Ms. Mullins, who is our licensed funeral director, did reach out to the webmaster when we were notified by the State in 2020 to inform him to remove this. He did remove it. Ms. Mullins did reply to the State with a certified letter indicating that it was removed, and that Ms. Mullins mentioned to me that everything was taken care of.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. Are there any questions to Mr. Baker? Hearing none. Mr. Woliver?

Mr. Woliver – The Department offers into evidence the investigative report with exhibits, a copy of which has been previously furnished to the Board to establish a prima facie case for the violations alleged in the Administrative Complaint. Now the Board has adopted the findings and fact in this case, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion finding that these facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved that the facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – Board members, penalty recommendation in this case against the location would be a \$1,000 fine and one (1) year of probation.

Chair Peeples – Board members? Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – Yes. Can I ask Mr. Baker a question?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Ferreira – Okay. You said that this took place in 2020, Mr. Baker.

Mr. Baker – It was 2021. I believe it was 2021/2022. One of them.

Mr. Ferreira – Okay. And it appears that on October 20, 2022, it was still there. Can you explain that?

Mr. Baker – So if I'm not mistaken, we were notified either in '21 or '22. I don't have the documentation in front of me, but whenever we were notified that it was there, it was when Ms. Mullins reached out to our webmaster to inform him to remove this information, and she did in fact get him to remove it.

Mr. Ferreira – I find it odd that you don't know when this took place.

Mr. Baker – To be honest with you, I pay a monthly fee for it. No, I don't sit down and look at my website every day. It was just an honest mistake.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira, does that complete your question?

Mr. Ferreira – That's all. That's all.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Board members, Mr. Woliver has made a recommendation of a \$1,000 fine and one-year probation. What is the Board members' pleasure?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved for a \$1,000 fine and one-year probation. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Baker. Thank you, Mr. Woliver. Ms. Simon?

*(b) Motion for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact*  
*1. Mullins-Prince, Donna: DFS Case No. 305181-23-FC; Division No. ATN-39967 (F045442)*

Ms. Simon – Is Ms. Mullins-Prince here or a representative of Ms. Mullins-Prince? Hearing no response. Mr. Woliver?

Mr. Woliver – Thank you, Ms. Simon. The above-referenced matter is presented to the Board for consideration of the Motion for Final Order by Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact (Motion) in the matter of Donna Mullins-Prince (Respondent). She did elect to provide a written statement in lieu of appearing at the hearing today. The Division conducted an investigation of Respondent and alleges as follows: Respondent is a licensed funeral director and embalmer, holding license number F045442. At all times material to this case, Respondent was the funeral director in charge of D.M. Baker Mortuary (DMBM), a licensed funeral establishment holding license number F086888 and doing business in Jacksonville, Florida. DMBM's website offered on-site cremation on its website when the establishment did not have an on-site crematory. In doing so, DMBM engaged in fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading advertising. As FDIC of DMBM, Respondent is responsible for this violation. The disciplinary guideline for this violation is as follows:

- Count I: Fraudulent, false, deceptive, or misleading advertising: Reprimand, fine of \$500 to \$2,000 plus costs. In addition, probation for 6 months to 1 year with conditions may be imposed.

The Motion demonstrates Respondent has alleged that there are no material facts in dispute and for this matter to proceed as an informal hearing before the Board, and requests the Board adopt the factual allegations in the Administrative Complaint and issue an appropriate penalty. It would be appropriate for the Chair to entertain a motion determining that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and submitted a timely request for informal hearing.

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved that the Respondent was properly served with the Administrative Complaint and submitted a timely request for informal hearing. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – The Department asks that the Chair entertain a motion determining that there are no material facts in dispute in this case.

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved that there are no material facts in dispute. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – Now that the Board has determined that there are no material facts in dispute in this matter, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion to adopt the allegations of fact as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved to adopt the allegations of the facts as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – The Department offers into evidence the investigative report with exhibits, a copy of which has been previously furnished to the Board to establish a prima facie case for the violations alleged in the Administrative Complaint. Now that the Board has adopted the findings and fact in this case, the Department asks the Chair to entertain a motion finding that these facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint.

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved that the facts constitute a violation of Florida statutes as set forth in the Administrative Complaint. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Woliver – As with the prior case, penalty recommendation by the Department against Donna Mullins-Prince would be a \$1,000 fine with one (1) year of probation.

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved for a \$1,000 fine with one (1) year of probation. Ms. Clay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Woliver. Ms. Simon, as you go on to the next item, I'm going pick up my computer and move really quick. So, if you'll continue and I'll probably have to reconnect really quick.

Ms. Simon – Yes, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Can you give me just a minute?

Ms. Simon – Shall I continue?

Chair Peeples –Thank you. Let me see if I can bring it down to my tablet and I'll just keep going as I'm walking.

Ms. Simon – Okay.

Chair Peeples – Okay. I am going to walk. I'm good. Thank you, Ms. Simon.

**E. Application(s) for Preneed Sales Agent**  
*(1) Informational Item (Licenses Issued without Conditions) – Addendum A*

Ms. Simon – This is an informational item. Pursuant to Section 497.466, Florida Statutes, the applicants on Addendum A have been issued their licenses and appointments as preneed sales agents.

**F. Application(s) for Continuing Education**  
*(1) Course Approval - Recommended for Approval without Conditions – Addendum B*  
*(a) Continuing Vision LLC (52610)*  
*(b) Florida Cemetery, Cremation & Funeral Association (75)*  
*(c) Graystone Associates, Inc. (41808)*  
*(d) National Funeral Directors Association (49609)*  
*(e) Practicum Strategies (65)*  
*(f) Wilbert Funeral Services (39408)*

Ms. Simon – The courses presented on Addendum B has been reviewed by the CE Committee, and the Committee as well as the Division recommends approval for the number of hours so indicated.

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved to approve the applications. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**G. Consumer Protection Trust Fund Claims**  
*(1) Recommended for Approval without Conditions – Addendum C*

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

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

**H. Application(s) for Embalmer Apprentice**

*(1) Informational Item (Licenses Issued without Conditions) – Addendum D*

- (a) Arcila-Palacio, Carlos A F493201*
- (b) Callins, Tandria M F471879*
- (c) Chestnut, Christopher M F798569*
- (d) Gavin, Samantha V F792947*
- (e) Glenn, Kayla C F805958*
- (f) McClain, D'Anthony J F806184*
- (g) Moore, Kaneisha N F784955*

Ms. Simon – This is an informational item. Pursuant to Rule 69K–1.005, F. A. C., the Division has previously approved the application listed on Addendum D.

*(2) Recommended for Denial (Criminal History)*

- (a) Johann, Kelsey M*

Ms. Simon – Is Kelsey Johann available today at the Board meeting?

Ms. Kelsey Johann – Yes.

Ms. Simon – Okay. Thank you, Ms. Johann. The application for embalmer apprentice licensure, embalmer intern licensure, and funeral director internship licensure, were received by the Division on June 18, 2024. The applications were incomplete when received and a deficiency letter was issued on July 15, 2024, for all three (3) applications. Ms. Johann initially answered “No” to the criminal history questions on all three (3) applications. After a determination was made as to which licensure application was appropriate, a second deficiency letter was sent on July 31, 2024, regarding reportable criminal history and the notice contained a request for court records. All deficiency items were received on October 1, 2024, and the application was deemed completed. On or around December 4, 2023, Mr. Johann was convicted of and pleaded no contest to trespass of an occupied structure or conveyance & criminal mischief, both misdemeanors. Adjudication was withheld and Mr. Johann was sentenced to a \$300 fine. The Division recommends denial due to the recent conviction history and for failure to identify relevant criminal activity any application.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Ms. Johann, would you like to address the Board? If so, we would need to swear you in, please.

Ms. Johann – Yes.

Ms. Simon – Ms. Johann, please raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Ms. Johann – Yes.

Ms. Simon – Please state your name and spell your last name for the record.

Ms. Johann – It's Kelsey Marie Johann, J-O-H-A-N-N.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. Would you like to address the Board, Ms. Johann?

Ms. Johann – Yes. I didn't understand when I initially was doing the application that I needed to attach any criminal history. I guess I read that it had to be death industry-related, and that was my assumption, I probably should have asked. But then as soon as I got my deficiency letter, and it explained a little better I immediately got the information that I needed and then attached that and got it sent back to Ms. Crystal Grant.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. Board members, are there any questions for Ms. Johann? Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Just a clarification. On Page 5 of the packet, I notice on communicable disease, she has checked No, but when I go down to the end, I see a certificate. So, can you explain? Have you actually done your two-hour communicable disease class or what?

Ms. Johann – Yes. So again, when I first initially did my application, I was not really aware that I needed to do that. I wasn't sure if that was for, you know once I'm done with school. So as soon as I got my deficiency letter and I spoke with Crystal Grant about it, she explained, and I immediately did that and then sent her my certification once I completed that course.

Mr. Jensen – Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Quinn?

Mr. Quinn – Yes, I have a question if I could? Ms. Johann, tell us why we should trust you with a funeral director license?

Ms. Johann – Well, last year I definitely made a mistake which, you know, all humans do, and since then I have been on my best behavior and I've really just applied myself to this industry and, you know, continuing to help families, you know, in my utmost way. My professionalism here at the funeral home that I work at doesn't go unnoticed. And I'm just really trying to further my career and, you know, help as many families as I can during a tough time. I've been there myself and it's rewarding.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Quinn, does that complete your question?

Mr. Quinn – That's it. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Any other Board members? Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – Can I make a motion?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to approve the application. Mr. Quinn seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Good luck, Ms. Johann.

Ms. Johann – Thank you so much.

- I. **Application(s) for Florida Laws and Rules Examination**
  - (1) **Informational Item (Licenses Issued without Conditions) – Addendum E**
    - (a) **Direct Disposer**
      - 1. **Argo, Jayce R**
      - 2. **Parapar, Alexia**
    - (b) **Embalmer (Internship)**
      - 1. **Butler, Jovan**
    - (c) **Funeral Director (Internship)**
      - 1. **Brissett, Shaige**
      - 2. **Cains, Beatriz R**
      - 3. **Gaddy-Robinson, Marie**

4. *Graham, Pamela*
5. *McGahee, Roman J*
- (d) *Funeral Director (Endorsement)*
  1. *Tarver, Sandra M*
  2. *Williams, Breanna*
  3. *Woodruff, Shellie R*
- (e) *Funeral Director and Embalmer (Endorsement)*
  1. *Applebee, Alicia M*
  2. *Osborne, Krystal*
  3. *Smith, Amber L*
- (f) *Funeral Director and Embalmer (Internship and Exam)*
  1. *Barlow, Suzanne M*
  2. *Bialkoski, Kaitlyn A*
  3. *Dragon, Jennifer L*
  4. *McLemore, Ashley E*
  5. *McWhite, Elizabeth A*
  6. *Meyer, Alexis A*
  7. *Miller, Jeanna N*
  8. *Payne, Amber R*
  9. *Trigoura, Amy J*
  10. *Uhal, Monica P*
  11. *White, Jeremy L*

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

- (2) *Recommended for Denial*
  - (a) *Funeral Director and Embalmer (Criminal History)*
    1. *Davis, Lateisha C (Internship)*

Ms. Simon – Is Ms. Lateisha Davis or representative on the call today?

Ms. Lateisha Davis – Yes.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Ms. Davis. An application for a combination funeral director and embalmer license was received by the Division on September 9, 2024. The application was deemed complete after it was reviewed. On March 7, 2024, Ms. Davis's application for a concurrent intern license was presented to the Board for consideration and was approved with the condition of probation during the entire internship. A notice of intent to approve with condition was issued on April 1, 2024. No disciplinary issues have been reported during Ms. Davis's internship. The applicant answered "Yes" to the criminal history question and no changes or updates have been made to Ms. Davis's criminal history. On October 24, 2007, Ms. Davis was charged with Battery, a 2nd degree felony, Aggravated Assault with a Weapon, a 3rd degree felony, and two (2) counts of Driving While License Revoked, both 3rd degree felonies, and was convicted for all four (4) offenses on October 24, 2007. Ms. Davis was sentenced to imprisonment for thirteen (13) months with the Dept. of Corrections and two (2) days with the Volusia County Sheriff Department. Ms. Davis was credited for two (2) days as time served for time incarcerated before imposition of this sentence. The sentences imposed for all above charges shall run concurrently. On November 21, 2011, Ms. Davis was charged with Fleeing or Attempting to Elude Lights and Siren Active, a 3rd degree felony, Driving While License Revoked (habitual), a 3rd degree felony, and Leaving Scene of a Crash Involving Injury, a 3rd degree felony, and was convicted on for all three (3) offenses on November 21, 2011. Ms. Davis was sentenced to eighteen (18) months imprisonment with the Dept. of Corrections with twenty-two (22) days credited as time served. The Division recommends denial based solely on the previous criminal history.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Ms. Davis, if you would like to address the Board, we need to swear you in, please, ma'am.

Ms. Davis – Okay.

Ms. Simon – Can you please raise your hand, Ms. Davis? You swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Ms. Davis – I do.

Ms. Simon – Please state your name and spell your last name for the record.

Ms. Davis – Lateisha Davis, D-A-V-I-S.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Ms. Davis. Would you like to address the Board?

Ms. Davis – Yes, I'm aware of my criminal history. I'm very remorseful of my past. I've taken necessary measures to be a law-abiding citizen by actively volunteering in my community, working with licensed funeral homes, serving families with honor and dignity. If the Board allows me the opportunity to continue to serve families, I do make a promise that my past is 100% behind me. I know it's been plenty of years, but I definitely would never get in trouble again. I've learned from my mistakes and I'm very remorseful for it as well.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Davis. Board members, do we have questions for Ms. Davis? Ms. Davis, how long have you worked in the industry?

Ms. Davis – About seven (7) years.

Chair Peeples – Board members, any questions? Mr. Quinn?

Mr. Quinn – Yes, Ms. Davis, can you tell us why you deserve to be in our profession?

Ms. Davis – I deserve to be in your profession because I personally know I made mistakes in my youth being a product of my environment. Once I made the decision myself to get my life on track, I've shown major improvement by working with the youth, speaking with them regarding not following the crowds that they are exposed to. I've also experienced the loss of my daughter, my grandmother, so personal loss experiences have made me mature and I just want to do better and show the world, not only the world, myself, that I am able and will be a suitable person for this industry. And I've learned from my mistakes.

Mr. Quinn – Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Board members, any further questions?

Mr. Ferreira – I have a question.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – So the last time you were in any type of trouble was what, 2011?

Ms. Davis – Yes, sir.

Mr. Ferreira – Have you been in trouble since 2011?

Ms. Davis – No, sir. And I've completed my mortuary course. I've also completed my internship. I passed my National Boards Exams and have been doing everything that has been asked of me.

Mr. Ferreira – Since 2011?

Ms. Davis – Yes, sir. Well, I started this school back in I believe 2015, but I had to take a break because I lost my daughter to cancer. So, once I kind of got myself back together, then I decided to finish off on my educational courses, and I completed that in March.

Mr. Ferreira – So you've taken your Boards, you've gone through school, the whole nine yards, is that right?

Ms. Davis – Correct. I passed both sections of Arts and Science sections of my National Boards. I completed Gupton-Jones College of Mortuary Science. I also completed the two-hour communicable disease course, and my internship. So, I've been working on that as well.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira, does that complete your question?

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, it does.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jones?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved to approve the application with a one-year probation. Ms. Clay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Good luck, Ms. Davis.

Ms. Davis – Thank you.

## 2. *McQueen, Darrell (Endorsement)*

Ms. Simon – Is Darrell McQueen or representative of Mr. McQueen on the call today?

Mr. Darrell McQueen – Yes, I'm here.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Mr. McQueen. An application for combination funeral director and embalmer license endorsement license was received on September 10, 2024. The application was incomplete when received and a deficiency letter was emailed on October 9, 2024. In review of the application, the applicant answered “Yes” to the criminal history question and submitted the court documentation, and a letter along with the application. Mr. McQueen also has adverse licensing action history due to his previous criminal history. Mr. McQueen’s Georgia funeral director and embalmer license was initially issued with probation. Mr. McQueen's application was deemed complete on October 10, 2024, when the criminal history forms and all the deficiency items had been received. On or around April 14, 2011, Mr. McQueen was charged with and plead guilty to *possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance*, a 1st degree felony and was sentenced to fifteen (15) years’ incarceration and probation. On or around April 14, 2011, Mr. McQueen was charged with and plead guilty to *Deadly Conduct/Discharge Firearm Individual(S)*, a felony and was sentenced to five (5) years’ incarceration to run concurrent with the prior sentencing. The Division recommends denial based off the criminal history and adverse licensing history.

Chair Peeples –Thank you, Ms. Simon. Mr. McQueen, if you would like to address the Board, we need to swear you in, sir.

Mr. McQueen – Okay. Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Simon – Please raise your right hand, sir. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. McQueen – I do.

Ms. Simon – Please state your name and spell your last name for the record.



Mr. McQueen – My name is Darrell McQueen. Last name M-C-Q-U-E-E-N.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, sir.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. Please address the Board.

Mr. McQueen – First of all, good afternoon, everyone. I would like to kind of discuss, I did hear you mention that the recommendation for denial was based off criminal history, also adverse history. I am licensed in Georgia. These crimes happened when I was a young man, again, 2011. I've been in the funeral business, I went to school, been in this business about eight (8) years, went to school again. I'm licensed. So, I passed the Board and everything. My license in Georgia was an issue simply because I had a criminal history. None of the things that were done, I wasn't even in school. Funeral business was not my intention at that time. So, for it to be issued with probation was kind of a hindrance when a person that's came out, served years in prison. So, I'm coming out to better my life, take care of my family. And it seems, you know, the past is kind of always there and that's where the discussion for most people wants to stem on the past. Since that I've mentored. I still currently mentor individuals in the funeral industry who have had situations. I'm active in the community. I do career days at school. So, I'm just asking, and I want to share with the Board, because a lot of times people make decisions based on just what they see on paper. I'm a human being. I have a family just like all of us here, and I would like to ask the Board if they could, you know, issue me a license without any restrictions so I can freely practice, because I've made no bad decisions in the funeral industry. I haven't had one (1) issue in the funeral. So, thank you all for hearing me out, and that's all I would like to share with you all at this time.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. Board members, any questions for Mr. McQueen? Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – So how long did you serve in Georgia as a funeral director and embalmer?

Mr. McQueen – Just recently licensed about two (2) years. So, I think it was 2023 I was licensed, but I've been practicing in Georgia since 2017.

Mr. Ferreira – How long were you incarcerated?

Mr. McQueen – For seven (7) years.

Mr. Ferreira – Can you go back to Georgia?

Mr. McQueen – Yes.

Mr. Ferreira – And practice?

Mr. McQueen – Yes, but again, my license is on probation. I've dealt with them. I reached out, I wrote letters. Again, I've had experiences where the probation has been an issue. I was hired with SCI once until I got to a location that was Eternal Hills Funeral Home and Cremation in Snellville, Georgia. Once the manager saw that my license was on probation, it was an issue. So, I was no longer really kind of wanted to be there. They no longer wanted me there because of my history. And it's just been a hindrance. It's just been a hindrance. It draws attention, especially in the funeral industry. If I fill out an application for funeral director and embalmer with any one of you all with a funeral home, you're going to check the license. It's going to show probation. And it's always just a bad look for someone who's done everything he needed to do to get a license. And I'm still kind of fighting an uphill battle. So, but to answer your question, I can go back to Georgia.

Mr. Ferreira – So how long was the probation in Georgia for?

Mr. McQueen – It was running concurrently with my parole. So, I have six (6) months left. So, it was seven (7) years, but I have six (6) months left.

Mr. Ferreira – And then you'll be able to operate in Georgia?

Mr. McQueen – Again, I can operate, I can, and I've done it. I've done funerals, I embalm, meet with families. It's the probation that's attached to it that's just a bad look. It does hinder me from being a funeral director in charge at someone else's facility. Again, I've lost opportunities because of that. I can be a funeral director in charge of my own facility in Georgia, but never someone else's because my license is on probation.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira, does that complete your questions, sir?

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Williams?

Mr. Williams – Yes. Thank you so much. So, a couple of questions. When does your probation end in Georgia?

Mr. McQueen – June. Around about mid-June of next year, 2024.

Mr. Williams – 2025?

Mr. McQueen – Oh yes, '25. My apologies, '25.

Mr. Williams – Okay. So, I'm looking at the document that we have it says fifteen (15) years of incarceration and probation. So based on this, it's looking like around April of 2026. Is that accurate in terms of you'll be off full probation?

Mr. McQueen – No, I did a little over seven (7) years. The total sentence was fifteen (15) years. I was given credit for some time served. I was released in February 2017. From then, again, that's when I started school, apprenticeship, and those kinds of things. So, June of '25 should be, from my calculations, I should be done with the parole as far as the criminal parole. And then that's also when Georgia has it lined up with the funeral Board for my license to also be cleared of the probation.

Mr. Williams – All right. And I didn't see in the packet. Do you have any, and maybe I overlooked it, but do you have any character references or letters of reference to your progress from when you were arrested to your current time?

Mr. McQueen – No, sir. Just me, my family, and the things I've done in the community. I mean, but I don't have any letters that I asked someone to write for me or anything like that.

Mr. Williams – Do you think you'd be able to gain a letter or someone to speak of your character in reference to your progress from when you stated you was a young man to now showing the change and how you have worked in the profession around consumers as well as the industry?

Mr. McQueen – Yes, sir. If that's necessary. I'm sure I can have some members, if you want someone from the industry or if you would like to have some families that I served, I'm sure that I could do that. But again, that is the gray area of bringing my personal past to people that I meet. I don't tell families, "Hey, I've been to prison." So that's just kind of been the issue and the reason why I'm asking for, you know, my license not to be having any restrictions because it's so much time and effort spent on this portion of the conversation when what I've done, I was released in February 2017. You can look at my transcript from college. See when I started college, see that I took no breaks. You can see that I got my license. I mean, I can get people to speak on my behalf, but my actions, I feel like really is going to trump anything that they can say.

Mr. Williams – Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair Peeples – You're welcome. Any other questions for Mr. McQueen? Mr. Clark?

Mr. Clark – Mr. McQueen, was the discharge of firearm tied to dealing drugs or is it something else?

Mr. McQueen – It was separate. Well, I mean, it's just all in the same lifestyle, but that was a separate case. I don't know if that answered your question.

Mr. Clark – And were you using the drugs or just selling the drugs?

Mr. McQueen – Well, I was selling drugs. I mean, I smoked a little marijuana, but no, I wasn't on no hard drugs, or anything like that.

Mr. Clark – Thank you. That's all I have.

Mr. McQueen – Okay.

Chair Peeples – Any other questions for Mr. McQueen? Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, Mr. McQueen, quick question for you. So, I mean, you're recommended for denial, yet you keep saying that you would like no probation in Florida. I don't know that that could ever happen. That would probably be a best-case scenario to be licensed and have probation in Florida. But I mean, have you tried to work at places or somebody willing to hire you in Florida? Because I don't know that just being on probation for six (6) months or a year, I know funeral directors are in big demand in Florida.

Mr. McQueen – Yes, sir, exactly. And that's the reason why, you know, I'm taking the first step of being licensed in Florida. I've spoken with some funeral homes and a lot of them are, you know, kind of hinting at, "First, get your Florida license, and then we can kind of go further in discussion." So, I do have some potential job opportunities here in Florida, and I would like to pursue those, but I would also like to give myself the best chance to pursue those. And that's why, again, I do notice I'm recommended for denial, which is why I explained everything. I'm recommended for denial because when I was a young man, I went to prison. And, you know, I haven't done anything in the funeral business. Again, that's why I'm kind of harping on that because nothing I've done or the reason, I'm recommended for denial has anything to do with me transgressing the laws of the funeral industry.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen, does that complete your question, sir?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Williams?

Mr. Williams – Yes, ma'am. Thank you, Madam Chair.

**MOTION:** Mr. Williams moved to approve the application with seventeen (17) months of probation. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion.

Mr. Williams – Seventeen (17) months would go in line with the probation, I'm assuming Georgia has on him as well.

Chair Peeples – Is there any discussion on the motion?

Mr. Jensen – Yes.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes. The seventeen (17) months, I believe the gentleman stated he was only on funeral probation in Georgia for the next six (6) months. So, is Mr. Williams tying that to the criminal probation?

Mr. Williams – Oh, and I apologize. Madam Chair, may I?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Williams – Yes, Mr. Jensen. I was trying to do calculations. I thought the seventeen (17) months aligned with the Georgia probation and I was trying to align the two together. So, is it five (5) months?

Mr. Jensen – I believe he said six (6) months.

Chair Peeples – Mr. McQueen, would you like to answer the question regarding your probation in Georgia, sir?

Mr. McQueen – Yes, ma'am. About six (6) months, whatever, June -- I don't know how many months they're out, but June is the month that I'll be completed with the criminal probation as well as the funeral license probation in Georgia. So that's, I got around about six (6) months for that.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Mr. McQueen.

Mr. McQueen – About eight (8) months.

Mr. Williams – Eight (8) months?

Mr. McQueen – Eight (8) months.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Williams, would you like to amend your motion to approve with a probation for a year so that that would include the remainder of his probation in Georgia and give a little bit extra?

Mr. Williams – Yes, ma'am. I'll restate the motion. I move to approve the applicant with one-year probation as a condition.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira, do you agree?

Mr. Ferreira – I certainly do.

Chair Peeples – Perfect. Any other discussion on the motion? Hearing none. All in favor of the motion, say yes.

Board members – Yes.

Chair Peeples – All opposed, say no.

Mr. Clark – No.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Clark's a No?

Mr. Clark – Yes.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. Motion carries. Good luck, Mr. McQueen.

Mr. McQueen – Thank you, all. You have a wonderful day.

Chair Peeples – Thank you.

## **J. Application(s) for Internship**

### **(1) Informational Item (Licenses Issued without Conditions) – Addendum F**

#### **(a) Funeral Director & Embalmer (Concurrent)**

- 1. Aldrich, Ashley E F801674**
- 2. Alexander, Samantha M F768221**
- 3. Blurton, Marcus A F793018**
- 4. Burgoyne, Ruth A F042612**
- 5. Chauvin, Anthony J F665322**
- 6. Gonzalez-Cabezas, Cynthia F799151**
- 7. Harres, Joshua R F97985**
- 8. Mesadieu, Loudeny F798923**

9. *Monroe, Ella B F804642*
  10. *Morris, Kaylee S F724352*
  11. *Quick, Erika N F802861*
  12. *Romero, Nicole L F798913*
  13. *Vandegejuchte, Heather A F621083*
  14. *St. Gelais, Tasha L F802397*
- (b) *Funeral Director*
1. *Aubrey, Meghan F F679629*
  2. *Jackson Jr, Calvin M F804631*
  3. *Wilson, Audrey F791146*
- (c) *Embalmer*
1. *Peake, Raquel F802669*

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

- (2) *Application(s) to Renew Internship*
- (a) *Recommended for Approval without Conditions*
1. *Funeral Director Internship*
    - a. *Perez, Vaneeva F710131*

Ms. Simon – Is Ms. Perez available today? Ms. Perez here? Hearing no response. An application to renew funeral director internship to continue course of study was received on September 17, 2024, and the application was deemed complete when received. The application was signed by the supervising funeral director and embalmer in charge Deborah M. McCartney (F044877). Ms. Perez was previously licensed as a funeral director intern and 69K-18.002, (10), Florida Administrative Code, only permits one internship in a lifetime. The funeral director internship expired on September 21, 2024, after the application was received. The Division recommends approval.

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved to approve the application. Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. *Concurrent Internship*
  - a. *Donahue, Faith E F726769*

Ms. Simon – Is Ms. Donahue available on the call today?

Ms. Faith Donahue – Yes, ma'am, I'm present.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Ms. Donahue. An application to renew the funeral director and embalmer concurrent internship license was received on September 9, 2024, and the application was deemed complete when received. The applicant is currently licensed as a funeral director and embalmer concurrent intern and 69K-18.003(6), Florida Administrative Code, only permits one internship in a lifetime. The current license expires on December 1, 2024. On or about October 21st, the applicant separated from her training agency. As a result, the Division would like to impose a condition on this application that if be granted on the condition she finds a training facility within 30 days of the final order issued in this matter.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Mr. Clark?

Mr. Clark – I just need to state for the record that I have a prior affiliation with Mr. Roy Weems, who's the director who wrote a letter in this case, but that affiliation will not prevent me from rendering a fair and impartial decision. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Ms. Donahue, if you would like to address the Board, we would need to swear you in.

Ms. Donahue – Okay.

Ms. Simon – Please raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Ms. Donahue – I do.

Ms. Simon – Please state your name and spell your last name for the record.

Ms. Donahue – My name is Faith Donahue, and my last name is D-O-N-A-H-U-E.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. Would you like to address the Board or are you just here for questions?

Ms. Donahue – Yes, I would like to say that I am currently working on finding a training facility. I started looking. I notified the state the day after my termination, and I started looking that same day. I have been making phone calls and doing my best to find some job opportunities, and I have made some good connections, and I am just continuing to work. I wanted to attend the meeting today just to make sure that when I do approach facilities, I can let them know that my internship has been extended, because I know I'm within a month period of mine ending on December 1st. So, I want to make sure that I can let facilities know that it's not a monthly thing that I do want to remain with them.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. Any questions for Ms. Donahue, or what is the Board's pleasure? Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, I would like to make a motion, but I wanted to amend the Department's motion a little bit, or the Department's suggestion. If Ms. Simon would allow that maybe give her sixty (60) days to find someone, and with the understanding that she understands after sixty (60) days, she would have to start a new one-year internship.

Ms. Simon – Thank you for asking, Mr. Jensen. I believe that's the Board's purview, but I appreciate the discretion. Thank you.

Mr. Jensen – Okay.

Chair Peeples – So would you like to make a motion, Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, ma'am.

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved to approve the application to allow Ms. Donahue to extend her internship for sixty (60) days with the understanding that if she doesn't find work somewhere in sixty (60) days, then her internship would start anew. Mr. Jones seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Good luck, Ms. Donahue.

Ms. Donahue – Thank you, everyone. It's much appreciated.

- K. Application(s) for Monument Establishment Sales Agent**
- (1) Informational Item (Licenses Issued without Conditions) – Addendum G*
    - (a) Frampton, Michael*
    - (b) Heath, John*
    - (c) Heath, Kimberly*
    - (d) MacDonald, Xavier*
    - (e) Steedley, David*
    - (f) Trayer, Keith*

Ms. Simon – Pursuant to s. 497.554, Florida Statutes, the Division has previously approved the applicants listed on Addendum G.

**L. Notification(s) of Change in Location**

- (1) Informational Item (Licenses Issued without Conditions) – Addendum H*
- (a) Ganderson Brothers Mortuary (Lake Mary)*

Ms. Simon – This is an informational item. The establishment listed on Addendum H has applied for a change of location of their business. The only criterion for approval is that the new location pass inspection by the Division of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services.

**M. Application to Acquire Control of an Existing Cemetery Company and Application for Preneed Branch**

- (1) Recommended for Denial (Collective Coversheet)*
- (a) Faithful Heritage Holdings Inc d/b/a Resthaven Memorial Park (Tampa)*

Ms. Simon – Again, that matter has been withdrawn. If I may have a moment?

Chair Peeples –Yes, ma'am.

**N. Application(s) for Cinerator Facility**

- (1) Recommended for Approval with Conditions*
- (a) New Beginnings Crematory Inc (Jacksonville)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of New Beginnings Crematory, Incorporated on the call today?

Mr. Victor Solomon – Yes. Can you hear me?

Ms. Simon – Yes. Thank you, sir. An application for cinerator facility licensure was received on August 16, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on September 11, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be Victor Solomon Jr. (F085405). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the facility passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Who is representing New Beginnings Crematory, Inc.?

Mr. Solomon – It is me. My name's Victor Solomon, Jr. I'm the licensed funeral director.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Solomon. Mr. Solomon, if you would like to address the Board, we need to swear you in please, sir.

Mr. Solomon – Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Simon – Please raise your hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. Solomon – Yes, I do.

Ms. Simon – Please state your name and spell your last name for the record.

Mr. Solomon – My name is Victor Emmanuel Solomon, Jr. Last name is spelled S-O-L-O-M-O-N.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, sir.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Solomon. Would you like to address the Board or are you here just for questions if they arise?

Mr. Solomon – No, ma'am. I have no questions. I was just here due to the fact that it said with conditions, I figured the conditions would be following the inspection which we have already scheduled with Ms. Anna Rodriguez who will be coming on the 18th. So, we're looking forward to the inspection.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. Board members, do you have any questions for Mr. Solomon? Hearing none. What is the Board's pleasure?

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

Chair Peeples – Good luck, Mr. Solomon.

Mr. Solomon – All right, thank you so much, everyone. Appreciate it.

**O. Application(s) for Direct Disposal Establishment**  
*(1) Recommended for Approval with Conditions*  
*(a) Affordable Cremations of Central Florida (Tampa)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today? Hearing no response. An application for direct disposal establishment licensure was received on September 13, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on October 1, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be Christopher Daniel (F043933). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Board members?

Mr. Jensen – Madam Chair, I do have a question for staff, if I may?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Jensen – So I'm looking at this and the next item, they appear to be the same one. Is that correct? They both have the same number, and they appear to be the same ones. And on this application, it states they're going to be doing business possibly in another name. I'm just a little confused because they appear to be the same.

Ms. Simon – Okay. May I?

Chair Peeples – Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Simon – I'm looking at the two (2) applications and they seem to be different in terms of the address. The address that's provided, I see that there are two different facilities. So as to Affordable Cremations of Central Florida, I believe that stands on its own.

Mr. Jensen – Okay.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen, does that complete your question, sir?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, ma'am. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. What's the Board's pleasure?

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

*(b) Cremations of Tampa LLC (Tampa)*



Ms. Simon – An application for direct disposal establishment licensure was received on July 17, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on August 30, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be Alan Orr (F051681). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff. Is there a representative of Cremations of Tampa LLC on the call today?

Mr. Alan Orr – Yes, I am. Thank you. Sorry. I got choked up.

Chair Peeples – And who is representing Cremations of Tampa LLC, please?

Mr. Orr – My name is Alan Orr, FDIC.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Orr, do you need to be sworn in to address the Board or have questions asked of you, sir?

Mr. Orr – No, I'm just sitting in on the meeting. I appreciate it.

Chair Peeples – Okay. Thank you, sir. Thank you. Board members, your pleasure?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to approve the application subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff. Ms. Clay seconded the motion.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, discussion, please. On Page 6, I see that everything is listed No as far as not having a removal service, not having refrigeration facilities. I don't see any contracts listed for refrigeration. What does he intend to do with bodies that are waiting to be cremated?

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen, if we may, we would need to have Mr. Orr sworn in. Mr. Orr if you will be sworn in, please.

Ms. Simon – Mr. Orr, please raise your right hand.

Mr. Orr – Okay.

Ms. Simon – Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. Orr – Yes.

Ms. Simon – Please state your name and spell your last name for the record.

Mr. Orr – Alan G. Orr, O-R-R.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, sir.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Mr. Orr, could you answer the questions from Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Orr – Yes, this is a second location. I contract with Spangler Crematory in Lakeland. That's where the refrigeration facility is.

Mr. Jensen – So, follow-up, Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Jensen – So, Ms. Simon, what do we do with this? Because he's required to have the contract here and there is not one attached and he's got no for refrigeration. So, I'm just wondering. He's stating that that's going to be different. So, do we approve what's in front of us or do we approve with condition that he provide that contract?

Ms. Simon – Either is permitted. Mr. Jensen, if you would like to make a motion in that regard, I'm sure that would be acceptable by the rest of the Board.

Mr. Jensen – But we have a motion on the floor. I believe it would have to be retracted first.

Mr. Ferreira – I can amend it.

Ms. Simon – Or an amendment for the motion.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen, we can ask Mr. Ferreira who made the motion to amend his motion. Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, I will amend my motion and attach those conditions, of those contracts as a condition.

Chair Peeples – So, Mr. Ferreira, you're amending your motion and requesting that Mr. Orr on behalf of Cremations of Tampa LLC attach the items that are not included in the application and were originally requested?

Ms. Rachelle Munson – May we state what they are for the record for the Order?

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen, would you like to state those for us, sir?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, with the cinerator or direct disposals thing, he's required to have refrigeration. So, I think he should have a contract since he stated he's contracted that out, so it should have been included in the application. So, I would like that included in, also changed to where he's showing on Page 6 where he is going to offer refrigeration.

Ms. Munson – My communication faded out. I'm sorry. Did you just say include the refrigeration information and update the application to reflect the same?

Mr. Jensen – That's correct.

Ms. Munson – Thank you, sir.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira, do you agree to that as your amended motion?

Mr. Ferreira – Certainly do, yes.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Clay, do you second?

Ms. Clay – I do.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Any other discussion on the motion? Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – I would assume on the same vein Mr. Jensen would've liked to see the contract with the cinerator facilities, but maybe I am speaking out of term.

Mr. Jensen – If I may, Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Jensen – So, this looks like it's a direct disposal establishment, so yes, you are correct, Ms. Simon. My apologies, I missed that. So yes, I mean, we need to know where they're getting cremated. Yes, absolutely.

Chair Peeples – So, we have an amendment to the amendment of a motion. Our second amended motion is to approve but request the applicant to attach a refrigeration agreement and a cinerator facility agreement, as well as change the items on Page 6 to reflect the same. Is that correct, Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – Is there anything else?

Chair Peeples – We'll get to that in a moment.

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, that's right.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Clay, do you accept that?

Ms. Clay – I do.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. So, we had a vote on the first amendment, now we're on the second amendment. So, all in favor of the motion, please, say yes.

Board members – Yes.

Chair Peeples – All opposed, say no. Motion carries. Thank you, Mr. Orr.

Mr. Orr – You're welcome. Thank you.

*(c) Smart Cremation of Florida LLC (Davie)*

Ms. Simon – Is there an individual here representing Smart Cremation of Florida?

Ms. Wendy Wiener – Yes. Wendy Wiener.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Ms. Wiener. An application for direct disposal establishment licensure was received on August 7, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on September 6, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be Joanna Cadet (F045432). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Ms. Wiener, would you like to address the Board or are you here for questions?

Ms. Wiener – Just questions. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Board members?

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

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Wiener. It's 1:39. Let's take a quick 10-minute restroom break and let's try to come back and finish the rest of the agenda, please. Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*BREAK\*\*\*\*\*

Chair Peeples – Are we still recording Ms. Bryant?

Ms. LaTonya Bryant – We are.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. And for the record, it is 1:50 on November 7th. Ms. Clay has departed her office. She's in the vehicle driving. And she is not going to be connected via camera, but she is connected. Ms. Clay, you're connected?

Ms. Clay – Yes, I am.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Thank you, ma'am.

**P. Application(s) for Funeral Establishment**  
**(1) Recommended for Approval with Conditions**  
**(a) *Campfield & Rollins Funeral Home LLC (Hollywood)***

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today? Hearing no response. An application funeral establishment licensure was received on September 17, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on October 2, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be LaTric Campfield (F425210). A background check of the business principal revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

Ms. Latrice Campfield – Excuse me, Madam Chair? I am available and on the line.

Chair Peeples – Who is speaking, please?

Ms. Campfield – I'm sorry. Latrice Campfield.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Campfield. Do you need to be sworn in to address the Board, ma'am?

Ms. Campfield – No, ma'am. Just questions if there are any.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. Board members?

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

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. Ms. Simon?

**(b) *Cremation Services of America LLC d/b/a West Florida Cremation and Burial Center (Pensacola)***

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call?

Ms. Wiener – Yes. Yes. Wendy Wiener.

Ms. Simon – Thanks, Ms. Wiener. An application for funeral establishment licensure was received on July 30, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on August 16, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be Caleb Anderson (F601824). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Ms. Wiener, would you like to address the Board?

Ms. Wiener – Here for questions only. Thank you.

Chair Peebles – Thank you, ma'am. Board members?

Mr. Jensen – Madam Chair, I do have a question on this when we get that point.

Chair Peebles – Yes, Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Okay. So, I've got a couple of questions here, Ms. Wiener. One is I see that the same name is currently licensed as a direct disposal establishment at another location, and I have not seen a change of address come in. What say you to that?

Ms. Wiener – I don't believe there's any prohibition of having multiple branches with the same name of different establishments. So, I don't think there's any prohibition.

Mr. Jensen – Oh, is this a branch location? Because I didn't see that. It said new funeral establishment is what it said.

Ms. Wiener – Correct. I don't mean branch in the sense that we use preneed branches, but you can have six (6) funeral establishments all called Jensen Funeral Home if you so desire. I mean this is a funeral establishment, but primarily selling cremation. So, you could have a funeral establishment and a direct disposal establishment both with the same name as long as they're properly licensed.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. Follow-up, please? Madam Chair, follow-up?

Chair Peebles – Yes, sir.

Mr. Jensen – So, Ms. Wiener, in looking at this, so they're going to be at this 9500 Pensacola Boulevard, and they have the other location. I mean, they're going to be a funeral establishment, but the person getting the FDIC is only a licensed funeral director, which I do know they amended the statute in 2010, I believe, of 497.380, but our application does not say that. It says that he also has to be a licensed embalmer.

Ms. Wiener – Yes, that's just wrong. The application needs to be updated. A pursuant to 497.380(7), if the funeral establishment does not have a prep room, then the licensee in charge need only be a funeral director. And in fact, I think if you look carefully at this application, you'll see that this business doesn't even intend to sell embalming services. So, the FDIC [inaudible].

Mr. Jensen – Yes, I did notice that Ms. Wiener. Along those lines, if they already have a direct disposal place, I mean, what can they offer without a funeral director embalmer, besides direct burial?

Ms. Wiener – Well, as I always advise my clients, if you have 1,250 contiguous square feet, you should for sure be a funeral establishment and not a direct disposal establishment. So, for instance, if for in they need to do an identification viewing, they can actually do that with a funeral establishment. They are not permitted to do that at a direct disposal establishment. In addition, as you may know, there are restrictions around placing certain information in obituaries if you are a direct disposal establishment. Those same restrictions don't exist if you are a funeral establishment. Since the requirements for both licenses are literally identical save for the difference in square footage, if you have the square footage available, you should always become licensed as a funeral establishment. And so, this client has taken my advice on that.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. Also, we verified that this location is 1,250 square feet. Correct, Ms. Simon?

Ms. Wiener – Yes.

Ms. Simon – I'm sorry. Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – We verified that this location is actually 1,250 square feet? Because when I looked it up, it said it's only 1,200 square feet.

Ms. Simon – Yes, sir. I verified that this location is 1,250 square feet.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. One other thing, Chair. I was trying to follow the principals' list, and I see that this Cremation Services of America is owned by another LLC called CSA Holding Group, which is owned by another LLC called Northwest Registered Agent, which is owned by a guy named Taylor Newman, who is not on the list here. So, is that okay, Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Mr. Jensen, I apologize. I had a little hard time following you on that.

Mr. Jensen – Yes, it's basically four (4) different LLCs, and then they all check back in the end under this Northwest Registered Agent and a Taylor Newman from Spokane, Washington. Shouldn't he be listed as a principal? Yes, or no?

Ms. Simon – Not necessarily. No, sir.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. But under the principals list, it says every person should be listed.

Ms. Simon – Madam Chair, I don't want to keep speaking [inaudible].

Chair Peeples – Yes, please answer his questions.

Ms. Simon – Oftentimes, when there is an entity that is listed as a principal, the principals of that entity have not been required traditionally to appear on the business principal list.

Ms. Wiener – Correct.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen, does that complete your question? Or Ms. Wiener, did you have an answer to Mr. Jensen's question?

Ms. Wiener – I was simply going to supplement what Ms. Simon correctly said. In Florida, in the death care law, we do not require licensees to disclose the ownership above the level of immediate ownership. If that's how the law would ever be changed to be, then we could do that, but that is not what the law says. So, the law stops at the level of immediate ownership. Once you go one level up from the entity, then that's as far as Florida law allows pursuant to Chapter 497. So, the application is accurate as presented.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. Also, Madam Chair, just to verify Ms. Wiener, so there's going to be two (2) locations, exact same name. One (1) is going to be direct disposal; one (1) is going to be a funeral establishment. They cannot offer or show, or I guess they could show un-embalmed bodies during a certain time, but their refrigeration is way over in, you know, almost seventy (70) miles away. I mean, how's that going to work?

Ms. Wiener – I don't know exactly how it's going to work, but the refrigeration and cremation contracts are properly in place. What typically happens is if you are a funeral establishment providing cremation services and the family wants to do an identification view, then you would make arrangements to have those remains transported back for that identification view and then come back to the facility which is within the mileage as contemplated under Florida law.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Any other questions for Ms. Wiener? Hearing none. What is the pleasure of the Board?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved to approve the application subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff. Ms. Clay seconded the motion, which passed with one (1) dissenting vote.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Wiener.

*(c) Guerry Funeral Home of Lake City d/b/a Guerry Funeral Home (Lake City)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today?

Mr. Luke Grabowski – Yes. Luke Grabowski on behalf of the Guerry Funeral Home.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Mr. Grabowski. An application funeral establishment licensure was received on September 9, 2024. The application was complete when submitted. The funeral director in charge will be Brittnee Nicole Milton (F074152). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff and the applicant provide proof of good standing with the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Mr. Grabowski, would you like to address the Board or for questions only?

Mr. Grabowski – I'm just here for questions, Madam Chair.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Board members? Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, I'm sorry to be a pain. I do have a question. Mr. Grabowski, on Page 4 in Section 6, I believe, it says a previous license was revoked. "Have you ever had a death care industry license revoked, suspended," and is checked Yes. Can you maybe speak to that?

Mr. Grabowski – Yes, Mr. Jensen. It was checked Yes because while they never had a license suspended or revoked, that section of it says otherwise disciplined. And this facility did have some discipline last year that the Board was aware of with the current owner. So that's why that is checked Yes.

Mr. Jensen – And that, Madam Chair, that segues into my next question if I may?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Jensen – So, Section 1B is checked change of owner. And on Page 8, it says it's not a change of owner. So, is this a change of owner?

Mr. Grabowski – Yes. Mr. Jensen, this is simply a change of ownership. Mr. William Guerry will no longer be the owner of this funeral establishment.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. Very good. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair Peeples – You're welcome. Any other questions? Hearing no response. What is the Board's pleasure?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved to approve the application subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff and the applicant provide proof of good standing with the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Grabowski.

Mr. Grabowski – Thank you, Madam Chair.

*(d) Serenity Gardens Funeral and Cremation Services LLC (Miami)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of entity on the call today?

Ms. Latonya Heard – Yes. Latonya Heard.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Ms. Heard. An application for funeral establishment licensure was received on August 15, 2024. The application was complete when submitted. The funeral director in charge will be Latonya Heard (F045589). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Ms. Heard, would you like to address the Board or are you here for questions if they arise?

Ms. Heard – Just for questions.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. Board members?

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

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Heard.

Ms. Heard – Thank you.

*(e) Stafford & Simon Family Funeral Home LLC (Deland)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of entity on the call today? Hearing no response. An application for funeral establishment licensure was received on October 3, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on October 7, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be Terrance J. Stafford (F078477). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Chapman moved to approve the application subject to the condition that the establishment passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion.

Chair Peeples – Is there any discussion on the motion? Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes. I need a job with the Department to read these applications. But look at Page 7 of our packet, 6A it says they checked No where they understand they don't have to have an FDIC. And I'm curious, I can't see it on here, but are they offering embalming?

Ms. Simon – Well if I may?

Chair Peeples – Yes, Ms. Simon.

Ms. Simon – To answer your first question, it appears that they are offering embalming as noted on Page 6. And on Page 7, while that matter is checked No, they do have a funeral director in charge, and the funeral director in charge is a funeral director and embalmer as required by statute when there is a prep room.

Mr. Jensen – So I'm to assume it's just a typo? Correct?

Ms. Simon – That is what I would assume. However, the Board members can handle this however they would like. There can be another condition that is placed on licensure however the Board members would choose to go about this matter.

Chair Peeples – So Mr. Jensen, we have a motion by Mr. Chapman, a second by Ms. Liotta. Would you like to ask Mr. Chapman to amend his motion?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, I would. Mr. Chapman, would you amend your motion to include that they fix that because they need to know that I don't want that coming back on the Board years from now and they say, "Well, I checked No, and you approved it"?

Chair Peeples – What page is that and what number, Mr. Jensen?



Mr. Jensen – It's Page 7, 6A in your packet. Page 7 in your packet, 6A, funeral director in charge.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Chapman, do you approve?

Mr. Chapman – Madam Chair, I do.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Liotta, do you approve?

Ms. Liotta – Yes.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Any other discussion on the motion? Hearing none. All in favor of the motion, say yes.

Board members – Yes.

Chair Peeples – All opposed, say no. Motion carries.

*(2) Recommended for Denial*

*(a) South Florida Crematory d/b/a Atlantis Simple Cremations (West Palm Beach)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today?

Ms. Keila Crucet – Yes, Madam Chair.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Ms. Crucet. An application for funeral establishment licensure was received on June 12, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on September 17, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be Keila Crucet (F052106). A background check of the principals revealed relevant criminal history. On November 20, 2009, applicant principal Keila Crucet was adjudicated guilty of driving while license suspended-habitual offender, a felony in the third degree. Ms. Crucet was fined \$883.00 and required to attend 30 hours of traffic school. On March 30, 2010, Ms. Crucet's driver's license was suspended for failure to pay the fine. On May 19, 2010, Ms. Crucet's case was referred to collections. On January 27, 2011, Ms. Crucet paid her fine and her license was reinstated. The Division recommends denial.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Miss, do you pronounce it, Crucet?

Ms. Crucet – Crucet, yes.

Chair Peeples – Crucet. Thank you, ma'am. Would you please be sworn in, in case there are questions for you please, ma'am?

Ms. Crucet – Yes.

Ms. Simon – Please state your name and spell your last name for the record.

Ms. Crucet – Keila, last name C-R-U-C-E-T.

Ms. Simon – Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Ms. Crucet – Yes.

Ms. Simon – Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. Would you like to address the Board?

Ms. Crucet – Yes. That was not the best time of my life right there. In 2009 I had a ticket. It snowballed, it sort of avalanched into something more. I neglected to pay it. It wasn't the best year for my mental health due to my father, my stepfather, my

grandfather all passed within eight (8) months. My head wasn't in the right place. I did reach out. I went before a judge, and he gave me an opportunity. I paid \$800 in fines. He gave me an opportunity. I did thirty (30) hours of traffic school, which I think is like maximum. And after that was completed, he went ahead and reestablished my license. I haven't had an issue since. And in fact, I've been in business on my own since 2012. I have three (3) facilities. I've never been in front of the Board because I've never had a complaint or an issue. So, it was just a bad moment I could say in my life, and it was something I'm not proud of.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. Board members, are there any questions for Ms. Cruet?

Mr. Ferreira – I've got one.

Mr. Clark – Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – So, you have three (3) locations?

Ms. Cruet – Yes.

Mr. Ferreira – The first location was started after 2011?

Ms. Cruet – 2012 was the funeral home, yes.

Mr. Ferreira – Okay. And this information hadn't been discussed when you got licensed?

Ms. Cruet – Always. I've always submitted my fingerprints and I've submitted my applications every year.

Mr. Ferreira – Right.

Ms. Cruet – I never said anything else to every time I never had to disclose anything else because I did at the very beginning.

Mr. Ferreira – Right. But so, as you get licensed, this information should carry on. Is that right, Ms. Simon? So, in 2012 when she opened up her funeral home, did we see this information? I would assume yes.

Ms. Simon – I would assume the same.

Mr. Ferreira – Okay.

Chair Peeples – Any other questions, Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – That's it. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, I -- kind of along the same lines, I'm just curious, like on Page 5 why did you check no criminal history?

Ms. Cruet – I thought it was a 10-year period. I spoke to somebody on the Board. This is fifteen (15) years ago. I thought it was within the 10-year period. I was mistaken. No, it was within the last fifteen (15) years. So, I think I went back, and I changed it, and I provided court records as well.

Mr. Jensen – So just to piggyback, Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Jensen – Yes. So back in 2012, Ms. Simon, did it have criminal history on here and did she check No then, or was it just overlooked?

Ms. Simon – Mr. Jensen, if you could give one moment, I will look it up for you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon.

Ms. Simon – Our records -- I'm having a difficult time locating records in this matter that reflect that there was a license for a funeral establishment issued in 2012. According to our records, there was a license for a funeral establishment that was issued in 2022.

Ms. Cruet – It was in a different name, Madam so maybe that's the case. It's not the same company, it's a different company. Would that help? Are you looking under my name?

Ms. Simon – I'm looking under South Florida Crematory.

Ms. Cruet – No. Serenity Funeral Home and Cremation. That was 2012.

Ms. Simon – There is an application for funeral establishment license given on September 19, 2012. And in the documents for the original application, if I could just have a moment.

Chair Peeples – Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Simon – The original application was submitted in March of 2012. And in that application when asked any other felony not disclosed under Subparagraph 1, which is related to the practice of funeral directing, any other felony which was committed within twenty (20) years and the answer is Yes.

Chair Peeples – Does that answer your question, sir?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, ma'am. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Are there any other questions? Hearing none. What is the Board's pleasure? Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – If I may, if approved, subject to the condition that the applicant pass an onsite inspection conducted by a member of Division staff.

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

Chair Peeples – Good luck, ma'am.

Ms. Cruet – Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Before we go to the next agenda item, I just need to let the Board know that Mr. Jones needs to depart the meeting. Yes, Ms. Munson?

Ms. Munson – My computer's acting out. Could you just confirm with that? Was that a straight-out approval or with conditions?

Chair Peeples – Approval with the condition of an on-site inspection by Division staff.

Ms. Munson – Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Yes, ma'am. Thank you, Mr. Jones, for participating today. Good luck in your next meeting.

Mr. Jones – Bye-bye.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Simon?

**Q. Application(s) for Preneed Main**

*(1) Recommended for Approval without Conditions*

*(a) Seabreeze Funeral Services LLC d/b/a Quinn-Shalz Funeral Home (Jacksonville Beach)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today?

Ms. Darlene Smith – Yes.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, ma'am. Can you please provide your name?

Ms. Smith – Darlene Smith.

Ms. Simon – Thanks, Ms. Smith. The Department received an application for preneed main licensure on September 13, 2024, and deficiencies were noted on the application. All deficiencies were resolved as of September 19, 2024. The sole member of the LLC is Darlene B. Smith. A completed background check was returned to the Division without criminal history. Applicant is submitting this application for a new preneed license due to a change of ownership. The qualifying funeral establishment license (License # F795394) is also located at the above address and was approved as of September 5, 2024. If approved, Applicant will sell insurance-funded preneed through Funeral Directors Life Insurance Company (FDLIC) and utilize their approved pre-arranged funeral agreement forms. The Division recommends approval without conditions.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Board members, are there any questions? Ms. Smith, would you like to be sworn in to address the Board, or if we have questions only?

Ms. Smith – If you have questions only.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, ma'am. Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to approve the application. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Good luck, Ms. Smith.

Ms. Smith – Thank you.

**R. Application(s) for Preneed Branch**

*(1) Recommended for Approval without Conditions – Addendum I*

*(a) Ferreira Enterprises Inc (F019201) (MacClenny)*

*(b) Guerry Funeral Home of Macclenny LLC (F019322) (Lake City)*

Ms. Simon – Pursuant to section 497.453, Florida Statutes, the entities referenced on Addendum H have applied for preneed branch licensure. The applications were complete without reportable criminal or disciplinary history and accompanied by the required fee. It is recommended that the entities referenced on Addendum I be approved for the branch licensure applied for.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Simon, I have a question. We have Mr. Ferreira as Agenda Item R(1)(a). Mr. Ferreira, is this the entity on Chaffee Road or is this an acquisition entity?

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, ma'am. This should be on New Berlin.

Chair Peeples – Okay. Ms. Simon, should we not wait on this item for preneed branch, we haven't even addressed under Agenda Item V(1)(a) for Mr. Ferreira an acquisition? So, should we wait?

Ms. Simon – We can table this matter and bring it up after we call that case.

Chair Peeples – I think it would be in better appropriate context. Because if we approve a preneed branch, but we haven't approved the ownership change, I think we need to get ownership change first. Would that not be correct, Ms. Munson?

Ms. Munson – Correct.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. So, for Mr. Ferreira on letter Agenda Item R(1)(a), we'll table it till we get through Agenda Item V(1)(a)1 and 2. Ms. Simon, are we not going to take up Guerry Funeral Home of Macclenny under Agenda Item R(1)?

Ms. Simon – I apologize. I figured we'd table all of R because it's all on the addendum.

Chair Peeples – Perfect. Thank you.

**S. Application(s) for Removal Service**

**(1) Recommended for Approval with Conditions**

**(a) Baxter Removal Services LLC (Pompano Beach)**

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of Baxter Removal Services LLC on the call? Hearing no response. An application for removal service licensure was received on September 24, 2024. 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 removal service passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Clark moved to approve the application subject to condition that the removal service passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**(b) Elmer L Cox d/b/a Cox OnCall Mortuary Removal Service (Ocala)**

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today?

Mr. Elmer Cox – Yes, ma'am. Elmer Cox.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Mr. Cox. An application for removal service licensure was received on August 14, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on September 11, 2024. A background check of the applicant revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the removal service passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Mr. Cox, do you need to address the Board? If so, we would need to swear you in, sir.

Mr. Cox – No, ma'am. I just had one question.

Chair Peeples – Sir, we would need to swear you in please, sir.

Mr. Cox – Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Simon – Please raise your right hand.

Mr. Cox – Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Simon – Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. Cox – Yes, ma'am. I do.

Ms. Simon – Please state your name and spell your last name for the record.

Mr. Cox – All right. My name is Elmer Cox. Last name is spelled C-O-X.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, sir.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Cox. Now if you would address us, please.

Mr. Cox – Yes, ma'am. Sorry. I was looking at the thing about conditions, but I've already been inspected.

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir. If that has already been completed the Division staff will be in touch with you depending on what the Board determines today from this agenda item.

Mr. Cox – Okay. I'm sorry.

Chair Peeples – That's okay, sir. Thank you. Thank you for participating and thank you for asking the question. Board members, any questions for Mr. Cox or what is your pleasure?

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved to approve the application subject to condition that the removal service passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Good luck, sir.

Mr. Cox – Thank you, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – You're welcome.

*(c) Eternal Transport Orlando LLC (Orlando)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today? Hearing no response. An application for removal service licensure was received on August 7, 2024. 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 removal service passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to approve the application subject to condition that the removal service passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

*(d) Restful Removals LLC (Archer)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today? Hearing no response. An application for removal service licensure was received on August 8, 2024. 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 removal service passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to approve the application subject to condition that the removal service passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff. Mr. Clark seconded the motion.

Chair Peeples – Is there any discussion on the motion? Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, I did notice on here under the question of will they be operating under the name on the application, and it says No, and I don't see anywhere on the application where it actually has a name of what they would operate under. So, I would think that would cause an issue.

Chair Peeples – Are you asking this question of Ms. Simon, sir?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, ma'am. I'm sorry.

Ms. Simon – I assume that that matter could be handled by way of a condition on an approval if the Board was so willing to do so.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen, does that complete your question, sir?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, ma'am.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. We have a motion and a second, Mr. Ferreira, Mr. Clark. Any other discussion? Mr. Jensen, would you like Mr. Ferreira to amend his motion or to include that as a condition?

Mr. Jensen – I would humbly ask Mr. Ferreira to amend his motion to include the actual name of the entity they are going to operate under.

Mr. Ferreira – I'll accept.

Ms. Simon – As a condition?

Mr. Ferreira – Yes, as a condition.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Clark, do you accept as a condition?

Mr. Clark – I do, yes.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Ms. Munson, did you get that, ma'am? Thank you. So, we have a motion, a second. No further discussion. All in favor of the motion, say yes.

Board members – Yes.

Chair Peeples – All opposed, say no. Motion carries.

*(e) Tammy Daniels d/b/a Webb Mortuary and Removal Service (Blountstown)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today?

Mr. Shannon Webb – Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, sir.

An application for removal service licensure was received on September 6, 2024. 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 removal service passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Who is representing this entity?

Mr. Webb – Shannon Webb.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Webb. Do you need to be sworn in or only if we have questions?

Mr. Webb – Only if you have questions.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to approve the application subject to condition that the removal service passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Webb.

Mr. Webb – Thank you.

**T. Collective Application(s) for Licensure**

*(1) Recommended for Approval with Conditions*

*(a) Florida Cremation Society LLC (Ocala)*

- 1. Application for Cinerator Facility*
- 2. Application for Direct Disposal Establishment*
- 3. Application for Transfer of Preneed Main*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of that entity on the call today?

Mr. Jack Roland – Yes, there is.

Ms. Simon – Thank you. Who is it speaking?

Mr. Roland – Jack Roland.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Mr. Roland. Florida Cremation Society LLC (Florida Cremation), a limited liability company, has submitted the following: an application for direct disposal establishment licensure, an application for cinerator facility licensure, and an application for transfer of preneed main licensure at the below listed location. More specifically, the entity being acquired is as follows: Florida Cremation Society LLC, license numbers F504914, F504915, F019388, at 708 SW 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Ocala, FL 34471

Attached to this application packet are three (3) separate applications regarding the above listed property. The change of ownership is the result of a stock transfer where 100% of all interests are being acquired by Kevin K. Roberts, sole owner, and manager of the LLC, as specified in the attached letter, dated September 16, 2024. The background check of the principal was returned without criminal history. Applicant confirms that if there are currently any unfulfilled preneed contracts sold at these locations, the obligation to fulfill those preneed contracts will be assumed by the new owner, Mr. Roberts. The Division recommends approval subject to the following conditions:

- 1) That the closing on the transaction to acquire ownership shall occur within sixty (60) days of the date of this Board meeting.
- 2) That the closing on the transaction shall be substantially on terms and conditions as represented to the Board at this Board meeting.
- 3) That Applicant shall assure receipt by the Division within seventy-five (75) days of the Board meeting, of a letter signed by applicant or applicant's attorney, addressed to the Division, certifying that closing has occurred and stating the date of closing, and stating that closing occurred on terms and conditions not inconsistent with those as represented to the Board at this Board meeting, and providing a copy of the fully Bill of Sale, Stock Purchase Agreement, or other document by which the acquisition transaction is consummated, executed by all parties, and any and all amendments, schedules, and other attachments thereto, also fully executed.
- 4) That the Director of the Division of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services may extend any deadline set out in these conditions, by up to ninety (90) days, for good cause shown. The Director shall report any such extensions to the Board as an informational item.



- 5) That all representations by the applicant in the application and related materials provided to the Board or FCCS Division by the applicant, in support of the application(s), are deemed material to the Board's action herein.
- 6) That the establishment(s) under the application(s) herein pass an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff.
- 7) That the Applicant (new owner or controlling party) shall assume all existing preneed liabilities, (if any), of the location(s) being acquired.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon.

Mr. Clark – Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir, Mr. Clark.

Mr. Clark – Just want to state for the record, I also have a prior affiliation with this applicant, Mr. Roland, but that affiliation will not prevent me from rendering a fair and impartial decision. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Clark. Mr. Roland, will you need to address the Board? If so, we would need to swear you in, sir.

Mr. Roland – I'm just here to answer questions, Madam Chair.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved to approve the applications subject to conditions recommended by the Division. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Roland.

Mr. Roland – Thank you, Madam Chair.

***(b) Roberts Funeral Home of Dunnellon LLC (Dunnellon)***

- 1. Application for Cinerator Facility***
- 2. Application for Funeral Establishment***
- 3. Application for Transfer of Preneed Main***

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of that entity on the call today?

Mr. Roland – Yes, Jack Roland.

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Mr. Roland. Roberts Funeral Home of Dunnellon LLC (Roberts), a limited liability company, has submitted the following: an application for a funeral establishment license, an application for a cinerator facility license, and an application for transfer of preneed main license, if approved, at the below listed location. More specifically, the entities that are being acquired is as follows:

- 1) Roberts Funeral Home of Dunnellon LLC, a licensed funeral establishment, license # F504903, physical address: 19939 E Pennsylvania Ave, Dunnellon, FL 34432
- 2) Roberts Funeral Home of Dunnellon LLC, a licensed cinerator facility, license #F504904, physical address: 19939 E Pennsylvania Ave, Dunnellon, FL 34432
- 3) Roberts Funeral Home of Dunnellon LLC, a licensed preneed main, license #F019306, physical address: 19939 E Pennsylvania Ave, Dunnellon, FL 34432

Included in your Board packets are the separate applications regarding the above listed property. The change of ownership is the result of a stock transfer where 100% of all interests are being acquired by Kevin K. Roberts, sole owner, and manager of the LLC, as specified in the attached letter, dated 9-16-2024. The background check of the principal was returned without criminal history. Applicant confirms that if there are currently any unfulfilled preneed contracts sold at these locations, the

obligation to fulfill those preneed contracts will be assumed by the new owner, Mr. Roberts. The Division recommends approval subject to the following conditions:

- 1) That the closing on the transaction to acquire ownership shall occur within sixty (60) days of the date of this Board meeting.
- 2) That the closing on the transaction shall be substantially on terms and conditions as represented to the Board at this Board meeting.
- 3) That Applicant shall assure receipt by the Division within seventy-five (75) days of the Board meeting, of a letter signed by applicant or applicant's attorney, addressed to the Division, certifying that closing has occurred and stating the date of closing, and stating that closing occurred on terms and conditions not inconsistent with those as represented to the Board at this Board meeting, and providing a copy of the fully Bill of Sale, Stock Purchase Agreement, or other document by which the acquisition transaction is consummated, executed by all parties, and any and all amendments, schedules, and other attachments thereto, also fully executed.
- 4) That the Director of the Division of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services may extend any deadline set out in these conditions, by up to ninety (90) days, for good cause shown. The Director shall report any such extensions to the Board as an informational item.
- 5) That all representations by the applicant in the application and related materials provided to the Board or FCCS Division by the applicant, in support of the application(s), are deemed material to the Board's action herein.
- 6) That the establishment(s) under the application(s) herein pass an onsite inspection by a member of Division Staff.
- 7) That the Applicant (new owner or controlling party) shall assume all existing preneed liabilities, (if any), of the location(s) being acquired.

Chair Peebles – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Thank you, Mr. Roland, for participating.

Mr. Clark – Madam Chair?

Chair Peebles – Yes, sir, Mr. Clark.

Mr. Clark – Just for the record, same disclosure as the previous matter, but that affiliation will not prevent me from rendering a fair and impartial decision.

Chair Peebles – Thank you, Mr. Clark. Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved to approve the applications subject to conditions recommended by the Division. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peebles – Thank you, Mr. Roland.

Mr. Roland – Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, Board.

**U. Contract(s) or Other Related Form(s)**

**(1) Recommended for Approval *without* Conditions**

**(a) Preconstruction Performance Bond(s)**

**1. SCI Funeral Services of Florida, LLC d/b/a Bayview Memorial Park (F039505) (Pensacola)**

Ms. Simon – SCI Funeral Services of Florida, LLC dba Bayview Memorial Park intends to build a garden mausoleum consisting of 322 casket spaces and 80 niches. Pursuant to s. 497.272, Fla. Statutes, typically, a pre-construction trust must be put in place if sales are going to occur prior to completion. However, s. 497.272(8) provides that in lieu of the pre-construction trust fund, the cemetery company may provide a performance bond in an amount and by a surety company acceptable to the regulator. The licensee has submitted for approval a performance bond, in lieu of a pre-construction trust. The mausoleum project, and the bond, is summarized as follows:

SCI Funeral Services of Florida, LLC DBA Bayview Memorial Park (F039505) Address: 3351 Scenic Hwy.  
90E, Pensacola, FL 32503

Project: Garden mausoleum consisting of 322 casket spaces and 80 niches Bond Amount:  
\$810,000.00

Bond Number: 022239591 Surety Company:  
Liberty Mutual

The cemetery agrees to complete said construction in accordance with the terms of the construction agreement with Ingram Construction Company, Inc. included within your Board package. The Division recommends approval without conditions.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to approve the preconstruction performance bond. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**2. *SCI Funeral Services of Florida, LLC d/b/a Coral Ridge Funeral Home & Cemetery (F039505) (Cape Coral)***

Ms. Simon – SCI Funeral Services of Florida, LLC dba Coral Ridge Funeral Home & Cemetery intends to build a garden mausoleum consisting of 228 casket spaces and 200 niches. Pursuant to s. 497.272, Fla. Statutes, typically, a pre-construction trust must be put in place if sales are going to occur prior to completion. However, s. 497.272(8) provides that in lieu of the pre-construction trust fund, the cemetery company may provide a performance bond in an amount and by a surety company acceptable to the regulator. The licensee has submitted for approval a performance bond, in lieu of a pre-construction trust. The mausoleum project, and the bond, is summarized as follows:

SCI Funeral Services of Florida, LLC DBA Coral Ridge Funeral Home & Cemetery (F039611)  
Address: 950 Chiquita Blvd, S. Cape Coral, Florida 33991  
Project: Garden mausoleum consisting of 228 casket spaces and 200 niches  
Bond Amount: \$634,232.40  
Bond Number: 022239585  
Surety Company: Liberty Mutual

The cemetery agrees to complete said construction in accordance with the terms of the construction agreement with Mausoleums USA included within your Board package. The Division recommends approval without conditions.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Board members?

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved to approve the preconstruction performance bond. Ms. Clay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Yes, Ms. Munson?

Ms. Munson – Did we do any disclosures on this one?

Chair Peeples –On SCI?

Ms. Munson – I was wondering if a Board member had a disclosure.

Mr. Jensen – I think she's asking if Mr. Quinn would like to recuse himself from those two (2).

Chair Peeples – I'm sorry.

Mr. Quinn – I thought I made the disclosure at the beginning of the meeting that would've covered it.

Ms. Munson – That's the only thing I wanted to confirm. I wasn't sure if it was on the record. That's why.

Mr. Quinn – Yes. At the beginning of the meeting, like we talked about, I made the disclosure.

Ms. Munson – Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Quinn – You're welcome.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Munson.

Ms. Simon –And if I may, I think that the Board voted on conditions for both of those preconstruction performance bonds.

Chair Peeples – No, ma'am. I have on my notes because the coversheet said without Mr. Ferreira and Ms. Liotta's motion on U(1)(a)1, there was no conditions. It was just a motion to approve.

Ms. Simon – I'm sorry, on U(1)(a)1 and U(1)(a)2 there were conditions on the coversheet, and I believe they were part of the motions, but I just wanted to confirm.

Ms. Munson – What were the conditions?

Ms. Simon – The conditions were as outlined on the Board package.

Ms. Munson – Okay.

Ms. Simon – If they were not, then they should be. There were conditions that were as part of the coversheet and the request was if the Board recommends approval to accept the conditions, do so with the conditions as outlined on the Board cover sheet.

Ms. Munson – Okay. The coversheet says without conditions. It's the standard coversheet for the preconstruction performance bonds that's usually submitted.

Ms. Simon – You know what? I am messing up because this Board meeting has gone on for a long time.

Ms. Munson – Okay.

Ms. Simon – While it has been very enjoyable, I apologize for this. For the first two (2) preconstruction performance bonds, there were no conditions and I apologize.

Ms. Munson – Thank you. Okay, no problem.

*(2) Recommended for Approval with Conditions*

*(a) Request for Transfer(s) of Trust*

*1. Bevis-Colonial Funeral Home Inc d/b/a Bevis Funeral Home LLC (F038715) (Tallahassee)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today? Hearing no response. Bevis-Colonial seeks approval of the below proposed trust asset transfer as more specifically set forth in correspondence from Justin Wilson, representative, dated September 25, 2024. Bevis-Colonial seeks approval of the transfer of the funds in the following trust accounts: the FSI Master Trust Agreement (dated 2/6/78) (70/30 trust), the FSI 88 Trust Agreement (dated 7/2/90) (70/30 trust), the FSI 1993 Trust Agreement (dated 11/4/16) (70/30 trust), and Preneed Funeral Trust Agreement (dated 1/31/94) (70/30 trust) to the First Amended and Restated Agreement and Declaration of Trust of IFDF Master Trust Fund Agreement, under Argent Trust Company (Argent); and transfer of the funds in the First Florida Trust Agreement (dated 11/4/16) (90/10 trust), and Security Trust Master Trust Agreement (dated 7/19/85) (90/10 trust) to the First Amended and Restated Agreement and Declaration of Trust of IFDF Master Trust Fund A Agreement (dated 2/1/19) under Argent. If approved, Argent is or will continue to be the trustee, all as more specifically set out within your Board packet. The Division recommends approval of the proposed trust transfers as identified above subject to the following conditions:

- 1) That the representations of Bevis-Colonial, as set forth in the representative's correspondence dated September 25, 2024, be deemed material to the Board's decisions herein.

- 2) That within ninety (90) days of this Board Meeting Argent provide the FCCS Division (ATTN: LaShonda Morris), the effective date of the transfer and certifications including the following:
- ⊙ A letter signed and dated by one of its officers, certifying that it meets one or more of the applicable criteria in s. 497.266(1), and s. 497.458(1(b), to act as trustee of the trust to be transferred pursuant to the representative's correspondence, dated September 25, 2024.
  - ⊙ A letter signed and dated by one of its officers, certifying the dollar amount of trust assets being transferred to the trust as identified in the representative's attached correspondence, dated September 25, 2024.
  - ⊙ Acknowledgement of receipt of the amount of trust assets being transferred as specified under the former trust, as identified in the representative's attached correspondence, dated September 25, 2024.
- 3) That the Board's executive director, for good cause shown, may extend the compliance time frame for the above specified conditions, an additional ninety (90) days.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Board members?

Mr. Jensen – Quick question, Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Jensen – So Ms. Simon, am I understanding they're transferring their trust to Argent who just took over FSI? Is that what it is?

Ms. Simon – What they are doing is transferring a trust to IFDF Master Trust Fund Agreement or the Master Trust Fund A Agreement. If Argent is not already trustee, or if they are, they will continue to be trustee, or it will be moved to Argent. I'm not sure where Argent –

Mr. Justin Wilson – This is Justin Wilson with Argent Trust Company.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Wilson, we need to swear you in, sir, before you speak for the record.

Mr. Wilson – Okay, sorry. My camera is not working right now, though.

Chair Peeples – That's okay.

Ms. Simon – Please raise your right hand to be sworn. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. Wilson – Yes.

Ms. Wiener – And he's a lawyer, by the way.

Chair Peeples – Okay. I'm sorry. I was not aware of that. I'm sorry, Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Wilson – That's okay. I was just going to say that Argent Trust Company is currently the trustee of these funds under the FSI Trust documents. They're going to be transferred to the corresponding IFDF agreements, for which Argent will remain trustee.

Chair Peeples – Does that complete your question, Mr. Jensen?

Mr. Jensen – Yes, ma'am. I just needed that clarification. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Thank you. Board members, any questions for Mr. Wilson or what is your pleasure?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved to approve the request for transfer of trust subject to conditions recommended by the Division. Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Thank you Mr. Wilson.

*2. Cremation Services of America LLC d/b/a West Florida Cremations (F757768) (Pensacola)*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of this entity on the call today? Hearing no response. Cremation Services of America LLC seeks approval of the below proposed trust asset transfer as more specifically set forth in correspondence from Justin Wilson, representative, that is in your Board package and is dated September 30, 2024. The proposed trust transfer is that Cremation Services of America LLC seeks approval of the transfer of the following trust accounts: the FSI 1993 Trust Agreement (dated 11/4/16) (70/30 trust) to the First Amended and Restated Agreement and Declaration of Trust of IFDF Master Trust Fund Agreement under Argent Trust Company (Argent). If approved, Argent is or will continue to be the trustee, all as more specifically set out in within your Board packet. The Division recommends approval of the proposed trust transfers as identified above subject to the following conditions:

- 1) That the representations of Cremation Services of America LLC, as set forth in the representative's correspondence dated September 30, 2024, be deemed material to the Board's decisions herein.
- 2) That within ninety (90) days of this Board Meeting Argent provide the FCCS Division (ATTN: LaShonda Morris), the effective date of the transfer and certifications including the following:
  - ⦿ A letter signed and dated by one of its officers, certifying that it meets one or more of the applicable criteria in s. 497.266(1), and s. 497.458(1(b), to act as trustee of the trust to be transferred pursuant to the representative's correspondence, dated September 30, 2024.
  - ⦿ A letter signed and dated by one of its officers, certifying the dollar amount of trust assets being transferred to the trust as identified in the representative's attached correspondence, dated September 30, 2024.
  - ⦿ Acknowledgement of receipt of the amount of trust assets being transferred as specified under the former trust, as identified in the representative's attached correspondence, dated September 30, 2024.
- 3) That the Board's executive director, for good cause shown, may extend the compliance time frame for the above specified conditions, an additional ninety (90) days.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Board members?

Mr. Jensen – Question?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir, Mr. Jensen.

Mr. Jensen – So, Ms. Simon, I'm a little confused because I know this entity just got a preneed license a month or two (2) ago. So how do they have preneeds back to, or do they even have any preneeds? That's what I'm trying to figure out.

Ms. Simon – I would assume Mr. Wilson is still on the phone.

Mr. Wilson – Yes, I'm here. They've sold a couple of contracts. I'd have to go back and look to how many they have, but they have inquired about transferring these over to the IFDF.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. All right. Because, we just licensed them a month or two (2) ago, I believe.

Mr. Wilson – Correct.

Mr. Jensen – Okay. Thank you.

Chair Peeples – Any other questions for Mr. Wilson? What would be the Board's pleasure?

**MOTION:** Mr. Ferreira moved to approve the request for transfer of trust subject to conditions recommended by the Division. Mr. Jensen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Wilson – Thank you.

**V. Related Items**

*(1) Recommended for Approval with Conditions*

*(a) Coastal Service Companies LLC d/b/a Cedar Bay Funeral Home (Jacksonville)*

*1. Application for Funeral Establishment*

Ms. Simon – An application for funeral establishment licensure was received on August 22, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on September 13, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be Jack A. Blackburn (F047208). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. Applicant's principal V. Todd Ferreira is also a principal of Final Waters LLC. On August 27, 2019, Final Waters LLC d/b/a V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services entered into a Consent Order with the Department. A Department investigation determined that the business operated from December 1, 2018, through January 15, 2019, with an expired license. The business was fined \$300, which was paid. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment pass an onsite inspection conducted by a member of Division staff.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Ferreira?

Mr. Ferreira – I need to recuse myself from this item and the next item.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, sir. Board members?

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

*2. Application for Cinerator Facility*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of that entity on the call today?

Ms. Wiener – Still me, Wendy Wiener. Yes.

Ms. Simon – Thank you. An application for cinerator facility licensure was received on August 22, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on September 13, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be Jack A. Blackburn (F047208). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. Applicant's principal V. Todd Ferreira is also a principal of Final Waters LLC. On August 27, 2019, Final Waters LLC d/b/a V. Todd Ferreira Funeral Services entered into a Consent Order with the Department. A Department investigation determined that the business operated from December 1, 2018, through January 15, 2019, with an expired license. The business was fined \$300, which was paid. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment pass an onsite inspection conducted by a member of Division staff.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

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

Chair Peeples – Good luck, Mr. Ferreira.

Mr. Ferreira – Thank you.

Ms. Simon – Madam Chair, if we could go back to Item R, which are the applications for preneed branch licensure.

Chair Peeples – Yes, ma'am.

**R. Application(s) for Preneed Branch**

*(1) Recommended for Approval without Conditions – Addendum I*

*(a) Ferreira Enterprises Inc (F019201) (MacClenny)*

*(b) Guerry Funeral Home of Macclenny LLC (F019322) (Lake City)*



Ms. Simon – Pursuant to Section 497.453, Florida Statutes, the entities referenced on Addendum I have applied for preneed branch licensure. The applications were complete without reportable criminal or disciplinary history and accompanied by the required fee. It is recommended that the entities referenced on Addendum I be approved for branch licensure. I must include that there was a reference to adverse licensing history for Ferreira Enterprises, Inc. that was read on the record before.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Simon. Mr. Ferreira, do you need to make a statement or are you going to participate?

Mr. Ferreira – I'm going to ask that you remove me from this vote, please.

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir. Board members?

**MOTION:** Mr. Jensen moved to approve the applications. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

*(b) Don's Funeral Home Inc. (Chipley)*

*1. Application for Cinerator Facility (d/b/a Blue Lake Crematory)*

Ms. Simon – Contrary to information contained within your Board package, the correct mailing address would be the same address as the one provided for the physical location. An application cinerator facility licensure was received on August 27, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on September 11, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be Christopher Ryan Brown (F058280). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to passing an inspection by a member of Division staff.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

Mr. Jensen – Question, just for clarification, please?

Chair Peeples – Yes, sir.

Mr. Jensen – Ms. Simon, so you're saying on the coversheet that the addresses are reversed? Because it says the mailing address is Main Street, but the physical address is Blue Lake, but you stated that the mailing address is actually Blue Lake. Is that right?

Ms. Simon – Madam Chair, could I have one moment to look into this a little further?

Chair Peeples – Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Simon – The information I had was related to the cinerator facility and was not related to the funeral home. Therefore, the information contained on the coversheet in relation to the funeral home application is correct.

Chair Peeples – Mr. Jensen, does that complete your question, sir?

Mr. Jensen – No, ma'am. And then if you go down here to the actual business location, and this would be Page 4 of the packet, it's got Main Street cross-through, and Blue Lake written in. So, I think you might be incorrect there, Ms. Simon.

Ms. Simon – On Page 4 of the application for funeral establishment licensure, it appears the address is 1068 Main Street. I do not see where it's been crossed out.

Mr. Jensen – On what I have has been crossed out.

Ms. Simon – It may have been crossed out on the cinerator facility, but it was not crossed out on the funeral establishment application.

Mr. Jensen – Well, we're on the cinerator facility right now. Right? Okay.



Ms. Simon – I apologize. Again, it's late. It really is late. I'm just trying to mess with you, Mr. Jensen. Of course.

Mr. Jensen – Yes, no problem.

Ms. Simon – As to the application for cinerator facility licensure, which I just read, the address of the cinerator facility will not be 1068 Main Street, Chipley, Florida. The correct address will be 1377 Blue Lake Road, Chipley, Florida 32428.

Mr. Jensen – Got it. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Chair Peeples – You're welcome. Any other questions, Board members? Hearing none. What is the Board's pleasure?

**MOTION:** Mr. Williams moved to approve the application with the correction of the address and subject to condition that the facility passes an inspection by a member of Division Staff. Ms. Liotta seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## *2. Application for Funeral Establishment (d/b/a Brown Funeral Home)*

Ms. Simon – An application funeral establishment licensure was received on August 27, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on September 11, 2024. The funeral director in charge will be Christopher Ryan Brown (F058280). A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment pass an onsite inspection by a member of Division staff.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

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

## *(c) Ward McDonald Memorial Inc (Defuniak Springs)*

### *1. Application for Monument Builder Establishment*

Ms. Simon – Is there a representative of that entity on the call today?

Ms. Wiener – Still me, Wendy Wiener. Yes.

Ms. Simon – Thank you. An application for monument establishment builder licensure was received on August 30, 2024. The application was incomplete when submitted. A completed application was received on September 12, 2024. A background check of the principals revealed no relevant criminal history. The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that the establishment pass an onsite inspection by a member of Division staff.

Chair Peeples – Board members?

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

### *2. Monument Sales Agreement*

Ms. Simon – The Division recommends approval subject to the condition that two (2) full-size print-ready copies are received by the Department within sixty (60) days of the Final Order issued in this matter.

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved to approve the agreement subject to the condition that two (2) full-sized print-ready copies of the revised monument sales agreement are received by the Department within sixty (60) days of the Final Order issued in this matter. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Peeples – Ms. Simon, we need to go back to agenda item R(1)(b) under application for preneed branch. We did not address Guerry Funeral Home of Macclenny LLC.

Ms. Simon – I thought that we had addressed the addendum, that include both.

Chair Peeples – We did Ferreira Enterprises, but we didn't do Guerry. I don't have anything for that, for the preneed branch.

Ms. Simon – I'm not sure how you would like to handle it. I believe the motion was based on Addendum I, which included both, but maybe I did not do that.

Chair Peeples – Oh, okay. Thank you, ma'am. Thank you for the update. I haven't had food for a while. Thank you.

**W. Executive Director's Report**  
**(1) Operational Report (Verbal)**

Ms. Simon – At this time, I would like to turn the meeting over to our Executive Director, Mary Schwantes for her Operational Report.

Ms. Mary Schwantes – Madam Chair, may I go forward?

Chair Peeples – Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Schwantes – Thank you. And thank you all to the Board members. I want to assure our new Board members that the meetings are not usually this long. This was a double Board meeting because of the hurricanes. And because I want to talk about hurricanes, I want to give you an update a little bit here.

Since our last meeting in September, Florida's has to deal with two (2) major hurricanes. As is our practice at the Division, after each hurricane Division staff contacted our licensed establishments in the affected areas to determine how they fared from hurricanes. You might be wondering how we established what areas were impacted. We use the power outage maps and look at the counties where there were any power outages. One of our first concerns is, of course, with regard to any unresolved refrigeration issues because of the power outages and other issues. Within about a week of each hurricane field staff also conducted onsite visits to the establishments, which we were not able to contact by phone.

Hurricane Helene made landfall as a Category 4 storm on September 26<sup>th</sup> near Perry in the Big Bend region. After the storm, the Division made calls on approximately 320 establishment licenses in twenty-one (21) counties. Onsite visits to the establishments we were not able to contact otherwise took place late the week after the storm. There were numerous power outages and storm surge issues, but I'm really glad to be able to report that no establishments reported significant damage or refrigeration issues from Hurricane Helene.

Hurricane Milton is a different story. On October 9<sup>th</sup>, Hurricane Milton made landfall as a Category 3 storm near Siesta Key in the peninsula. The Division made follow-up calls on approximately 836 establishment licenses in thirty-seven (37) counties. Onsite visits to the establishments we were not able to contact took place within two weeks of the storm. Again, we received reports of numerous power outage issues, some roof damage, relatively minor and flooding issues. Most were able to handle any potential refrigeration issues through the use of generators or by moving the remains to other facilities. And I just want to say over the last approximately seven (7) years, we have seen an increase in the use of generators by our licensees. Although it is not required, we always encourage that. So spread the word. Of the more serious situations caused by Hurricane Milton, there was a cinerator licensee in Clearwater holding about thirty (30) remains. Their generator failed. The Division was able to assist in coordination with the Emergency Operations Center in getting two (2) refrigeration trucks for that licensee's temporary use, and also assistance with generator repairs until they were up and running their generator. There were four (4) establishments that reported significant damage impacting their operational ability. These are in Port Orange, Englewood, Pasco, and Palmetto. The building for one (1) of these was essentially destroyed. Division staff will continue to follow up with these companies as they make repairs, rebuild or whatever it takes to get back to operational.

Cemeteries are not called by us. However, some cemeteries have reported damage. One (1) cemetery in Ruskin reported two (2) sinkholes, which basically swallowed two grave markers and there were four (4) vaults exposed. They're working with a geophysical engineering firm on the mitigation issues on those sinkholes. And another cemetery in Sarasota had severe roof damage to its office building and is not able to access that office building. That is the end of the report on the hurricanes. As a

reminder, we still have a few weeks left in this year's hurricane season, but hopefully, these last weeks will be uneventful, and we'll be able to enjoy holidays without any more storms.

Our next Board meeting is a videoconference call on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Details regarding all Board meetings are posted on our website. This ends the portion of the Director's Report. And again, I want to thank you all for your attention for this long meeting.

Ms. Clay – Madam Chair?

Chair Peeples – Yes, Ms. Clay?

Ms. Clay – I just wanted to ask Ms. Schwantes, did the same hold true for the tornadoes that preceded the hurricanes in terms of staff checks and facility checks?

Ms. Schwantes – If you're talking about those tornadoes that were part of Hurricane Milton's system, yes, ma'am.

Ms. Clay – Thank you.

Ms. Schwantes – They were all included in the follow-up calls as part of Hurricane Milton.

Chair Peeples – Thank you, Ms. Schwantes. Ms. Simon?

Ms. Simon – Thank you, Madam Chair.

*(2) Report on Payment of Disciplinary Fines and Costs (Informational)*

Ms. Simon – This is informational only.

Monthly Report of Fines and Costs Assessed and Paid  
 Division of Funeral, Cemetery and Consumer Services  
 Date of Board meeting: November 7, 2024  
 Date report was prepared: October 30, 2024

Licensee	Board Meeting	Case No.	Total Fine	Date Due	Paid in Full?	Comments
Andre Eady	Sep-24	315299-23-FC, 310197-23-FC, & 310195-23-FC	\$2,000			
Tabatha Kaley	18-Jun-24	311906-23-FC	\$2,000	26-Sep-24		
Legacy Funeral Holdings of Florida LLC d/b/a Collison Carey Hand Funeral Home	18-Jun-24	311883-23-FC	\$2,000	26-Sep-24	Paid in Full	
Leon White	18-Jun-24	315262-23-FC	\$500	2-Sep-24		
Karla Funkhouser	1/14/2024	292044-22-FC & 297727-22-FC	\$19,000	8-Mar-24		Referred to the OGC for administrative action
Deliria Holmes	1/14/2024	307467-23-FC	\$8,250	8-Mar-24	Paid in Full	
Holmes Funeral Directors	1/14/2024	307465-23-FC	\$8,250	8-Mar-24	\$2,500	Referred to the OGC for administrative action
Alberta Leonardo	11/2/2023	273845-20-FC	\$3,500	2-Jan-24		Referred to the OGC for administrative action
Ruben Rojas	13-Jul-23	292034-22-FC	\$6,000	11-Sep-23		Order of Emergency Suspension filed
Nelson's Elite Care	13-Jul-23	301514-22-FC	\$500	11-Sep-23		Order of Emergency Suspension filed
Brian James Bonar	6/29/2023	293064-22-FC	\$11,000	4-Sep-23		Referred to the OGC for administrative action

ES 10-30-24

**X. Chair's Report (Verbal)**

Ms. Simon – Madam Chair?

Chair Peebles – Thank you, Ms. Schwantes and Ms. Simon. I would like to thank Ms. Schwantes and the Division team staff for what they did during these two (2) hurricanes and how they came through with those that especially needed assistance through the Department of Emergency Management. And it's a lot to do and there's a lot of licensees to check with. So, I greatly appreciate that. I know the Board does also. But also, Board members, thank y'all for just pushing through today. We were going to try to take lunch, but I figured lunch would get us to four o'clock. So, I've had a few snacks. Hope y'all have too, but thank y'all for your participation, and welcome to the two (2) new members, Mr. Chapman, and Mr. Quinn. Thank you.

**Y. Office of Attorney General's Report**  
*(1) Attorney General's Rules Report (Informational)*

Ms. Simon – Ms. Munson?

Ms. Munson – Thank you Ms. Simon. I'll be extremely brief. The first, of course, is just a copy of our Rules Report. We are not involved in any current rulemaking and the report reflects the same.

**BOARD OF FUNERAL, CEMETERY, AND CONSUMER SERVICES RULES REPORT  
 NOVEMBER 2024**

Rule Number	Rule Title	Date Rule Language Approved by Board	Date Sent to OFARR	Rule Development Published	Notice Published	Adopted	Effective

There are currently no rules in the rulemaking process.

*(2) Annual Regulatory Plan (Action)*

Ms. Munson – I will also note that attached to your materials is also a copy of the Annual Regulatory Plan. I think we were scheduled to ratify it at the last meeting. It was signed and approved by the Chair as dated, effective September 5th. I wanted the Board to be aware of what it looks like. And normally once the Chair approves it, per her delegation, it is protocol for the Board to ratify the information. So, I will do a motion to ratify the Annual Regulatory Plan as submitted and reflected in your materials.

**Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services  
 2024-2025 Annual Regulatory Plan**

**Section 1**

**Laws Enacted or Amended within the previous 12 months which create or modify the duties or authority of the Board.**

Law	Mandatory rulemaking? Yes/No	Is rulemaking necessary? Yes/No	Notice of Development Published? Yes/No   If Yes, Citation	Expected publication date for NPRM	If rulemaking is not necessary? Explain
Section 497.469, F.S. Rule 69K-7.022, F.A.C.	Yes	Yes	No	TBD	Legislation enacted in section 497.469, F.S., requires the repeal of rule 69K-7.022, F.A.C.

**Section 2**

**Laws not listed above that the agency expects to implement by rulemaking by the following July 1.**

Law	Is rulemaking intended to:	Simplify	Clarify	Increase efficiency	Improve coordination with other agencies	Reduce regulatory costs	Delete obsolete, unnecessary or redundant rules

Section 3:  
Updates to 2023-24 Annual Regulatory Plan.  
(120.74(1)(c), Florida Statutes)

There are no updates to the prior year's regulatory plan.

Section 4: Certification.

Pursuant to Section 120.74(1)(d), Florida Statutes, I hereby certify that I have reviewed this Annual Regulatory Plan and that the Board regularly reviews all of its rules to determine if the rules remain consistent with the Board's rulemaking authority and the laws being implemented, with the most recent comprehensive review having been completed July 1, 2024.

/s/ Jill Peebles

Jill Peebles, Chair  
Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services

Date:  
9/5/24

/s/ Rachelle Munson

Rachelle Munson, Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Office of Attorney General  
Board Counsel, Board of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services

Date:  
9/5/24

**MOTION:** Mr. Williams moved to ratify the Annual Regulatory Plan as submitted. Mr. Jones seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(3) *Rule 69K-7.002, F.A.C. (Action)*

Ms. Munson – You'll note that the Annual Regulatory Plan reflected only one (1) item for possible rulemaking or definite rulemaking, and it's indicated because it is required by statute that we undergo this rulemaking, which leads us to the very last item on my report. You will see that the Department has kindly included a copy of Rule 69K-7.002 as reflected on –

**69K-7.022 Payment of Funds Upon Contract Fulfillment; Documentation Required.**

- (1) Upon fulfillment, either in part or in whole, a preneed licensee may withdraw the amount deposited to trust plus income earned thereon for the merchandise or services which are delivered, when adequate documentation is submitted to the trustee.
- (2) The following documentation shall be satisfactory evidence to show that a preneed contract has been fulfilled:
  - (a) Certified copy of a death certificate or;
  - (b) Invoice for merchandise which reflects the name of the purchaser or beneficiary and the contract number or;
  - (c) Acknowledgement signed by the purchaser or next of kin, acknowledging that merchandise was delivered or services performed or;
  - (d) Certification signed by an officer, manager or designee that the merchandise was delivered and/or services are performed or;
  - (e) Burial permit or other documentation provided to another governmental agency.
- (3) The preneed licensee shall maintain documentation which supports fulfillment of a particular contract until such records are examined by the department.

*Rulemaking Authority 497.103 FS. Law Implemented 497.460, 497.464(7) FS. History--New 4-9-97, Formerly 3F-7.022.*

Chair Peebles – Why don't we give Ms. Munson a moment to log back in? And, just for the record, Mr. Jones returned to the meeting a few agenda items earlier. So, thank you, Mr. Jones, for coming back. This is unique, Mr. Jones. You left, you had a second meeting, now you've come back.

Mr. Jones – I'm a creature for torture.

Chair Peebles – We're still going, sir.

Ms. Munson – I think I'm back now, but I just had to sign out and get back in. I don't know at what point it was cut off, but I am seeking a motion from the Board to repeal 69K-7.002 since it is no longer necessary as a result of the legislative action of 497.469.

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved to repeal 69K-7.002 since it is no longer necessary. Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Munson – What will happen of course at this particular point is I'm going to ask just a few questions. They're standard. You seasoned members are well familiar with this, so bear with me. Even though it's a repeal, we are required to ask the same questions for any rulemaking. And a repeal of a rule is still considered rulemaking. So, will the proposed rule, it says amendment, but we know that it's a repeal, have an adverse impact on small business? Or will the proposed rule amendment be likely to directly or indirectly increase regulatory costs to any entity including government in excess of \$200,000 in Florida within one (1) year after the implementation of that rule? And that's 200K in the aggregate. Because it's a repeal, I can advise you that it will not, but you would need to actually state that for yourself.

Board members – No.

Ms. Munson – Hearing that there were none, should a violation of this rule repeal, or any part of this information be designated a minor violation? Logically it should not, but I would need a vote from the Board to so state.

Board members – No.

Chair Peebles – Do you need a motion or just the Nos?

Ms. Munson – A motion would be fine, but I was just actually checking the Nos. But a motion would just make it clear. So, would anyone like to make a motion? I didn't want to get lost again with this video, so I was going through.

**MOTION:** Mr. Jones moved that a violation of this rule repeal, or any part of this information would not be designated a minor violation. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Munson – And this rule is being repealed. So, a Sunset Provision does not apply, but I will identify for the record that I at least acknowledged it. Should a Sunset Provision be included? Meaning that the repeal of this rule would be reviewed. Without there being a rule, I don't see how a review can occur. So, do I have a motion that a Sunset Provision does not apply?

**MOTION:** Ms. Liotta moved that a Sunset Provision does not apply. Ms. Clay seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Munson – What you will notice on the next rule report is that this information regarding the repeal of this rule will be listed on the October report, I believe. It should be available at your next meeting for review. And we'll begin the rulemaking to have it removed from the Board's books. That concludes my information. Thank you so much, Madam Chair.

Chair Peebles – Thank you. Ms. Simon?

**Z. Public Comments (Verbal)**

Ms. Simon – Are there any public comments to be voiced during this section of the meeting? Hearing none.

**AA. Administrative Report as September 23, 2024**

<b>A.</b>	New Cemetery Applications	0
	Recommended for Approval	0
	Pending	0
<b>B.</b>	Cemetery Acquisition Applications	1
	Recommended for Approval	1
	Pending	0
<b>C.</b>	Preneed License Applications	2



	Active Preneed Licenses	323
	Presented to the Board at this Meeting	2
	Pending	2
<b>D.</b>	Preneed License Branch Applications	2
	Active Preneed License Branches	387
	Recommended for Approval	3
	Pending	0
<b>E.</b>	Preneed Sales Agent Applications	49
	Active Sales Agents	3525
	Recommended for Approval	78
	Temporary Licenses Issued Pending Permanent	16
<b>F.</b>	Monument Establishment Applications	2
	Active Monument Establishments	82
	Pending	2
<b>G.</b>	Broker of Burial Rights Applications	0
	Active Brokers of Burial Rights	20
	Pending	0
<b>H.</b>	Exempt Cemetery Reports	1
	Active Exempt Cemeteries	44
	Pending	0
<b>I.</b>	New Establishment Applications	17
	Pending	10
	Completed	7
<b>J.</b>	New Individual Applications	34
	Pending	24
	Completed	10
<b>K.</b>	Request for Training Facility Applications	0
	Pending	0
	Completed	0
<b>L.</b>	Request for Continuing Education Providers and Courses	91
	Pending	0
	Completed	91
<b>M.</b>	Initial Inspections	30
	Pending	0
	Completed	30
<b>N.</b>	Inspections	93
	Pending	0
	Completed	93
<b>O.</b>	Initial Licenses Issued	47
	Renewal Licenses	225

**BB. Disciplinary Report**

	Issued Since Last Meeting (September 5, 2024)
Notices of Non-Compliance	0

**CC. Upcoming Meeting(s)**

- (1) December 5<sup>th</sup> (Videoconference)
- (2) January 2<sup>nd</sup> (Videoconference)
- (3) February 6<sup>th</sup> (Videoconference)
- (4) March 6<sup>th</sup> (Videoconference)
- (5) April 3<sup>rd</sup> (Videoconference)
- (6) May 1<sup>st</sup> (Videoconference)
- (7) May 29<sup>th</sup> (In-Person – Palm Coast – IFDF Annual Conference)
- (8) June 26<sup>th</sup> (Videoconference)

**DD. Adjournment**

Chair Peoples – It is 3:17. Let us be adjourned. Thank you kindly, folks. Have a good day.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17.