



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
JIMMY PATRONIS  
STATE OF FLORIDA

**PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS MATTERS REGARDING  
CHAPTER 497, FLORIDA STATUTES – OCTOBER 4, 2018**

**AGENDA**

**Location:** Miami Dade College - Conference Center at North Campus  
11380 NW 27th Avenue  
Miami, FL 33167

**Date:** Thursday, October 4, 2018

**Time:** 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Facilitators:** Elizabeth Boyd, Deputy CFO – Consumer and Public Affairs  
Meredith Stanfield, Director of Legislative Affairs  
Mary Schwantes, Division Director - Division of Funeral, Cemetery, and Consumer Services

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**I. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION**

Purpose of meeting: to obtain input from industry representatives on potential legislative issues relating to the death care industry and/or chapter 497, Florida Statutes

**II. INPUT REGARDING ADDITIONAL TOPICS FOR OPEN DISCUSSION**

- a. Review of input received via written comments – if comments were received on already open topics, then discussion will be held under Item IV below
- b. Internships – issues raised by Joseph Finocchiaro/ Program Coordinator for Funeral Service Education Program at Miami Dade College
- c. Publication of location of memorial service in death notice – issue raised by Florida Family Cremations/David Menneke
- d. Problems when there is a) no family to authorize cremation, b) abandonment, or c) deceased was indigent – issues raised by SCI Direct, Inc./Don Politano
- e. Opportunities to streamline endorsement applications and eliminate the cap on transfer fees – issues raised by SCI Funeral Services of Florida, Inc./Lisa Coney
- f. Modification of statutes regarding preneed contracts – issues raised by Funeral Services, Inc./Bill Williams
- g. Uniformity of written monument sales agreements for funeral homes and cemeteries, both pre-need and at-need – issue raised by Florida Monument Builders Association/Don Ray
- h. Development and adoption of new rule regarding “minimum standards for access to all cemeteries” as is required by section 497.555, F.S. – issue raised by Florida Monument Builders Association/Don Ray
- i. Elimination of Bodies Handled Reports – issue raised by Baldwin Cremation/Sarah Breuilly
- j. Limited license for insurance funded preneed – issue raised by Association of Independent Funeral Directors of Florida/Corinne Mixon

- k. Merchandise trusting - issue raised by Association of Independent Funeral Directors of Florida/Corinne Mixon

III. TOPICS FOR OPEN DISCUSSION – NEW TOPICS

- a. Criminal background issues involving licensing

IV. TOPICS FOR OPEN DISCUSSION – FURTHER DISCUSSION OF PRIOR TOPICS

- a. Direct Disposer license issues
  - i. Viewings (charge or no charge)
  - ii. Exam fee disparity
  - iii. Requirement for licensure
- b. Cremation issues
  - i. Alkaline hydrolysis
  - ii. Licensing cinerator operators
- c. Unlicensed activities
  - i. Authority to Investigate/Pursue
  - ii. Penalties
- d. Funeral Director in Charge
  - i. Location requirements
- e. Body donations
- f. Cemetery issues
  - i. Unlicensed cemeteries
  - ii. Handling of consumer complaints on unlicensed cemeteries
- g. Statutory clean-up issues
  - i. Reorganization of chapter to combine common requirements/statutory provisions currently located in the various sections on different licensees into one statute in the general section
  - ii. Clarification of section 497.002, Florida Statutes (purpose and intent provision) to add all licensee types to the list of those requiring regulation
  - iii. Clarification of definitions contained in section 497.005, Florida Statutes
  - iv. Elimination of all references to HIV course requirements
  - v. Add distinction between partnership and an LLC in section 497.141, Florida Statutes, which currently only distinguishes between a corporation and an LLC
  - vi. Relocate section 497.166, Florida Statutes, which is contained in the general provisions, to the section pertaining to preneed sales
  - vii. Other minor clean-up issues

V. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Plan for future public workshop meetings

VI. NEXT PUBLIC WORKSHOP: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2018 – TAMPA, FLORIDA