

## An Advisory . . . . from the NC Board of Funeral Service

October 25, 2023

TO: Candidates for the NC Pathology Examination

RE: Security Breach

The NC Board of Funeral Service recently learned that the NC Pathology Examination has been unduly disclosed and published on an Internet site in violation of our examination security policies. As a result, we have suspended the administration of this examination until we can revise its content and restore appropriate security measures.

We regret this significant inconvenience to you. We are currently conducting an intensive investigation to determine the involvement of individuals in the unauthorized disclosure of the examination content on the Internet. Please know that the Board will pursue all appropriate and available remedies to hold all individuals accountable who may be involved in this breach of examination security.

We are working diligently in partnership with The International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards to develop procedures for the refund of examination fees that have been paid in registering for the Pathology Examination. We will announce these procedures as soon as we can.

At this time, we do not know when the NC Pathology Examination will be available again, but we will make every reasonable and concerted effort to restore access as quickly as we can. We realize that some of you must successfully pass this examination as a requirement for licensure as a Funeral Director. We further acknowledge, however, that the careless, deliberate actions of one or more individuals in disclosing the examination content on the Internet may delay your licensure.

The Board sincerely regrets that these actions are necessary, but we are fully committed to assuring the security of the NC Pathology Examination and the validity of examination results. We will not tolerate or accept actions by any individual or individuals who threaten the integrity of our licensure process.

We understand that you may have questions regarding this Advisory, and we ask for your patience as we continue our investigation of these unfortunate events. We will keep you apprised so that you will have timely information regarding the resumption of the NC Pathology Examination as well as any details regarding a refund on examination fees paid. If you have specific questions about how this temporary cessation of the NC Pathology Examination may impact your current efforts to obtain licensure, please contact Amy Acord via email at <a href="mailto:aacord@ncbfs.org">aacord@ncbfs.org</a>.