

North Carolina Board of Funeral Service

1033 Wade Avenue, Suite 108, Raleigh, NC 27605

(919)-733-9380 or 1-800-862-0636

www.ncbfs.org

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Next meeting of the Board is 9 a.m. Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at the Board office, 1033 Wade Avenue, Suite 108, Raleigh, NC 27605. The agenda will be posted by February 6 and can be viewed by [following this link](#).

[CLICK HERE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS](#)

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS-

PRENEED ANNUAL REPORTS ONLINE

It is strongly recommended that you complete your 2014 Preneed Annual Report online. If you opt for the paper copy (not recommended) you must contact Ms. Cochrane or Ms. Pearson in the Board office *by Friday, January 23, 2015*.

PROTOCOL

As a matter of protocol, questions/issues/concerns regarding any Board business, legal issues etc. are to be directed to Board staff, not directly to Board members.

2015 BOARD OFFICERS

The Board elected the following officers for 2015 at the duly scheduled meeting on December 10, 2014:

President:	Kenneth D. Stainback, Graham
Vice President:	W. Stephen Aldridge, III, Albemarle
Secretary:	Elizabeth Williams-Smith, Charlotte

EBOLA

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued guidelines for the handling of human remains of Ebola victims. The information can be found on the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/guidance-safe-handling-human-remains-ebola-patients-us-hospitals-mortuaries.html>

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has also published information which can be found at

<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/ebola/standards.html>

CERTIFICATES OF PERFORMANCE

Rebecca Hedricks is no longer producing the hardcopy COP form. You may download/copy from the Board website at <http://www.ncbfs.org/applications/1cop.pdf> . Those desiring hardcopy forms can contact their local printer for assistance, or contact Macon Michaux at Documents Direct, 919-829-8810.

Certificate of Performance was revised in September, 2012. ALL preneed providers are required to use the form cited above.

RENEWALS

License renewals continue. If you have not already renewed, do it NOW. **Your 2014 license expired on December 31, 2014.**



LAWS AND RULES REVIEW:

Custody of Remains

Applicable Statute: § 90-210.25(e)(1)l.

From time to time, Board staff receives calls from licensees and/or family members regarding the custody of remains. Primarily, this issue occurs when a family, for one reason or another, decides to use another establishment after one establishment has already been called and made the removal.

The law states: "Whenever the Board finds that an applicant for a license or a person to whom a license has been issued by the Board is guilty of any of the following acts or omissions...the Board may suspend or revoke the license or refuse to issue or renew the license...

l. Refusing to surrender promptly the custody of a dead human body or cremated remains upon the express order of the person lawfully entitled to the custody thereof."

This practice, sometimes referred to as "body hostage," is never allowed. It is the responsibility of the establishments, along with the family, to work out the details (after the transfer if necessary) so that the originally-contacted firm is paid for whatever services they have performed. Fear of not being paid is no excuse – there are legal remedies available to the offended firm in such cases. At all times, you must surrender custody immediately when requested by the family.

TRAINEE CORNER

Trainees, supervisors or trainee candidates with questions related to the Traineeship Program are encouraged to contact the Board office. Do not rely on others to tell you how the program works.

Reminder – trainee reports must include the total number of hours worked per month.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

It's a new year - you resolved to get your CE done *early* in 2015. No, you did – really! There are a lot of opportunities to take care of this on the Board website. Don't wait – do it now and put it behind you...

CREMATORIES TAKE NOTE

KNOW who is contacting you if you are called to perform a "trade cremation." Verify the establishment that contacts you. Is it a North Carolina or NC border state licensee? Have you done business with them before????

SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO THE FAMILIES OF:

Myrtle Ruth Dickerson Hanchey, mother of C.S. Hanchey of Wilkerson Funeral Home, Greenville, who died on November 9, 2014.

John J. Greene, former owner of Evergreen Cremation Service, Salisbury, who died on November 9, 2014.

Janie Owen Shields, grandmother of Board member Rev. John Shields, who died on December 25, 2014.

John B. Tallent, Jr., president of JB Tallent Funeral Service & Crematory, Charlotte, who died on December 26, 2014

Ronald David Horton, funeral service licensee at Sechrest Funeral Service, High Point, who died on December 28, 2014.

DISCIPLINARY MATTERS:

CASE FILE NUMBER: C14-057.

LICENSEES: Ebony Funeral Service (FE #153, PNE #313), Edward McGimpsey (FSL #837).

SUMMARY: The firm did not deposit all preneed funds into an insurance policy within five (5) days for more than one client. The funeral home has deposited the checks.

BOARD ACTION: The Board adopted a consent order placing all preneed licenses on three (3) years' probation, the funeral establishment on one (1) year probation, and the manager on one (1) year probation. The parties also agreed to attend a preneed continuing education class and pay a \$1,500.00 civil penalty.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 14, 2015.

CASE FILE NUMBER: M14-022.

LICENSEES: Nelson McCreary (FSL #1452).

SUMMARY: While Mr. McCreary was attempting to open a firm, he operated a funeral establishment without a permit. Both local officials and the Board inspector confirmed examined the matter.

BOARD ACTION: The Board adopted a consent order placing Mr. McCreary on probation for two (2) years and prohibiting him from owning a funeral establishment for two (2) years. Mr. McCreary also paid a \$1,000.00 civil penalty.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 14, 2015.

