

# 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](http://www.ncbfs.org)

*E-NEWS* July 2015 Volume 11, Issue 7

Next meeting of the Board is 9 a.m. Wednesday, August 12, 2015 at the Board office, 1033 Wade Avenue, Suite 108, Raleigh, NC 27605. The agenda will be posted by August 7 and can be viewed by [following this link](#).

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**[CLICK HERE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS](#)**

## LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

The following bills affecting funeral service have been filed with the Legislature. The Board staff will continue to monitor as the legislative season progresses:

H-296: Amend Funeral Service Practice Laws

H-422: Amend Funeral Procession Law

H-517: Assignment of Death Benefits

H-905: Merge Cemetery Commission & NCBFS

H-340: Weekend Burials at State Veterans Cemeteries was signed into law by Governor McCrory on June 11. The law allows for burials at state Veterans' Cemeteries Monday through Sunday, except when the day of service falls on a state or federal holiday.

The Legislature's bill look-up link can be accessed here:

<http://www.ncleg.net/Legislation/Legislation.html>

## SAME SEX COUPLES

On June 26, 2015 the US Supreme Court approved marriage of same-sex couples in all 50 states. Same-sex spouses are now authorized to serve as surviving spouse under §130A-420(b)(1).

## TRAINEE FORUM

The Board is holding its first Trainee Forum on Friday, July 31 at McClure Funeral Home in Graham. The forum is intended to solicit feedback from and share information with trainees registered with the Board. Future sessions are also being planned for the eastern and western portions of the state. The forum is for trainees and mortuary students *only*. Please support your trainee's participation in the forum.

## FUNERAL RULE MANUAL REVISED reminder

The Federal Trade Commission has issued a revised version of "Complying With the Funeral Rule." A link to the document can be found here:

<https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/business-center/guidance/complying-funeral-rule> and is also included on the Board website. The majority of the information is unchanged from prior versions, however there are two items which will require changes to your General Price List; they are both

illustrated on page 5 of the manual: The order of the wording of the embalming disclosure is changed. The words "if relevant" should be removed from your Direct Cremation description if you have it there now.

### MASS FATALITY INCIDENT RESPONSE TEAM DEVELOPMENT

August 11, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM and August 12, 8:00 AM-1:00 PM

Register through TERMS

Questions should be addressed to Christine Mullarkey, NC Public Health

Preparedness & Response: [Christine.Mullarkey@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Christine.Mullarkey@dhhs.nc.gov)

This 2 day course prepares state and local response personnel and other responsible agencies and professionals to handle mass fatalities effectively, and to work with the survivors in an emergency or disaster. This course covers incident management, mass fatalities, planning before and operations during an incident, establishing the morgue, family assistance support operation, and assistance from the Federal government. The goal of the Mass Fatalities program is to prepare response personnel and other responsible professionals to handle a mass fatality incident effectively by properly caring for the dead and the living - both responders and survivors. The course concludes with a tabletop exercise.

Topics to be covered:

- The effects of physical and emotional stress at a mass fatality incident as well as methods for reducing stress
- The roles and responsibilities of various local, state and federal agencies, non-government organizations and industry organizations
- Local, state, federal and private sources of further information and assistance
- Integrating mass fatality planning into existing emergency management plans
- Equipment and supplies required for handling a mass fatality incident
- How the Incident Command System (ICS) is used to manage a mass fatality incident
- Potential liability concerns that may arise during a mass fatality incident

Who Should Attend: This course is designed for a wide audience, encompassing the range of personnel with a role to play in a mass fatality incident. The following list outlines the type of individuals or agencies that would benefit from attending. *Experience has shown that a multi-disciplinary audience brings the best results.*

- Coroners/Medical Examiners
- Emergency Planners
- Forensic Dentists
- Public Health
- CISD Professionals
- NGO Partners
- Transportation Personnel
- Emergency Managers
- Funeral Directors
- Clergy
- Fire Departments

- EMS
- Information Officers
- DMORT Members
- Community Mental Health
- Law Enforcement
- National Guard

The link to the course description page is: <http://tinyurl.com/pmvd4yu> If you are new to TERMS and need to create a user account, you can start at <https://terms.ncem.org> . Upon completing registration, you will receive an e-mail (within a few minutes) notifying you that you are on the waitlist if you have completed your registration properly.

Please note: A large interest is anticipated for this training. Registration for this class is being handled through a waitlist to achieve the most balanced participation from a variety of disciplines. If there is more interest than seats available, the waitlist will be examined to determine additional locations and dates for future course offerings. The course is approved for 12 hours of continuing education credit; pocket cards will be required. NO WALK-INS. Questions should be directed to Christine Mullarkey, [Christine.Mullarkey@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Christine.Mullarkey@dhhs.nc.gov)

#### NEW OCME RELEASE FORM reminder

The Office of Chief Medical Examiner has updated the "Authorization for Release of Remains" form. OCME will require the use of this form **beginning July 1, 2015**. Funeral establishments and transport services should plan on using the form only when making a removal from the Medical Examiner's Office. OCME preference is for the driver to have the completed form in hand when making the removal. The form is on the Board website under "At Need Miscellaneous" forms; OCME has installed a link on their website: ([www.ocme.dhhs.nc.gov](http://www.ocme.dhhs.nc.gov)) under "Forms." You may print as many as you think you may need so you have a few handy. Questions concerning the new form should be directed to the Office of Chief Medical Examiner. The actual removal procedure is unchanged...only this new form is required instead of any other (old) forms you may be using.

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#### LAWS AND RULES REVIEW:

##### Preneed Contract Sales

Authority: §90-210.67(a), 21 NCAC 34D.0202

Only preneed sales licensees are allowed to offer or sell preneed contracts. An individual who only sells insurance and is not licensed by the Board of Funeral Service to sell preneed can only hand out price lists; that person cannot..

- Sell preneed funeral services or merchandise or make funeral arrangements
- Explain price lists

- Show or explain other written materials describing funeral services and merchandise, or the preneed funeral plan or contract
- Show pictures of funeral merchandise, or explain the qualities and characteristics of funeral merchandise
- Explain funeral ceremonies or services
- Write down, whether on a particular form or not, items of funeral services and merchandise selected
- Sign a preneed contract
- Fill out a preneed contract and have it signed by a licensee

In summary, an insurance agent only sells an insurance policy.

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#### NEW FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENTS

New Beginning Funeral & Cremation, Washington  
 Noe Funeral Service, Beaufort  
 Reavis Funeral Home of Statesville, Statesville

#### NEW CREMATORY

Southern Piedmont Cremation Service, Albemarle

#### NEW UNAFFILIATED

Norman Whitted Funeral Director Licensee

#### NEW LICENSEES

The Board congratulates the following individuals who were licensed in June:  
 George Phillip Davis (FD), Andrew B. Earl (FS), Thomas Tyrone Hilderbrand (FS), Edgar Lee Juergens (FD), Christopher Allen Ledford (FD), Rodney Sean McKaig (FD), Jere F. Perry, Jr. (FS)

#### NEW TRAINEES

New Trainees registered with the Board in June:  
 Jason Edward Bradley, Hartsell Funeral Home, Concord  
 Heather Godwin Barton, Wilkinson Funeral Home, Concord  
 Jairo Enrique Contreras, City of Oaks, Raleigh  
 Mitchell Wayne Flora, Smith FS & Crematory, Greenville  
 DuWayne Edward Gibbs, Twiford Colony Chapel, Manteo  
 Cedric Labonte Hargrave, Rowan Funeral Service, Salisbury  
 Victoria Ann Petit, City of Oaks, Raleigh  
 Chelsea Allyson Philyaw, Kirksey Funeral Home, Marion  
 Brian Fairbanks Puckett, Hayworth-Miller Funeral Home, Winston-Salem  
 Jean Britt Wallace, McNeill-Mackie Funeral Home, St. Pauls

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION

The year is now more than half over. Have you completed your Continuing Education requirement? Have you *started*?

**CREMATION BROKERING IS ILLEGAL**

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????

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**DISCIPLINARY MATTERS:**

CASE FILE NUMBERS: C14-052; C15-010.

LICENSEES: Rountree Family Mortuary (FE #823); Terence Rountree (FD #3504); Tina Rountree (FD #3893).

SUMMARY: The Rountrees made a false statement on one or more applications used to obtain licenses from a Board. Mr. Rountree also made a false statement about the payment terms of a contract to a consumer and failed to file a death certificate within five days of death. The firm has changed its form of operation since the complaints were filed.

BOARD ACTION: The Board adopted a consent order placing the funeral establishment and both funeral directors on probation for one (1) year. The parties paid a \$750.00 compromise penalty.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 8, 2015.

