

# **STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS/EMBALMERS**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Monday, 25 October 2004**

### **Open Session**

**The Open Session of the State Board of Funeral Directors/Embalmers (Board) was called to order at 2:00 P.M. on the above date in Room 104, Cannon Building, Rhode Island Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meeting Law, so called, and other applicable provisions of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, as amended. A quorum was established.**

#### **Board members in attendance:**

**Elizabeth Feid**

**Robert T. Jones**

**Edward Murphy**

**Sheila C. Perkins**

#### **Board members not in attendance:**

**Robert A. Nardolillo, Jr.**

#### **Staff members in attendance:**

**Kelly Doyle, Board Administrator, Health Professions Regulation  
Gregory Madoian, Legal Counsel**

**Others in attendance:**

**None**

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**The minutes of the meetings held on 23 August 2004 and 30 September 2004 were presented. On a motion by Ms. Feid and seconded by Mr. Jones, it was unanimously Voted to accept the Open and Executive minutes as presented and that the Executive minutes to remain sealed.**

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**Topics of Discussion**

**The Board reviewed and approved the application of the following**

**individual for licensure as funeral director/embalmer:**

**- Christian Hood**

**The Board also reviewed the application of Ira Fleisher. The Board noted that clarification is necessary regarding why Mr. Fleisher's supervisor did not sign any of the internship documents. The Board instructed staff to notify Mr. Fleisher and request that he clarify why his supervisor did not sign his internship documents.**

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**The Board met with Jim Stapleton regarding a letter sent to the Stapleton-Barry-Holdredge Funeral Home relating to the results of the funeral establishment inspection. Mr. Stapleton expressed his disapproval that he was informed by the Board that the funeral establishment must have an operating preparation room pursuant to the Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Embalmers, Funeral Directors and Funeral Service Establishments. The Board thanked Mr. Stapleton. Mr. Stapleton left the meeting at this time.**

### **Adjournment to Executive Session**

**On a motion by Ms. Perkins and seconded by Mr. Jones, it was unanimously so Voted to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws, in that confidential issues of fitness for licensure and investigative cases will be discussed, and/or oral examinations administered.**

## **Return to Open Session**

**Mr. Murphy called the Open Session back to Order at 3:30 PM.**

**On motion of Mr. Jones, seconded by Ms. Perkins, it was unanimously voted to keep confidential all matters discussed in Executive Session and to seal those minutes inasmuch as fitness for licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed.**

**The Board reported that the following final actions were taken while in Executive Session:**

**2004-05-EMB: Unprofessional Conduct; one (1) year period of suspension, followed by one (1) year period of probation.**

**2003-01-EMB: No Unprofessional Conduct.**

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## **Topics of Discussion (continued)**

**The Board reviewed a letter from Robert Nardolillo, Jr. Mr. Nardolillo noted that he regrets that he is resigning from the Board of Funeral Directors/Embalmers. No action by the Board is necessary.**

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**The Board reviewed a letter from John McCoy, Esq. who is representing the funeral establishment that was sent a letter from the Board, advising the funeral establishment to refrain from providing funeral services out of the funeral establishment's chapel. Mr. McCoy informs the Board that funeral services are not conducted in the chapel although the funeral establishment utilizes the chapel's entrance to alleviate traffic congestion. No further action by the Board is necessary.**

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**The Board reviewed an email from Joshua Slocum, who is the Executive Director of the Funeral Consumers Alliance, regarding statutory or regulatory prohibitions against family members preparing or receiving burial transit permits, and transporting a body to the place of final disposition. The Board noted that the State of Rhode Island does not prohibit a family member from providing funeral services without a licensed funeral director, including receiving and preparing burial transit permits and transporting a body. Staff will notify Mr. Slocum of the Board's decision regarding this matter.**

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**Old Business**

**None**

**New Business**

**None**

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**Adjournment**

**The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the Open Session pursuant to the Sections 42-46-4 and 42-42-5 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island. On a motion by Mr. Jones and seconded by Ms. Perkins, it was unanimously so Voted to adjourn. The Open Session of the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Kelly Doyle**

**Board Administrator**

**Health Professions Regulation**