

AGENDA

CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF EMBALMERS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 9:00 AM
Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT

CALL TO ORDER

I. OPEN FORUM

II. MINUTES

Review and approval of the minutes from the March 8, 2022 meeting.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- A. National Board Exam
- B. Embalmer License / Funeral Director License

IV. OFFICE OF LEGAL COMPLIANCE

- A. Wayne T. Mohrlein, Embalmer – Petition No. 2022-693
Presentation of Motion for Summary Suspension – Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, DPH

ADJOURN

Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors via Microsoft Teams

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Meeting ID: 278 488 685 17

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The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and which have not yet been adopted by the Board.

The **Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors** held a meeting on March 8, 2022.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Darrell L. McClam, Embalmer, Chairman
Daniel Jowdy, Embalmer
Agnes Pier (Public Member)
Edgar Rodriguez, Embalmer

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer
Robert Binkowski, Inspector, DPH

The meeting convened at 9:02 a.m. All participants were present via Microsoft TEAMS

I. OPEN FORUM

Mr. McClam thanked Frank Carmen for his service to the Board.
Mr. Rodriguez was welcomed to his first meeting as a member of the Board

Mr. Binkowski reported there have not any new funeral home applications and no closings since is last report.

Mr. Kardys reported there are currently 22 Funeral Home cases that are under investigation and 24 cases involving embalmers.

II. MINUTES

The December 14, 2021 minutes were reviewed and approved with all in favor on amotion by Mr. Jowdy, seconded by Ms. Pier.

III. OLD BUSINESS

The list of practical examiners was reviewed with Frank Manna of the Department of Public Health, Office of practitioner Licensing and Certification.

Ms. Pier discussed information she gathered regarding the Catholic Funeral Plan that is operated by the Catholic Cemetery Association.

IV. OTHER DISSCUSSION

At its next meeting the Board wants to hold discussion with the Department of Public Health regarding the continued need for a national board examination and the need for an embalmer license and a funeral director license.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darrell L. McClam - Chairman
Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors



Jesse M. Gomes, Program Director
Goodwin University
Funeral Service Program
One Riverside Drive
East Hartford, Connecticut 06118

July, 2022

State of Connecticut
Dept. of Public Health
Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section
410 Capitol Ave. -MS #12HSR
P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Mr. Chairman, Mr. Binkowski, and Mr. Manna:

We hope this letter finds you well.

We are writing to you to make you aware that the Goodwin University Funeral Service Program students will be applying for the State of Connecticut Embalmer Pre-Graduate Trainee Permit. These are currently enrolled and matriculated students in their final semester of the program where they are embarking on their clinical rotations, FNS 297 Funeral Service Internship, per the American Board of Funeral Service Education's accreditation standards. Students will be applying early to ensure adequate processing time by your office. The three-month start time should begin on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, which coincides with the start of our Fall 2022 semester. All documentation, applications, and verifications will be initiated by the student and their sponsoring funeral home/clinical site. This training period is instrumental to familiarize the students with the profession!

Additionally, at the end of their studies, graduation, and successful completion of the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards (NBE): Arts NBE and Sciences NBE, the students will be applying for the State of Connecticut Registered Apprentice Embalmer, where they will have the reduction of three months (from twelve months to nine months) and the reduction of ten (10) embalmings (from 50 to 40). The specifics are highlighted below.

American Board of Funeral Service Education's (ABFSE) 2020 Accreditation Manual and Standards read:

"STANDARD 5: CURRICULUM

5.4.6 The Embalming is a requirement of the curriculum:

5.4.6.a Each student must actively participate in at least ten embalming cases in order to fulfill the clinical embalming component of the curriculum. There shall be no more than five (5) students per case receiving credit for a specific embalming. There may be additional students observing; however, they may not interrupt or interfere with the embalming process or distract the preceptor while the embalming is in process.

5.4.6.b Active participation means hands-on learning and must include, at a minimum, the following tasks:

- 5.4.6.b.i raising vessels*
- 5.4.6.b.ii mixing fluids*
- 5.4.6.b.iii injecting fluids*



- 5.4.6.b.iv cavity treatment
- 5.4.6.b.v suturing incisions
- 5.4.6.b.vi posing features
- 5.4.6.c Credit for individual cases will be allowed for only those students actively participating. No embalming case credit shall be given for those students observing the case. The number of observing students must be limited to ten (10) unless a video system or amphitheater is large enough to accommodate additional students without interfering with those students actively participating.
- 5.4.6.d Embalming case reports validating student participation are required, must be uniform in nature, and signed by the student and the instructor or preceptor. Each case report must document:
 - 5.4.6.d.i details of embalming treatments and
 - 5.4.6.d.ii a detailed list of the student's participation in the case
- 5.4.6.e The program must provide substantive evidence of the technical competence of each graduating student. Such certification must be performed by a faculty member.
- 5.4.6.f Embalming case reports must be retained for at least seven years.
- 5.4.6.g Embalming cases may be completed in an on-campus setting or at an off-campus instructional site.”

In conjunction with the ABFSE standards, the State of Connecticut General Statute reads (in relevant part):

“CHAPTER 385 EMBALMERS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS, Sec. 20-212. Embalming, care and disposal of bodies restricted.

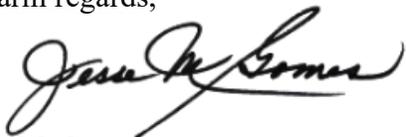
...Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit any student who is enrolled in a program of education in mortuary science, approved by the board, with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, from embalming up to ten human bodies under the supervision of a licensed embalmer and incidental to such student's course of study. Such embalming shall be counted toward the embalming requirement outlined in section 20-213 when such student becomes a registered apprentice embalmer.”

Upon successful completion of the student’s coursework, clinical course FNS 297 Funeral Service Internship), and programmatic requirements, our office will send notification and documentation of the ten embalmings to your office.

We are grateful that the State of Connecticut and the Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors have this opportunity for our students to undertake a rewarding career in our great profession.

Should there be any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to our office.

Warm regards,



Jesse M. Gomes,
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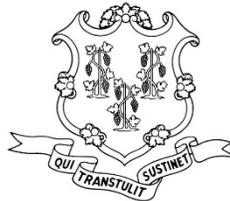


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2022 SUPPLEMENT TO THE GENERAL STATUTES OF CONNECTICUT

Revised to January 1, 2022



Sec. 20-212. Embalming, care and disposal of bodies restricted. No person, except a licensed embalmer, shall inject any fluid or substance into any dead human body, except that a registered apprentice embalmer may, even if not in the presence of a licensed embalmer, make such injection or perform any other act under such licensed embalmer's instruction; and no person, firm or corporation shall enter, engage in, carry on or manage for another the business of caring for, preserving or disposing of dead human bodies until each person, firm or corporation so engaged has obtained from the Department of Public Health and holds a license as provided in this chapter; nor shall any person be employed to remove a dead human body, except a licensed embalmer, a registered apprentice embalmer, a licensed funeral director, or a person authorized in each instance by the Chief Medical Examiner, Deputy Medical Examiner or assistant medical examiner incidental to examining the body of a deceased person, except that once a dead human body has been prepared in accordance with the regulations of Connecticut state agencies and the applicable provisions of the general statutes, an embalmer or funeral director licensed in this state may authorize an unlicensed employee to transport such body. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit any person licensed as an embalmer or as a funeral director under the laws of another state from bringing into or removing from this state a dead human body, provided any and all other laws of this state relative to such body have been complied with. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit any student who is enrolled in a program of education in mortuary science, approved by the board, with the consent of the Commissioner of Public Health, from embalming up to ten human bodies under the supervision of a licensed embalmer and incidental to such student's course of study. Such embalming shall be counted toward the embalming requirement outlined in section 20-213 when such student becomes a registered apprentice embalmer.

(1949 Rev., S. 4530; 1951, S. 2251d; 1969, P.A. 27; 699, S. 28; P.A. 80-484, S. 155, 176; P.A. 93-381, S. 9, 39; P.A. 95-257, S. 12, 21, 58; P.A. 04-255, S. 24; P.A. 21-121, S. 13.)

History: 1969 acts specified that removal of body by person authorized by medical examiners be in connection with examination of body and added exception governing removal of bodies by nonlicensed employees of embalmers or funeral directors and listed specific titles of medical examiners; P.A. 80-484 replaced board with department of health services as licensing authority; P.A. 93-381 replaced department of health services with department of public health and addiction services, effective July 1, 1993; P.A. 95-257 replaced Commissioner and Department of Public Health and Addiction Services with Commissioner and Department of Public Health, effective July 1, 1995; P.A. 04-255 changed "nonlicensed employee" to "unlicensed employee" and "remove" to "transport", and deleted reference to repealed Sec. 7-70; P.A. 21-121 replaced references to registered student embalmer with references to registered apprentice embalmer, replaced "Public Health Code" with "regulations of Connecticut state agencies", and added provision re embalming incidental to a student's course of study and the embalming requirement outlined in Sec. 20-213 and made a technical change.

SUMMARY SUSPENSION COVER SHEET

In re: Wayne T. Mohrlein, Embalmer

Petition No. 2022-693

1. Wayne T. Mohrlein of Colchester, Connecticut (“respondent”) was licensed to practice as an embalmer in 2000.
2. On April 1, 2021, the Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors (“Board”) ordered a Consent Order in Petition No. 2018-1071 (“Order”) that placed respondent’s embalmer license on probation for four (4) years based, in part, upon respondent’s abuse or excess use of alcohol.
3. The Order required, in part, that respondent shall refrain from ingesting alcohol and that he submit to random urine screens which shall be negative for the presence of alcohol.
4. On or about June 24, 2022 and/or June 25, 2022, respondent abused or utilized alcohol to excess.
5. On or about June 27, 2022 respondent’s urine tested positive for the presence of alcohol.
6. Respondent’s abuse or excess use of alcohol does, and/or may, affect his practice as an embalmer.
7. For the foregoing reasons, the Department of Public Health believes that respondent’s ability to practice as an embalmer is a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety. The Department respectfully moves the Board to summarily suspend respondent’s license until a full hearing on the merits can be held.

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH**

In re: Wayne T. Mohrlein, Embalmer

Petition No. 2022-693

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The Department of Public Health ("Department") moves, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §§4-182(c) and 19a-17(c), the Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors to summarily suspend Wayne T. Mohrlein's embalmer license. This motion is based on the attached Statement of Charges, affidavit, report, documents and on the Department's information and belief that the ability of Wayne T. Mohrlein to practice as an embalmer represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 25th day of July, 2022.



Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section
Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH**

In re: Wayne T. Mohrlein, Embalmer

Petition No. 2022-693

STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§19a-10 and 19a-14, the Department of Public Health ("Department") brings the following charges against Wayne T. Mohrlein:

1. Wayne T. Mohrlein of Colchester, Connecticut ("respondent") is, and has been at all times referenced in this Statement of Charges, the holder of Connecticut embalmer license number 002533.
2. On or about April 1, 2021, the Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors ordered a Consent Order in Petition No. 2018-1071 ("Order") that placed respondent's embalmer license on probation for four (4) years based, in part, upon respondent's abuse or excess use of alcohol.
3. The Order required, in part, that respondent shall refrain from ingesting alcohol and that he submit to random urine screens which shall be negative for the presence of alcohol.
4. On or about June 24, 2022 and/or June 25, 2022, respondent abused or utilized alcohol to excess.
5. On or about June 27, 2022 respondent's urine tested positive for the presence of alcohol.
6. Respondent's abuse or excess use of alcohol does, and/or may, affect his practice as an embalmer.
7. Respondent's conduct as described above constitute violations of the Order's probationary terms and/or grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§20-227 and/or 20-227(9).

THEREFORE, the Department prays:

The Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors, as authorized by Connecticut General Statutes §§20-227 and 19a-17, revoke or order other disciplinary action against respondent's embalmer license as deemed appropriate and consistent with law.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 25th day of July, 2022.

Christian D. Andresen

Christian D. Andresen, MPH, CPH, Section Chief
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section
Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch