

The **Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors** held a meeting on January 19, 2017 at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in the third floor Hearing Room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Darrell L. McClam, Embalmer – Chairman
Gerald Bosak, Jr., Embalmer
Agnes Pier

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Frank W. Carmon, IV, Embalmer

ALSO PRESENT: Kerry Colson, Assistant Attorney General
Gary Griffin, Department of Public Health
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Board Liaison
Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer

The meeting convened at 9:35 a.m.

I. MINUTES

The November 17, 2016 minutes were reviewed and approved on a motion by Mr. Bosak, seconded by Ms. Pier.

II. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES

Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Investigation Supervisor, Department of Public Health reported there are eight cases currently in various stages of investigation by the Department. Two cases were dismissed since the last meeting.

III. OFFICE OF LEGAL COMPLIANCE

A. Luke DiMaria, Embalmer – Petition Nos. 2014-948; 2015-1402

Abbey Funeral Home and Cremation Service – Petition Nos. 2014-947; 2015-1403

Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, DPH presented Consent Orders in these matters. Respondent was present with Attorney Jim Bergen.

Assistant Attorney General Kerry Colson was present to provide counsel to the Board.

Following a discussion with Attorney's Wilan and Bergen, Ms. Pier made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bosak, to approve the Consent Order for Luke DiMaria and the Consent Order for Abbey Funeral Home and Cremation Service. The motion passed with Mr. McClam and Ms. Pier voting in favor of approving the Consent Orders, Mr. Bosak was opposed.

Mr. McClam signed the order for Luke DiMaria which imposes a reprimand, a three year license probation and a \$50, 000.00 civil penalty.

Mr. McClam signed the order for Abbey Funeral Home and Cremation Service which imposes a reprimand.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Bosak, seconded by Ms. Pier.

Respectfully submitted,

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

The **Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors** held a meeting on June 22, 2017 at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in the third floor Hearing Room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Darrell L. McClam, Embalmer – Chairman
Gerald Bosak, Jr., Embalmer
Frank W. Carmon, IV, Embalmer
Agnes Pier

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Griffin, Department of Public Health
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Board Liaison
Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer

The meeting convened at 9:45 a.m.

I. MINUTES

The January 19, 2017 minutes were reviewed and approved on a motion by Mr. Bosak, seconded by Ms. Pier. Mr. Carmon abstained

II. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES

Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Investigation Supervisor, Department of Public Health reported there are six cases currently in various stages of investigation by the Department. Three cases were dismissed since the last meeting.

III. OFFICE OF LEGAL COMPLIANCE

A. Kevin C. Davidson, Embalmer - Petition Nos. 2014-606 and 2015-1155

B. Hartford Trade Service - Petition Nos. 2014-607 and 2015-596

Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, DPH presented Consent Orders in these matters. Respondent was present but was not represented by counsel

Mr. Bosak made a motion, seconded by Mr. Carmon, to approve the Consent Order for Kevin Davidson and the Consent Order for Hartford Trade Service. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McClam signed the order for Kevin Davidson which imposes a reprimand, a three month license suspension, probation for a period of one year, and a \$5, 000.00 civil penalty.

Mr. McClam signed the order for Hartford Trade Service which imposes a reprimand, probation for a period of one year, and a \$10, 000.00 civil penalty.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Bosak, seconded by Ms. Pier.

Respectfully submitted,

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

The **Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors** held a meeting on August 29, 2017 at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in the third floor Hearing Room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Darrell L. McClam, Embalmer, Chairman - *via telephone*
Frank W. Carmon, IV, Embalmer
Agnes Pier - *via telephone*

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Gerald Bosak, Jr., Embalmer

ALSO PRESENT: Gary Griffin, Department of Public Health
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Board Liaison
Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer

The meeting convened at 9:35 a.m.

I. Open Forum

The Board expressed its condolences on the passing of Edward Bergen, the retired Funeral Home Inspector for the Department of Public Health.

II. Minutes

The June 22, 2017 minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting.

III. Department of Public Health Updates

Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Investigation Supervisor, Department of Public Health reported there are nine cases currently in various stages of investigation by the Department. One case was dismissed since the last meeting and four new cases have been opened.

IV. License Reinstatement Application - Joseph Manco (embalmer license # 002692)

An application for license reinstatement for Joseph Manco was presented by Frank Manna, Office of Practitioner Licensing and Certification.

Mr. Carmon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pier, to recommend reinstatement of Mr. Manco's license upon successful completion of the practical examination, the State Law examination and completion of continuing education requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

The **Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors** held a meeting on November 2, 2017 at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in the third floor Hearing Room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Darrell L. McClam, Embalmer – Chairman
Gerald Bosak, Jr., Embalmer
Frank W. Carmon, IV, Embalmer
Agnes Pier

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey A. Kardys, Board Liaison
Gary Griffin, Department of Public Health
Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer

The meeting convened at 9:32 a.m.

I. OPEN FORUM

Daniel Jowdy, former Chairman of the Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors; Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt; Tania Porta, Embalmer; Janice Giegler, Town Clerk Danbury; Robert Ruggiero, Executive Director, Metropolitan Funeral Directors Association of New York City addressed the Board regarding the issue of licensees who have had their scores on the national board examination invalidated by the Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards. Christian Andresen, Section Chief, Department of Public Health, Office of Practitioner Licensing and Investigation also addressed the Board regarding this matter.

II. MINUTES

The June 22, 2017 and August 29, 2017 minutes were reviewed and approved on a motion by Mr. Carmon, seconded by Mr. Bosak.

III. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES

Investigations Update

Gary Griffin, Investigation Supervisor, Department of Public Health reported there are ten cases currently in various stages of investigation by the Department.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Pre-Need Funeral Contracts

Miriam Kluger and Maryellen Duffy were present from the State Office of Public Accounts to inform the Board that over the next six months a number of State agencies will be contacted as part of a review of the current policies and procedures pertaining to pre-need funeral contracts that may result in changes to current statutes and regulations.

B. Schedule Meeting Dates for 2018

The following meeting dates have been scheduled for 2018:

January 25, 2018

March 27, 2018

June 14, 2018

September 18, 2018

December 6, 2018

All meetings will be scheduled for 9:30 a.m., at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

C. Discussion of Public Act No. 17-146, Section 24

The Board discussed section 24 of Public Act 17-146 which provides that the Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors and the Department of Public Health shall not take any disciplinary action pursuant to section 20-227 of the general statutes against a licensed embalmer or funeral director who received notification on or before October 1, 2017, that the licensee's score on the national board examination was invalidated as a result of the invalidation of such score if the licensee retakes and successfully completes the prescribed examination not later than October 1, 2018. The Board commented that this public act needs to be repealed

The Board also commented that it may be time to discuss an alternative to a national board examination and potential changes to requirements for initial licensure in Connecticut. The Board scheduled a meeting to be held on Thursday, December 14, 2017 to discuss these issues with the Department of Public Health.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Bosak, seconded by Ms. Pier.

Respectfully submitted,

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

The **Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors** held a meeting on December 14, 2017 at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut in the third floor Hearing Room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Darrell L. McClam, Embalmer – Chairman
Gerald Bosak, Jr., Embalmer
Frank W. Carmon, IV, Embalmer
Agnes Pier

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey A. Kardys, Board Liaison
Gary Griffin, Department of Public Health
Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer

The meeting convened at 10:09 a.m.

I. MINUTES

The November 2, 2017 minutes were reviewed and approved on a motion by Mr. Carmon, seconded by Ms. Pier.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion regarding the national licensing examination.

The Board asked the Department of Public Health to research alternatives to the current examination administered by the Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards (Conference). The Board wants to explore alternatives as a result of the issue of licensees who have had their scores on the national board examination invalidated by the Conference.

Christian Andresen, Section Chief, Department of Public Health, Office of Practitioner Licensing and Investigation also addressed the Board regarding Department of Public Health's response in this matter as well as the requirements that an examination must be psychometrically sound and legally defensible. Mr. Andresen stated he is not aware of any alternative examinations. Mr. Bosak indicated he will forward information to Mr. Andresen.

State Senator Michael McLachlan was also present and discussed the legislation which was subsequently enacted in response to this issue.

Assistant Attorney General Kerry Colson was present to provide counsel to the Board and discuss current statutory requirements for licensure.

III. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Bosak, seconded by Ms. Pier.

Respectfully submitted,

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