

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Examination

The Alabama Board of Funeral Service has certified the following individuals with The Conference as having met the qualification to take the Alabama State Law Exam and the Alabama Funeral Director and/or Embalmer Exam:

Anna M. Young	Janet L. Sherrod	Juanita Martin	Wonn E. Lusain
Valerie R. Mabry	Cecilia M. Marien	Amber B. Champion	Jacquelyn Winsett
Tara A. Donnell	Scott D. Veal	Philip K. Guyton	Dustin T. Hubbard
Molly D. Gaines	William H. Sims	Twyla T. Knight	Lorenzo Bennett
Casey D. Nail	Kelly A. Russell	Michael A. Morrison	Lonnie Morgan, III
Sherry Linville	Travis L. Crossland	Pamela J. Black	Michelle P. Reid
Robbie F. Maxwell	Steven L. Ward		

Once an individual has taken the exam and met all the requirements for licensure, they will appear before the Board for an interview and final approval for licensure.

The Conference

As stated in previous notices, the Alabama State Law, Funeral Director and Embalmer's exams will be given by The Conference through Pearson VUE testing centers at five locations statewide. The exam fees and applications are to be submitted by the applicant to The Conference. The state license fees, applications, and affidavits shall be submitted to the Board office.

Phone: 479-442-7076 The Conference: www.theconferenceonline.org

Pearson VUE: Birmingham Decatur Dothan Mobile Montgomery

334-271-8995 205-982-2063 256-552-0667 334-671-7007 251-343-2601

Board Meeting

The Board will hold its first regular meeting of fiscal year 2016 on October 5, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 304 of the Alabama State House. Matters or subjects not on the agenda are not guaranteed for discussion at the meeting. Licensees who attend the quarterly board meeting will receive hour for hour CE Credits for attending.

Board Appointments

On **October 5, 2015**, at **9:00 a.m.**, in Room 304 of the Alabama State House, 11 South Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36104, the Board will take its annual nominations for the Board districts that term expires December 31, 2015. Those districts are: Three, Four, Six and Seven. To check your exact district, you may go to www.house.gov and type in your zip code under "Find Your Representative". To be eligible to serve on the Board:

- 1) A person must either be a licensed funeral director and embalmer, who has been licensed as an embalmer for at least ten consecutive years, or a funeral director.
- 2) Who is currently a funeral home operator who has been actively practicing funeral directing for at least ten consecutive years.

Those in attendance must select three nominees from each district and those nominees will be submitted to the governor for appointment. You do not have to be present to be nominated, but you must be present to place a nomination. Also, only one funeral director from each establishment may vote should more than three nominees are nominated. Should a company own multiple establishments, they may have one funeral director for each establishment to cast a vote. If anyone has questions about the nomination process or districts, please contact the Board office.

Renewal Time

The Board will no longer mail renewal notices to licensees. Pursuant to Code of Alabama, 1975, Section 34-13-53(d), License renewal applications for fiscal year 2015 will be emailed to licensees, apprentices, and establishment at multiple times during the month of June and throughout the renewal period. The deadline to renew without penalty is September 30, 2014. Failure to receive a notice does not excuse anyone from renewing by the deadline. If you fail to submit your paperwork for renewal by the September 30th deadline, an additional \$50 late penalty will be applied. Licensees may also go to the "Forms" tab of the Board's website at www.fsb.alabama.gov and print a renewal notice.

The ONLINE RENEWALS system opened on June 1st.

<u>Licensees who used the online system last year, must use the Login and Password they created when they registered last year.</u> Licensees that will use the Online Renewal system for the first time this year, must follow the instruction attached to the renewal notice.

Licensees, Apprentices, and Establishments can renew their individual license(s) online through the Board's website.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Funeral Directors/Embalmers are required to complete 8-hours biennial. Licensees who hold more than one license issued by the Board may use the same continuing education hours for renewal of both licenses without having to earn separate continuing education hours for each license renewal. The first reporting period is October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2016 and biennial thereafter. At the end of each biennial reporting period and during that renewal period, licensees may be selected through a random audit for compliance with the continuing education requirements.



At the last meeting, the Board approved the following for licensure:

Funeral Director

Funeral Director & Embalmer

Donna S. Hughes

Tara A. Donnell

Brittany N. Chancey

Norman P. Sweatman

Valerie R. Mabry

Danny E. Holloway

Daisy C. White

Cecilia M. Marien

Creniesha D. Wiggins

Nathan L. Cradic

Tracey L. Yealock

John D. Mohn, Sr.

Laura P. Whisenant

Teresa M. Schnur

Sheffton M. Goodson

Melesa F. Mayes

Embalmer

Natasha A. Braddy

Randall K. Jackson

Establishments

Hartselle Heritage Funeral Home (Buyout) –Hartselle Harris Funeral Home (Buyout) – Geraldine

"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination."

Jimmy Dean

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Alabama Board of Funeral Services will offer continuing education credit to licensees that attend quarterly board meetings.

Approved Continuing Education Providers 2014-2015

A Center for Continuing Education (Insurance) 800.344.1921 dharrison @acceducation.com

Academy of Graduate Embalmers 770.445.3180 academyga@aol.com

Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice, Inc. 866. 431.2377

ABFS 334.242.4049 www.fsb.alabama.gov **AFDA** 334.956.8000 www.alabamafda.org

AFDA&MA www.alabamafdma.org

APEX (continuing education solutions) 800.769.8996 apexces.com

Atlantic Coast Insurance Company 205.529.0005 AlabamaPreneed@gmail.com

Aurora Casket Company, Inc. 800.457.1111 auroracasket.com

Batesville Casket Company 812.934.7500 batesville.com CANA-Cremation Association of North America 312.245.1077 cremationassociation.org

Community Grief Support Service 205.870.8667 ssweatcgss@bellsouth.net

Dignity University 713.525.7348 Dignity.university@Sci-us.com

Epsilon Nu Delta Mortuary Fraternity 951.683.5400

Funeral CE (a service of Web CE) 877.332.8480 www.Funeralce.com

Funeral Compliance, LLC 865.405.7085 funeralcompliance@gmail.com

FuneralContinuingEducation.com 718.608.6000 www.funeralcontinuingeducation.com

FuneralDirectorCEUs.com 250.744.3595

FuneralReview.com LLC

funeralreview.com

Gupton Jones College of Funeral Service 800.848.5352 www.gupton-jones.edu The University of Alabama 205.348.9966

International Order of the Golden Rule 800.63.8030

Jzyk Ennis 205.821.0454 jzykennis @charter.net Jefferson State Community College 205.856.7847 vriley@jeffstateonline.com

Matthews Cremation 800.327.2831 matthewscremation .com

www.ogr.org/webinars

Mobile Memorial Gardens Funeral Home 251.661.7700 service@mobilememorialfuneals.com

NFDA 800.228.6332 nfda.org

NFDA & MA 800.434.0958 nfdama.com

Association 251.441.7688 tristatemorturay@gmail.com

National Funeral Professionals

Pierce Mortuary Colleges 888.547.9600 pierce.edu

Practicum Strategies 800.731.4714 pshomestudy.com

Smalls Mortuary Inc. and Cremation Services 251.990.3929 smallsmortuary.com Tennessee Funeral Directors Association 615.321.8792 office@tnfda.org

Thanos Institute 800.742.8257 thanosinstitute.com

The Dodge Company, Inc. 800.443.6343 seminars@dodgeco.com

The Independent Funeral Group 865.977.0027 info@theindependentfuneralgroup.com

ATTENTION ALL ESTABLISHMENTS

Many Alabama establishments have contacted the Board's Office concerning "Heritage Cremation Provider" and/or Legacy Funeral Services. These two companies are online cremation providers being operated by the same individual(s). Each company's website suggest to the consumer that they are located in your town and have been doing business there for decades. The websites give very little to no information about the companies, its owner(s), and location(s). No information is given to the consumer concerning the company and very little information is collected concerning the deceased or next of kin. All paperwork is completed by email or fax. They encourage the consumer to only deal with one of their representative and to select cremation without viewing for identification. Heritage and/or Legacy seek out a licensed funeral establishment in the state to complete or have completed the cremation process while only dealing with their representative. They seek the services of a licensed funeral establishment at a third party cost while charging the family a marked up "retail" price.

The Board has been unable to determine if and where these companies are licensed to practice funeral directing due to the lack of information provided by the companies' representatives. Therefore, the Board cautions all Alabama funeral establishments to only do business with funeral establishments whose license can be verified and companies that are willing to provide verifiable information concerning their company. Also, please be reminded that the Board may revoke, suspend, or refuse to issue a license, pursuant to Code of Alabama, 1975, § 34-13-56 (a)(2)(p), for performing services in a professional capacity as a funeral director or embalmer, or both, for any unlicensed funeral establishment operating in violation of this chapter.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the Board office at 334-242-4049.