



## District Meeting Minutes (Districts 3, 4, 8)

Thursday, March 1, 2018 – 10:30 a.m.  
New Orleans, LA

### **Present:**

*Randall Anderson, NFDA*  
*Lance Brooks, AL Board of Funeral Service*  
*Annie Bushelon Holt, AL Board of Funeral Service*  
*Pete Cameron, WA Funeral & Cemetery Board*  
*Karen Carruthers, AB Funeral Services Regulatory Board*  
*Brevin Clifford, ICFSEB Exam Committee*  
*Mark Evely, Wayne State University*  
*Craig Geary, ID Board of Morticians*  
*Charles Graves, NC Board of Funeral Service*  
*Denise Grogan, AL Board of Funeral Service*  
*Amy Holleman, SC Board of Funeral Service*  
*David Ingram, OH Board of Embalmers & Funeral Directors*  
*Harvey Leavitt, ICFSEB Exam Committee*  
*Jack Lechner, Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science*  
*Catherine Lee, NC Board of Funeral Service*  
*Richard Little, WA Funeral & Cemetery Board*  
*Sandy Mahon, ICFSEB District 8 Director, Funeral & Cremation Services Council of SK*  
*Ron Messenger, WA Funeral & Cemetery Board*  
*Charles Perine, ICFSEB District 3 Director, AL Board of Funeral Service*  
*Jill Pugh, OH Board of Embalmers & Funeral Directors*  
*Mark Ransford, ICFSEB District 4 Director, MI Board of Examiners in Mortuary Science*  
*Lucy Richards, MT Board of Funeral Service*  
*Cameron Smock, WA Funeral & Cemetery Board*  
*James Sommer, ID Board of Morticians*  
*Matt Staton, NC Board of Funeral Service*  
*Angela Ward, WA Funeral & Cemetery Board*  
*Jeff Weafer, Funeral & Cremation Services Council of SK*

### **I. Call to Order and Introductions**

District 3 Director, Charles Perine, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. CST. The meeting began with introductions of The Conference District Directors and representatives from District 3, 4, and 8.

### **II. Update on Conference Initiatives**

A brief overview of Conference initiatives was given by Mr. Perine including an update on the Model Internship Program and the dissemination of electronic results to member boards. A few participants shared their favoring experiences with the score process and the promptness of acquiring this piece of licensing information. The question was posed to participants regarding how The Conference can build a stronger relationship with jurisdictions as a way to promote value as a member. Messaging and the development of a communication bridge with associations were suggestions from a few attendees. The value of the Annual Meeting was also addressed and the potential of The Conference creating a justification packet for member boards. The members would be able to present this packet to their

respective states to justify presence and participation at the meetings. A Conference newsletter article featuring legislation information a couple of times a year was another suggestion by an attendee.

### **III. Current Regulatory Issues**

#### **A. Legislative happenings**

A participant from South Carolina shared some information about legislation being proposed regarding internet advertising as well as the inclusion of a physical address for all establishments. The discussion of partnering with associations in an effort to further legislative issues was also discussed. A participant from Montana shared their board is looking to add a second public member as well as the possibility of a funeral arranger license.

#### **B. Single vs. Dual Licensure**

The educational requirements for funeral directors and embalmers were briefly discussed among attendees, prompting the following question to the group, "What is the public perception or expectation of the person who families sit down to meet with? Would they want this person to be educated/trained to do everything under the roof of the establishment? Or less?" Discussion ensued with several attendees noting benefits and challenges with each. Many states did also note the requirement of an apprenticeship/internship in aiding the future licensees on the job training.

#### **C. Unlicensed Practice/Third Party Providers**

Representatives from a few jurisdictions briefly shared their experiences with unlicensed practice.

#### **D. Death Doula/Midwife Movement**

Death doula/midwives were briefly discussed by the group with a few regulators noting different scenarios they have encountered. The benefits and challenges of this movement were discussed with the encouragement of communication between both parties noted as extremely important going forward.

#### **E. Updates on Membership Polls**

Mr. Perine highlighted a few questions and responses from the membership questions that were distributed over the past year. Attendees were encouraged to contact Lauren Thomas for more information if interested.

### **IV. Open Forum**

There were no discussion items in the open forum.

### **V. District 8 Election to Board of Directors**

Cameron Smock, Washington State Funeral & Cemetery Board member, was elected as District 8 Director of the Board of Directors.

### **VI. Adjournment**

The meetings of districts 3, 4, and 8 adjourned at 12:00 p.m. CST.