



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:

Michael Atwood	Natasha A. Braddy	Earnest Green	Charlie D. Nelson
Antonia T. Perryman	Ramona C. Russell	Melesa F. Mayes	Daisy C. White
Danny E. Holloway	Laura P. Whisenant	Christina M. Boling	John D. Mohn, Sr.
Timothy L. Howard	Jay P. Fisher	Charles G. Cannon	Danetta Cottrell
Rickney B. Hunter			

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.

The Conference: www.theconferenceonline.org

Phone: 479-442-7076

Pearson VUE:	Birmingham	Decatur	Dothan	Mobile	Montgomery
	205-982-2063	256-552-0667	334-671-7007	251-343-2601	334-271-8995

Board Meeting

The Board will hold its fourth regular meeting of fiscal year 2015 on **July 13, 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.**

Interview

The following individuals will come before the Board on July 13, 2015 to interview for final approval for licensure:

Crenisha Wiggins	Nathan L. McCradic	Brittany Chancey	Teresa Schnur
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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 will open June 1st.

Licensees who used the online system last year, must use the Login and Password they created when they registered last year. 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.

INSPECTION REPORT

ALL ESTABLISHMENTS: Inspection reports and invoices will be emailed to the email address the Board has on file for the establishment. The email will be from the following email address:
notifications@alabamainteractive.org

The invoice will be emailed shortly after the inspection is completed. Failure to receive an invoice does not excuse an establishment from paying the inspection fee within the 45 day time allotment for inspection fees to be paid. Inspection fees can be paid online by going to the Homepage of the Alabama Board of Funeral Service website and click on the “PAY INSPECTION FEE” button. Establishments should login using the same login information they use to renew their establishment license.

Violations

Case No.	Charge	Penalty
ABFS14-036	Aided unlicensed practice. §34-13-56(a)(2)(i). Misrepresentation and Fraud. §34-13-56(a)(2)(a). Unlicensed individuals engaging in business of funeral directing. . §34-13-70(a).	Fined \$5500.00 plus (\$1265.00 refunded to the complainant.) 1 year probation for Managing Funeral Director, for employee Funeral Director, and for the Establishment.
ABFS15-003	Aided unlicensed practice. §34-13-56(a)(2)(i). Funeral Service and Interment conduct without being in actual charge of a funeral director. §34-13-111(b).	Fined \$5000.00. 2 year probation for Managing Funeral Director and the Establishment



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

Funeral Director

Carlos D. Black
Brain D. Goodloe
Sandra Biscotti

Funeral Director & Embalmer

Robynne E. Gray
Danae A. Magee
Charles M. Sherman
Terry D. Cleckler
Joey P. Norris

Embalmer

Terrence E. Windham
Danny E. Holloway

Establishments

Cope-Keahey Funeral Home (Buyout by Randy Keahey) – Evergreen
Searcy Funeral Home & Crematory – Daleville
Grace Memorial Funeral Home (Buyout of Saints FH) – Florence
Grace Memorial Funeral Home (Buyout of Saints FH) – Sheffield
Heritage Funeral Home – Hartford
Carter, Rice & West Funeral Home - Greenville

“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
www.ogr.org/webinars

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

Mobile Memorial Gardens Funeral Home
251.661.7700
service@mobilememorialfunerals.com

NFDA
800.228.6332
nfda.org

NFDA&MA
800.434.0958
nfdama.com

National Funeral Professionals Association
251.441.7688
tristatemorturay@gmail.com

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



Funeral Service Education Program

Free—2 Hour Continue Education Seminar

Jefferson Campus Lurleen Wallace Hall, Room 300 Tuesday, July 14, 2015

9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

Panel Discussion:

Funeral Service Issues Related to the Probate Courts

Description

This two hour (2 CE's) seminar is designed for funeral service education students and funeral service licensees in the State of Alabama to gain insight on how the probate court system operates and deliberates on issues related to funeral service cases. The probate judges and Mr. Jeremy Sumner, Esquire, a licensed attorney will discuss issues related to wills, trusts and powers of attorney. Mr. Charles Perine, Executive Secretary of the Alabama Board of Funeral Service, will discuss the funeral service laws of Alabama and how they apply in cases of conflict between authorizing agents.

Specifically the following issues will be addressed:

- Common-law marriages as they relate to authorizing agents
- Conflicts within client families and Alabama funeral service laws in cases of conflict
- Standing of funeral homes in cases of conflict and indemnification of funeral homes for following the laws and orders of a probate court
- Process of how to file a petition to a probate court including: paperwork/forms, fees, and the process.
- Factors judges assess before making a ruling: including the deceased's wishes, estates, etc.
- Weight of law and enforcement of judicial actions/orders
- Wills, trusts, and powers of attorney



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(NOTE: DO NOT AGREE TO PARTICIPATE UNLESS IRB APPROVAL INFORMATION WITH CURRENT DATES HAS BEEN ADDED TO THIS DOCUMENT.)

INFORMATION LETTER

“Alabama Funeral Service Licensees’ Perception of Funeral Service Education and Readiness for Professional Practice in a Changing Environment”

You are invited to participate in a research study that examines the perception that licensed funeral directors/embalmers in Alabama have towards the American Board of Funeral Service’s learning objectives for content areas to determine perceived importance of those learning objectives, academic preparation to master those objectives, and perceived adequacy of those objectives towards professional practice in a changing environment. The study is being conducted by Jzyk S. Ennis, under the direction of Dr. James Witte in the Auburn University Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership, and Technology. You are invited to participate in this survey if you are: 1) a licensed funeral director/embalmer in the State of Alabama; 2) have graduated from a Funeral Service Education program accredited by ABFSE in or after 1962; 3) have worked in some capacity in funeral service as either a licensed funeral director and/or embalmer within the last 12 months and; 4) are age 19 or older.

If you decide to participate in this research study, you will be asked to complete an anonymous online survey through Qualtrics. Your total time commitment will be approximately 15-20 minutes. Your participation is completely anonymous and voluntary. There are no foreseeable risks associated with participating in this study; however, if you feel uncomfortable while answering the questions, you can withdraw at any time by closing your browser window. Once you’ve submitted anonymous data, it cannot be withdrawn since it will be unidentifiable. Your privacy and the data you provide will be protected by not asking for any personally-identifying information and by not capturing your computer’s Internet Protocol (IP) address. Your participation in this research is confidential. All survey data will be gathered into Qualtrics software using an open-access link that does not identify you or your computer. Information collected through your participation may be used to fulfill the requirements of my doctoral dissertation, published in a professional journal, and/or presented at a professional meeting. Your decision about whether or not to participate or to stop participating will not jeopardize your future relations with Auburn University, the Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership, and Technology, the Alabama Board of Funeral Service, or Jzyk S. Ennis.

Other than your time, there is no cost to participate in this research. While there is no monetary compensation for your participation in this study, your responses will be valuable to educators, policy-makers, client-families, and licensees in the State of Alabama.



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If you have questions about this study, please contact Jzyk S. Ennis at jse0008@auburn.edu / (205) 821-0454 or Dr. James Witte at witteje@auburn.edu / (334) 844-3054.

If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the Auburn University Office of Research Compliance or the Institutional Review Board by phone (334) 844-5966 or e-mail at IRBadmin@auburn.edu or IRBChair@auburn.edu.

HAVING READ THE INFORMATION ABOVE, YOU MUST DECIDE IF YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS RESEARCH PROJECT. IF YOU DECIDE TO PARTICIPATE, PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW. YOU MAY PRINT A COPY OF THIS LETTER TO KEEP.

Thank you,

Jzyk S. Ennis

Principal Investigator / Doctoral Candidate

Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership, and Technology

Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama

The Auburn University Institutional Review Board has approved this document for use from **May 17, 2015**
to
May 16, 2018. Protocol # **15-184 EX 1505**

https://auburn.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_enBkIFw4Aui3knH