



IDFPR

Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

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CAMILE LINDSAY
Director

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
ILLINOIS FUNERAL DIRECTOR and EMBALMER LICENSING & DISCIPLINARY BOARD

Date: December 18th, 2025
Convened: 10:13
Adjourned: 11:05
Location: Springfield/Chicago/Webex

Member(s) Present:

Timothy Ruestman, Chair
Richard Crouse, Member
Benjamin Winn, Member
Joyce Bryan, Public Member

Member(s) Absent:

Melissa Christensen, Member
Madison Fox, Member
Mariella Trevino, Member

Staff Present:

Lori Heyen, Board Liaison
Ricky Breen, General Counsel

Guest Present: None

Open Session: The Meeting was called to order at 10:13 a.m.

Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

1. Guest Comments:

None

2. Legislative Update:

General Counsel Ricky Breen provided updates to the SB2643 of the 103rd General Assembly or Public Act 103-0907, the Integrity in Death Care Act.

SB2643 of the 103rd General Assembly or Public Act 103-0907, the Integrity in Death Care Act requires the Department to require funeral directors and embalmers in the State to maintain an identification system that ensures that the establishment is able to identify the human remains in its possession through final disposition.

The Department worked with interested parties and stakeholders to establish this in rule, 68 IAC 1250.240, which became effective December 10, 2025. This requires the licensee to establish a chain of custody record to ensure the tracking and transfer of human remains which includes a unique identifier, the stages at which the licensee must verify the identification of the remains, what they should do if the remains are separated, the required length of time they must maintain those records, and the capability of using a paper or electronic system, so long as the Department can inspect the records upon request.

3. Approved Minutes:

The Board reviewed the open minutes of the June 11th, 2024, meeting.

Motion was made, seconded (Ruestman /Crouse) to approve the open minutes of the meeting as presented. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

4. Old Business:

None

5. New Business:

Closed Session Recordings. The Board moves to authorize the disposition (or destruction) of all closed session recordings of the board for the years 2004 to 2019.

Motion was made, seconded (Ruestman /Winn) to approve the disposition (or destruction) of all closed session recordings from 2004 to 2019. Motion passed with a quorum of members

Motion to move into Closed Session:

Motion was made, seconded (Crouse/Winn) to move into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2c (4) & 15) of the Open Meetings Act at 10:28 am. Motion passed with a unanimous vote of members. Roll call was taken.

6. Closed Session:

A. Deliberations:

Deliberations were held in closed session on cases presented to the Board.

B. Review of Closed Minutes:

The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the June 11, 2024, meeting.

Moved back into Open Session:

Board Chair adjourned the Closed Session and moved the meeting back into Open Session at 10:46 am. Roll Call has taken.

7. Motions:

Accept recommendations for indefinite suspension:

The Board reviewed 1 default case and moved to indefinitely suspend for a minimum of 90 days. A summary of the name (s) for the case(s) is included.

Motion was made, seconded (Bryan/Ruestman) to accept the recommendations made in closed session. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

Accept close minutes and keep minutes closed:

Motion was made, seconded (Ruestman/Crouse) to approve the closed minutes as presented and keep them closed. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

8. Board Chair Time:

None

9. Liaison Time:

A. Case Reports:

Ms. Heyen reminded board members of the importance of reviewing intern case reports in a timely manner.

B. 3 Hour Hands on Embalming:

Ms. Heyen informed the board that Jack Adams Dodge has retired and is no longer offering the 3-hour training. Board has agreed to find a replacement.

C: Next Meeting:

Board wants a meeting scheduled for April. Board agrees that Thursdays work better for scheduling.

10. Adjournment:

Motion was made, seconded (Crouse/Winn) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am.

Exceptions and CommentsDeliberations

Let it be noted for the record that the Director's decision regarding disciplinary matters is withheld from the minutes and rendered at the time the Board presents their Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommendations.

Names referenced in cases deliberated and applications reviewed for this meeting:

CORBIN, ARNELL CEDRIC 2024-03387

The consensus on the above default cases was to Indefinitely suspend license minimum of 90 days.