

# Louisiana State Board of Embalmers And Funeral Directors

## Minutes of the Meeting

For

May 10, 2022

### Board Members present:

Rodney McFarland , President

Willie P. Davis, Jr. , Vice President via Zoom

Terry Luneau , Secretary

Shelton Dixon, Treasurer and Consumer Representative

Maurice Southall

Juan M. Joseph

Stephen Boudreaux

Louis Charbonnet

Gregory McKneely

The meeting was called to order by the Board's President, Mr. McFarland, at 9:00 AM, at the Board's office, located at 3500 N. Causeway Blvd. Ste. 1232, Metairie, Louisiana. Also, present was Kim W. Michel, Executive Director, Heidi Penouilh, Administrative Coordinator, IV, Jude Daigle, Inspector, Christopher Lento, General Counsel and Chanel R. Debose, Prosecuting Attorney.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments made at today's meeting.

### PRESENTATIONS:

There were no presentations for today's meeting.

### COMPLIANCE, HEARING and/or ADMISSION AND CONSENT

An admission and consent received from Dorothy Stewart, Progressive Funeral Home, Bunkie, was presented to the board.

An admission and consent received by Iris Chapman, Karen James, Rodney Vick and Affordable Funeral Home, Lacombe was presented to the board.

Motion was made by Mr. Boudreaux, with a second by Mr. Southall and unanimously passed that that both of the admission and consents should be tabled at this time.

As to the formal hearing to show cause for non-appearance; In the Matter of Pamela Rogers;

Motion was made by Mr. Boudreaux, seconded by Mr. Dixon and unanimously passed to dismiss the matter regarding Pamela Rogers.

As to the formal hearing to show cause for non-response in a timely manner to address a complaint; In the Matter of Stephanie Navarre; Ms. Navarre was present to address the board regarding the non-response to a complaint and to present the reply as requested for the complaint.

Motion was made by Mr. Dixon, with a second by Mr. Joseph and passed by a roll call vote with eight members for the motion and an abstain by Mr. Davis, that due to Ms. Navarre not replying to the board's office regarding a timely response to a compliant, that Ms. Navarre's license be suspended for ten (10) days and a notification be forwarded to the board's office naming a replacement manager during the suspension phase.

A request by Bruce Parse'e to revisit the license revocation of Rest Assured Funeral Home.

Mr. McFarland acknowledged that the request by Mr. Parse'e would be taken under advisement.

The minutes of the March 2022 meeting was presented to the board for review and approval.

Motion was made by Mr. Southall, with a second by Mr. Dixon and unanimously passed that the minutes be approved as presented.

Ms. Michel presented the Executive Director's report with Legislative bills posted for the 2022 regular session, the license and registry update.

Ms. Michel also requested that the board consider accepting the accreditation of the Council on Occupational Education (COE) and Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC) for funeral directing license requirements. These institutions do offer and provide the core educational requirements as outlined within the regulations and should be considered when accepting college transcripts for the funeral directing license.

Motion was made by Mr. Dixon, with a second by Mr. Luneau and unanimously passed that the board begin accepting the Council on Occupational Education (COE) and Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC) for the funeral directing license requirements.

License and registry since the last meeting as follows;

### **Funeral Establishments - new issue**

S. L. Booker Family Funeral Services, LLC	2966
Reed-Riley Smith & Son Funeral Home	2967

### **Establishment Ownership/Location/Name Change**

Richardson Funeral Homes, Inc.	2968
Gallagher Funeral Home & Crematory	2969

### **Crematory Establishment - new issue**

Gallagher Funeral Home & Crematory	56
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### **Embalmer and Funeral Director License - new issue**

Meredith Davis	E- 2939	Brittain White	E- 2941
Danielle Mitchell	E- 2940	Paula Forrest	E- 2942

### **Funeral Director License - new issue**

Jeniece L. Rogers	U- 1747	Peyton M. Borne	U- 1750
Robert C. Smith	U- 1748	Gardenia Jenkins	U- 1751
Larry Hawkins	U- 1749		

### **Retort Operator License - new issue**

Michelle Cenac	421	Consandra Chalres	425
Crystal Griffin	422	Chad Bailey	426
Mark Allaband	423	Bryant Mitchell	427
Tiffany Heitzler	424	Nikki C. Pellerin	428

### **Internships Registered**

Vick Rodney	0620	Pebbles Guimbellot	0629
Dara Dubois	0621	Nikki Pellerin	0630
Megan Moring	0622	Dejone Avist	0631
Daniel Martinez	0623	Courtney Walker	0632
Thomas Vercher	0624	John Shoemaker	0633
Christopher Caffery	0625	Joe Ann Guillory	0634
Vantashia Semien	0626	Wesley Syrie, II	0635
Gayle McFarland	0627		
Owen Ray	0628		

Motion was made by Mr. Boudreaux, with a second by Mr. Joseph and unanimously passed to accept the Executive Director's report as presented.

The Inspector's report was presented by Mr. Daigle and noted that there are 105,250 miles on the 2017 Ford Fusion, and that 160 inspections have been completed so far in 2022 with 64 inspections completed since the last meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Joseph, with a second by Mr. Boudreaux and unanimously passed that the Inspector's report be accepted as presented.

The financial report and budget for FY 21/22 and proposed FY 22/23, was presented for review and consideration.

Motion was made by Mr. Dixon, with a second by Mr. McKneely and unanimously passed that the financial report be accepted as presented.

The Complaint Review Committee's report was presented to the Board by Ms. Debose, Prosecuting Attorney.

Ms. Debose reiterated that the complaints are presented anonymously in numerical format to the Board with the Complaint Review Committee's decision based upon the information presented at the time of review. The numbered complaints presented in an open meeting remain anonymous while a complaint is pending further investigation and/or until such time as the complaint file has been closed.

Ten complaints were presented; three complaints were recommended for an informal hearing, three were

recommended for a formal hearing, two were determined that there were no apparent violations, one complaint was withdrawn, and one complaint required the licensee to appear to “show cause”, all as per the recommendations of the Complaint Review Committee.

Motion was made by Mr. Southall, with a second by Mr. Joseph and unanimously passed that the complaint report be accepted as presented per the recommendations of the Complaint Review Committee.

A discussion ensued with regard to the employment opportunity for the position of inspector.

Mr. McFarland noted that the application process has expired and interviews will be scheduled to take place on June 13, 2022 with a decision to be announced at the board meeting scheduled for June 14, 2022.

The inspection report was revised and distributed for review by the board members for the inspection process to be implemented through Certemy online.

The embalming log presented at the last meeting was reviewed once again for the revision of required information and posting to website.

Motion was made by Mr. Davis, with a second by Mr. Southall and unanimously passed that the board move into Executive Session at 12:30 PM

Motion was made by Mr. Boudreaux, with a second by Mr. Luneau and unanimously passed that the board move out of Executive Session at 2:00 PM for discussion of the following;

In the Matter of Dorothy Stewart and Progressive Funeral Home, Bunkie;

Motion was made by Mr. Southall, with a second by Mr. Dixon and unanimously passed to accept the Admission and Consent as presented;

Motion was made by Mr. Charbonnet, with a second by Mr. Southall and unanimously passed by a roll call vote count, that Dorothy Stewart and Progressive Funeral Home, Bunkie, be found guilty of the charges as outlined below including the noted sanctions;

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT and DECISIONS of the BOARD**

This matter came before the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors on May 10, 2022 for a ruling on the Admissions and Consent submitted by Dorothy Stewart in the instant case.

Present:

**CHANEL R. DEBOSE**, Prosecuting Attorney, for and on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

**CHRIS LENTO**, General Counsel, for and on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors via Zoom.

**KIM MICHEL**, Executive Director, for and on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

After considering the law, the evidence, the entire record of these proceedings, and the Admission and Consent submitted by Dorothy Stewart in this proceeding for a ruling on the Admission and Consent, DOROTHY STEWART, owner and manager of the entity operating as PROGRESSIVE FUNERAL HOME, and the entity operating as PROGRESSIVE FUNERAL HOME, all who waived their appearances to appear before the Board to be a part of the proceedings held on May, 10, 2022, the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors rules as follows:

### FINDINGS OF FACT

That DOROTHY STEWART is a licensed funeral director and a licensed embalmer (#E-2106), and the manager of the establishment operating as Progressive Funeral Home (#748), Bunkie, Louisiana, and, therefore, subject to the jurisdiction of this Board: that evidence contained within the record of these proceedings, and the Admission and Consent signed by the parties, reflect that Dorothy Stewart is guilty of violating the provisions of: LA R.S. 37:855 (Right to Arrange Funeral Goods and Services) as it relates to LA R.S. 8:655; LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Allowing Stewart Burr to Practice without a License); LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Allowing Peggy Stewart to Practice without a License); LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Knowingly Acting in Concert with Stewart Burr, an Unlicensed Individual); LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Knowingly Acting in Concert with Peggy Stewart, an Unlicensed Individual); LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Signing A Contract to which She was not A Party); LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Over Charging for Death Certificates; LA. R.S. 37:842 (F) (1) and LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (14) as it relates to Chapter 11, Section 1105 of the Rules of Funeral Establishments (Failing to have a Licensed Funeral Director Designated as the Manager of the Facility in Charge of the Day to Day Operations of the Firm), as evidenced by documentation appearing in the file and the Admission and Consent signed by Dorothy Stewart on behalf of herself and the entity operating as Progressive Funeral Home, admitting that the following violations occurred:

1. **Dorothy Stewart and the entity operating as Progressive Funeral Home violated LA R.S. 37:855 (Right to Arrange Funeral Goods and Services) as it relates to LA R.S. 8:655 by failing to allow Adlene Washington Johnson, the next of kin and wife of the decedent, Ronald Wade Johnson, Sr., the right to arrange her husband's disposition after knowing or having reason to know that Adlene Washington Johnson was the rightful next of kin.**
2. **Dorothy Stewart and the entity operating as Progressive Funeral Home violated LA R.S. 37:848 (A) by allowing a person, not certified and registered under the provisions of the Chapter governing the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors, to embalm or pretend to practice the science of embalming, or conduct the business of funeral directing by allowing Stewart Burr to conduct the business of funeral directing.**
3. **Dorothy Stewart and the entity operating as Progressive Funeral Home violated LA R.S. 37:848 (A) by allowing a person, not certified and registered under the provisions of the Chapter governing the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors, to embalm or pretend to practice the science of embalming, or conduct the business of funeral directing by allowing Peggy Stewart to conduct the business of funeral directing.**
4. **Dorothy Stewart and the entity operating as Progressive Funeral Home violated LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) for engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by knowingly acting in concert with Stewart Burr to allow Stewart Burr, an unlicensed funeral director, to conduct the business of funeral directing.**
5. **Dorothy Stewart and the entity operating as Progressive Funeral Home violated LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) for engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by knowingly acting in concert with Peggy Stewart to allow Peggy Stewart, an unlicensed funeral director, to conduct the business of funeral directing.**
6. **Dorothy Stewart and the entity operating as Progressive Funeral Home violated LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) for engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by knowingly signing her name on the Statement of Funeral Goods and Services Contract for the late Ronald Johnson after the fact and despite the fact that she was not a party to the contract.**
7. **Dorothy Stewart and the entity operating as Progressive Funeral Home violated LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) for engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct for charging the family of Ronald Wade Johnson, Sr. nine (\$9.00) dollars per death certificate despite the fact that death certificates cost seven (\$7.00) dollars per death certificate.**
8. **Dorothy Stewart and the entity operating as Progressive Funeral Home violated LA. R.S. 37:842 (F) (1) and LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (14) as it relates to violating Title 46, Part XXXVII, Chapter 11, Section 1105 of the rules of funeral establishments by failing to have a licensed funeral director designated as the manager of the facility in charge of the day-to-day operations of Progressive Funeral Home during the time she, the licensed manager of the firm, was hospitalized.**

### DECISION OF THE BOARD

Accordingly, for the reasons as stated and noted herein above;

**IT IS ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that Dorothy Stewart and the entity operating as Progressive Funeral Home are guilty of violating the provisions of LA R.S. 37:855 (Right to Arrange Funeral Goods and Services) as it relates to LA R.S. 8:655; LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Allowing Stewart Burr to Practice without a License); LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Allowing Peggy Stewart to Practice without a License); LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Knowingly Acting in Concert with Stewart Burr, an Unlicensed Individual); LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Knowingly Acting in Concert with Peggy Stewart, an Unlicensed Individual); LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Signing A Contract to which She was not A Party); LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Over Charging for Death Certificates); LA. R.S. 37:842 (F) (1) and LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (14) as it relates to Chapter 11, Section 1105 of the Rules of Funeral Establishments (Failing to have a Licensed Funeral Director Designated as the Manager of the Facility in Charge of the Day to Day Operations of the Firm).

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that pursuant to LA. R.S. 37:850, the penalty statute applicable to these violations, which states: Whoever violates the provisions of this Part shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars, nor more than two-thousand, five-hundred dollars, and costs of the court reporter and attorney for the board for each offense, or by imprisonment for not less than thirty days, nor more than one-hundred eighty days for each offense, or both such fine and imprisonment. As to LA R.S. 37:855 (Right to Arrange Funeral Goods and Services) as it relates to LA R.S. 8:655, Dorothy Stewart and Progressive Funeral Home are fined the sum of One-thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars; as to LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Allowing Stewart Burr to Practice without a License), Dorothy Stewart and Progressive Funeral Home are fined the sum of Five-hundred (\$500.00) dollars; as to LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Allowing Peggy Stewart to Practice without a License), Dorothy Stewart and Progressive Funeral Home are fined the sum of Five-hundred (\$500.00) dollars; as to LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Knowingly Acting in Concert with Stewart Burr, an Unlicensed Individual), Dorothy Stewart and Progressive Funeral Home are fined the sum of Five-Hundred (\$500.00) dollars; as to LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Knowingly Acting in Concert with Peggy Stewart, an Unlicensed Individual), Dorothy Stewart and Progressive Funeral Home are fined the sum of Five-hundred (\$500.00) dollars; as to LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Signing A Contract to which She was not A Party), Dorothy Stewart and Progressive Funeral Home are fined the sum of Five-hundred (\$500.00) dollars; as to LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Over Charging for Death Certificates), Dorothy Stewart and Progressive Funeral Home are fined the sum of Five-hundred (\$500.00) dollars; and as to LA. R.S. 37:842 (F) (1) and LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (14) as it relates to Chapter 11, Section 1105 of the Rules of Funeral Establishments (Failing to have a Licensed Funeral Director Designated as the Manager of the Facility in Charge of the Day to Day Operations of the Firm), Dorothy Stewart and Progressive Funeral Home are fined the sum of Five-hundred (\$500.00) dollars. The sum of all fines for the above cited violations amounts to a total fine of Four-thousand, Five-hundred (\$4500.00) dollars. Three-thousand, Five-hundred (\$3500.00) dollars of the total fines mentioned herein are suspended; therefore, the total fine owed by Dorothy Stewart for the above cited violations is One-thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that Progressive Funeral Home and its owner and representative, Dorothy Stewart are to pay the sum of One-thousand, Seven-hundred, Eighty-eight dollars and Seventy-Five cents (\$1,788.75) for the attorney's fees incurred by the Board for the handling of this matter from the date the matter was accepted by the Board through May 10, 2022, the date the Admission and Consent was accepted by the Board Members.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that the total assessed costs to Progressive Funeral Home and Dorothy Stewart is Two-thousand, Seven-hundred, Eighty-eight dollars and Seventy-five cents (\$2,788.75) in fines and fees owed to the Board for the above cited violations. The above assessed fines and attorney's fees are to be paid by Progressive Funeral Home and/or its representative Dorothy Stewart within thirty (30) days of receipt of this decision.

In the Matter of Iris Chapman, Rodney Vick, Karen James and Affordable Funeral Home, Lacombe;

Motion was made by Mr. Dixon, with a second by Mr. Joseph and unanimously passed to accept the Admission and Consent but with a language correction from "alleged" to "violated";

Motion was made by Mr. Dixon, with a second by Mr. Joseph, and unanimously passed by a roll call vote count that Iris Chapman, Rodney Vick, Karen James and Affordable Funeral Home, Lacombe, be found guilty of the charges as outlined below including the noted sanctions;

### **FINDINGS OF FACT and DECISIONS of the BOARD**

This matter came before the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors on May 10, 2022 for a ruling on the Admissions and Consents submitted by the parties in the instant case.

Present:

**CHANEL R. DEBOSE**, Prosecuting Attorney, for and on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

**CHRIS LENTO**, General Counsel, for and on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors via Zoom.

**KIM MICHEL**, Executive Director, for and on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

After considering the law, the evidence, the entire record of these proceedings, and the Admissions and Consents submitted by the parties to this proceeding for a ruling on the Admissions and Consents, KAREN JAMES, owner of the entity operating as AFFORDABLE FUNERAL HOME, L.L.C., RODNEY VICK, founder and owner of the entity operating as AFFORDABLE FUNERAL HOME, L.L.C., IRIS CHAPMAN, funeral director and manager of the entity operating as AFFORDABLE FUNERAL HOME, L.L.C., and the entity operating as AFFORDABLE FUNERAL HOME, L.L.C., all who waived their appearances to appear before the Board to be a part of the proceedings held on May 10, 2022, the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors rules as follows:

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

That KAREN JAMES is an owner of the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., (#2921) and, therefore, subject to the jurisdiction of this Board as an owner of the firm; RODNEY VICK is the founder and an owner of the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., (#2921) and, therefore, subject to the jurisdiction of this Board as an owner of the firm; IRIS CHAPMAN is a licensed funeral director (#U-1724) and manager of the establishment operating as Affordable Funeral Home L.L.C., (#2921), Lacombe, Louisiana, and, therefore, subject to the jurisdiction of this Board: That evidence contained within the record of these proceedings, and the Admissions and Consents signed by the parties, reflect that Karen James, Rodney Vick, Iris Chapman, and the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. are guilty of violating the provisions of: LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Practicing without a License); LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Knowingly Acting in Concert with Rodney Vick to allow Rodney Vick to Conduct the Business of Funeral Directing); and LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (4) (Malpractice) (Neglecting to provide the Family with a Copy of the Firm's General Price List).

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

As to Karen James, Rodney Vick, Iris Chapman, and the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., the Board members found that Karen James, Rodney Vick, Iris Chapman, and the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated the provisions of LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Practicing without a License); LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Knowingly Acting in Concert with Rodney Vick to allow Rodney Vick to Conduct the Business of Funeral Directing); and LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (4) (Malpractice) (Neglecting to provide the Family with a Copy of the Firm's General Price List), as evidenced by documentation appearing in the file and the Admissions and Consents signed by: Karen James on behalf of herself and as owner of the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C.; Rodney Vick on behalf of himself and as owner of the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C.; and Iris Chapman on behalf of herself and as manager of the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., admitting that the following violations occurred:

1. **Karen James as owner of Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., Rodney Vick as founder and owner of Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., Iris Chapman as manager of Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:848 (A) by allowing a person, not certified and registered under the provisions of the Chapter governing the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors, to embalm or pretend to practice the science of embalming, or conduct the business of funeral directing by allowing**

**Rodney Vick to conduct the business of funeral directing.**

2. **Karen James as owner of Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., Rodney Vick as founder and owner of Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., Iris Chapman as manager of Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) for engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by knowingly acting in concert with Rodney Vick, an unlicensed funeral director, to allow Rodney Vick to conduct the business of funeral directing.**
3. **Karen James as owner of Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., Rodney Vick as founder and owner of Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., Iris Chapman as manager of Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (4) malpractice by allowing Rodney Vick, an unlicensed funeral director, to engage in unlawful practice and neglect to provide the family of Frederick Jones, the deceased, with a copy of the firm's general price list.**

#### **DECISION OF THE BOARD**

Accordingly, for the reasons as stated and noted herein above;

**IT IS ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that Karen James, Rodney Vick, Iris Chapman, and the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. are guilty of violating the provisions of LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Practicing without a License); LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Knowingly Acting in Concert with Rodney Vick to allow Rodney Vick to Conduct the Business of Funeral Directing); and LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (4) (Malpractice) (Neglecting to provide the Family with a Copy of the Firm's General Price List).

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that pursuant to LA. R.S. 37:850, the penalty statute applicable to these violations, which states: Whoever violates the provisions of this Part shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars, nor more than two-thousand, five-hundred dollars, and costs of the court reporter and attorney for the board for each offense, or by imprisonment for not less than thirty days, nor more than one-hundred eighty days for each offense, or both such fine and imprisonment, the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. is fined the sum of Two-Thousand, Five Hundred (\$2,500.00) Dollars for each of the above cited violations which amounts to a total fine of Seven-Thousand, Five-Hundred (\$7,500.00) Dollars.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that Iris Chapman's funeral director's license (#U-1724) is suspended for thirty (30) days beginning June 7, 2022. The thirty (30) day suspension will expire on July 6, 2022.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that no Interns are allowed to work under the supervision of Iris Chapman (#U-1724) for the remainder of the year or through December 31, 2022.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that Karen James and Rodney Vick, owners of the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. shall notify the Board of the name and license number of the manager who will be managing their firm during the thirty (30) days that Iris Chapman's funeral director's license is under suspension. The notification mentioned herein must be received by the Board on or before June 7, 2022.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that Kim W. Michel, Executive Director for and on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors, is hereby ordered to perform periodic inspections on the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. to inspect and to verify that that Karen James, Rodney Vick, Iris Chapman, and the entity operating as Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. are complying with the orders of the Board during the time of the suspension.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. and its owners and representatives, Karen James and Rodney Vick are to pay the sum of Four-Thousand, Six-Hundred, Fifty (\$4,650.00) Dollars for the attorney's fees incurred by the Board for the handling of this matter from the date the matter was accepted by the Board through May 10, 2022, the date the Admission and Consent was accepted by the Board Members.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD** that the total assessed costs to Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C., Karen James, and Rodney Vick is Twelve-Thousand, One-Hundred, Fifty (\$12,150.00) Dollars in fines and fees owed to the Board for the above cited violations. The above assessed fines and attorney's fees are to be paid by Affordable Funeral Home, L.L.C. and/or its representatives, Karen James and Rodney Vick within thirty (30) days of receipt of this decision.

A discussion ensued with the board members requesting that Ms. Michel consider postponing her pending retirement



date from 2023 to a later date in order to continue working with the current members through their term, to extend assistance and guidance with the new inspectors, to further assist in the development of the rules with the Laws and Rules Committee, and to remain with and provide assistance to the Complaint Review Committee.

Ms. Michel agreed to continue her employment as the Executive Director for the board indefinitely. Ms. Michel did request that the board consider an increase in her salary to the equivalent of the percentage that Ms. Penouilh, as the Administrative Coordinator VI, will receive upon her reallocation that is anticipated by DSCS.

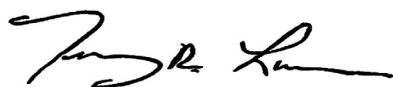
Motion was made by Mr. Dixon, with a second by Mr. Southall and unanimously passed for Ms. Michel's salary to be equal to the percentage increase as Ms. Penouilh upon her anticipated Admin reallocation as per DSCS.

The next Laws and Rules Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 13, 2022 at 3:00 PM at the board's office and a Zoom link will also be available.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The next scheduled meeting of the board will be on June 14, 2022, 2022.

There being no further business, the meeting was concluded.



Terry Luneau, Secretary



Rodney McFarland, Sr., President

