



OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING DIVISION

**D.C. Board of Funeral Directors
1100 4th Street SW, Room E300 A- B
Washington, DC 20024**

**Thursday, September 12, 2024
MEETING MINUTES**

The District of Columbia Board of Funeral Directors held its regularly scheduled meeting on September 12, 2024 at 1100 4th Street, S.W., Room E 300A-B, Washington, D.C. 20024. This Public and Executive meeting was held via WebEx Webinar format.

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair John McGuire at 1:06 pm

Board Members Present: John McGuire, Asanti Williams, Ernest Boykin and Randolph Horton

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Andrew Jackson – **Program Specialist**, Marc Nielsen – **Legal Counsel**, and Nicole McClendon – **Program Coordinator Boards and Commissions**

Public Members Present:

- **Jack White** – Came before the Board as an observer.
- **Joyce Torchinsky** – Checking on the status of an apprentice application.
- **Miya Robinson** – Checking on the status of an apprentice application.
- **Taylor Beard** – Came before the Board as an observer.
- **Carol Latney-Soloman** – Checking on status of a licensing application.

Agenda Item - Comments from the Public:

No comments from the public at this meeting.

Agenda Item - Minutes

Upon a motion duly made by Board member Asanti Williams and properly seconded by Board member Randolph Horton the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes for the July 11, 2024 meeting.

Agenda Item- Executive Session

Upon a motion duly made by Board member Asanti Williams and properly seconded by Board member Randolph Horton, the Board unanimously voted to enter into closed session pursuant to the authority of D.C. Official Code Section 2-575(b)(4)(A) to seek the advice of counsel, D.C. Official Code Section 2-575(b)(9) to discuss disciplinary matters, and D.C. Official Code Section 2-775(b)(13) to deliberate upon a decision in an adjudication action or proceeding.

Agenda Item- Application(s)

Name	Application Type
Sydnee Wickstrom	Funeral Director by Reciprocity
JW Latney Funeral Services, Inc.	Funeral Home Establishment
David Nipper	Funeral Director (Reciprocity)
Miya Robinson	Funeral Director Apprentice
Natalie Kindle	Funeral Director (New Applicant) DC Law and Practical Eligible
Kevin Reese	Funeral Director by Reciprocity
Joseph Dekelbaum	Funeral Director Apprentice
Michael Demarest	Funeral Director (New Applicant) DC Law and Practical Eligible
Vanessa Brown	Funeral Courtesy Cardholder
Damon Robinson	Funeral Director Apprentice
Dwayne Lowry	Funeral Courtesy Cardholder

Agenda Items – Recommendation(s)

Name	Application Type	RECOMENDATIONS
Sydnee Wickstrom	Funeral Director by Reciprocity	<i>Motion to approve for DC Law Exam – 1st Boykin, 2nd Horton</i>
JW Latney Funeral Services, Inc.	Funeral Home Establishment	<i>Motion to defer – Proof of Ownership by Funeral Director needs to be provided – 1st Boykin, 2nd Horton</i>
David Nipper	Funeral Director (Reciprocity)	<i>Motion to approve for DC Law Exam – 1st Horton, 2nd Boykin</i>
Miya Robinson	Funeral Director Apprentice	<i>Motion to approve for Apprentice Exam – 1st Boykin, 2nd Horton</i>
Natalie Kindle	Funeral Director (New Applicant) DC Law and Practical Eligible	<i>Motion to approve for DC Law Exam – 1st Horton, 2nd Williams</i>
Kevin Reese	Funeral Director by Reciprocity	<i>Motion to be approved for DC Law Exam – 1st Horton, 2nd Williams</i>

Joseph Dekelbaum	Funeral Director Apprentice	<i>Motion to defer pending proof of Mortuary School Enrollment - 1st Boykin 2nd Williams</i>
Michael Demarest	Funeral Director (New Applicant) DC Law and Practical Eligible	<i>Motion to defer pending proof of continuous employment for the last 5 years - 1st Horton 2nd Boykin</i>
Vanessa Brown	Funeral Courtesy Cardholder	<i>Motion to approve for Courtesy Card - 1st Boykin 2nd Horton</i>
Damon Robinson	Funeral Director Apprentice	<i>Motion to approve for Apprenticeship Exam - 1st Williams 2nd Horton</i>
Dwayne Lowry	Funeral Courtesy Cardholder	<i>Motion to approve for Courtesy Card - 1st Boykin, 2nd Williams</i>

Agenda Item – Old Business

- A. **Practitioners Forum 2024:** The following topics and speakers will be included for the Forum scheduled for Wednesday October 23rd:
- **Cremation Best Practices:**
 - **DC Department of Health, Vital Records**
 - **The Business of STEM Program**
 - **Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME)**
 - **Natural Organic Reduction**

Agenda Item – New Business

- A. **Travel Procedures:** Board Administrator Andrew Jackson informed the Board of upcoming travel for the ICFSEB Conference to be held in Palm Springs, CA in February.
- B. **The Business of STEM:** Board member Randolph Horton spoke on the Business of STEM program created by UDC which highlights outreach and growth for the Funeral industry. The Board recommended that the program be discussed in detail at the 2024 Practitioners Forum.

Agenda Item: Next Meeting: DC Board of Funeral Directors meeting to be scheduled for Thursday **October 3, 2024**, at 1pm.

Agenda Item Adjournment:

Upon a motion duly made by Board member Asanti Williams and properly seconded by Board member Ernest Boykin, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John McGuire, Chair

Date

Recorder & Transcriber: Andrew Jackson, Board Administrator