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## *A Letter From The President*

As I reflect on my year as President of The Conference, I would first like to acknowledge my fellow Board members, committee members, and Conference staff. This has been a busy year and these dedicated individuals have given of themselves endlessly to further the mission and values of this organization. Working with each of them in the spirit of camaraderie to do the work of The Conference during my term as President has been an experience I will not forget.

2010 is coming to a close and the annual meeting will soon be upon us. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I sincerely hope you can join us in Myrtle Beach for the 107<sup>th</sup> meeting of The International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards. The Board and Convention Committee have worked diligently to create a meeting that will be both informative and timely with regard to the issues facing funeral service regulators. As a reminder, the comment forms are an integral part of planning subsequent meetings to insure that the Board presents an annual meeting in accordance with the needs of the membership.

The Conference has been a long-standing member in both the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards as well as the Council on Licensure Enforcement and Regulation. I had the opportunity to represent the Board at the FARB Leadership Conference and the

CLEAR annual meeting. Both provided a venue for networking with other regulatory association professionals and informative sessions on membership outreach, dealing with examination breaches, and the latest innovations in exam creation.

I participated in the National Board Exam Committee meeting this fall and must take this opportunity to thank the members of this committee for sharing their time and talents toward the construction of The Conference's exams. Special thanks go out to Mr. Joseph Richer for his leadership on the By-laws Committee for all the work they have undertaken this year. I couldn't be prouder of those individuals who serve on all our committees and their tireless commitment to the betterment of this organization.

It has been my distinct honor to serve as President of The Conference for the past year. I look forward to seeing each of you in Myrtle Beach next March. Season's greetings to you and your families.

Sincerely,

Robert N. Barnes,  
 CFSP



# *Making Regulation a Day at the 'Beach*

It's that time of the year again! The annual convention of The Conference is just around the corner. Marking the 107th year, the upcoming annual meeting will take place in beautiful Myrtle Beach, South Carolina at the Marina Inn at Grande Dunes resort. The two day convention will kick off with a business meeting on Thursday, March 3, 2011 and end with a group dinner on the evening of Friday, March 4.

## *The Marina Inn at Grande Dunes*

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From the beachside boardwalk to an 85,000 square foot aquarium, Myrtle Beach offers visitors a remarkable variety of attractions. As the area's top, upscale resort, the Marina Inn at Grande Dunes is tucked away in peaceful seclusion next to the scenic Intracoastal Waterway, yet centrally located just minutes from all Myrtle Beach has to offer. This extraordinary hotel is a blend of elegant, yet casual ambiance offering five star service. Guests arriving by air will fly into the Myrtle Beach International Airport, which is an easy 10 mile ride to the resort.

## *The 107th Convention of The Conference*

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Thursday morning will begin with the meeting of the Association of Executives of Funeral Services Boards, and a simultaneous early bird session for board members. The event officially begins with a welcome luncheon and opening ceremonies. The day will be rounded out with the presentation of the proposed by-law revisions and vote followed by a presentation on risk management for regulators. Three subsequent breakout sessions will focus on specific areas of risk management. The welcome reception that evening will give attendees an opportunity to unwind from the day and network with other colleagues before dinner.

On Friday morning, sessions begin with using technology to do more with less and a presentation from

the Federal Trade Commission on HR 3655 and the Funeral Rule. Following the district meetings and awards luncheon will be a group exercise focusing on the future of resomation regulation. The event will draw to a close with a dinner function on Friday evening, which will allow guests a chance to experience the charm of Myrtle Beach.



## *Registration & Reservations*

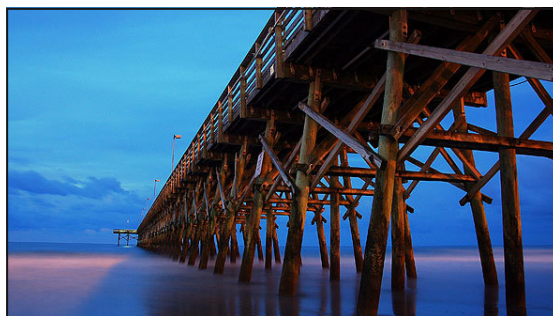
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Be sure to register for the convention prior to January 22, 2011 to take advantage of the \$275 registration fee. Any registration received after that date will be charged the on-site fee of \$300. Discounted registration fees are available for multiple registrations submitted together.

In addition to attendance of the convention and access to meeting materials, the fee includes two lunches, the welcome reception, and Friday night's dinner function. The Conference's discounted room rate at the Marina Inn at Grande Dunes is \$129 per night, plus tax and fees. Reservations can be made by calling 1-877-913-1333 and mentioning the group name, ICFSEB.

For further information regarding registration, agenda topics, and hotel information please contact Sarah Gill at The Conference by calling 479-283-6875, or visit us online at the <http://theconferenceonline.org/convention.shtml>.

## *See you in Myrtle Beach!*



Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

# 2011 Convention Registration Form



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Your contact information will be shared with other attendees. If you do NOT want your contact info shared, please check here \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION FEE** (Includes two lunches, reception, dinner function, and registration materials for ONE PERSON.) \$ 275.00

**Note:** Registration forms **SUBMITTED TOGETHER** from the same regulatory board or school will **qualify for a discount**. The first registration is **\$275**, all additional registrations will be **\$250**.

Payment and Registration Form should be received **by JANUARY 22, 2011**.

By Mail: The Conference, 1885 Shelby Lane, Fayetteville, AR 72704

By Fax: 479.442.7090

Please check **one** of the following meetings, that you will attend:

\_\_\_ **Association of Executives of Funeral Service Boards Meeting**

Thursday, March 3, 2011, 7:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

OR

\_\_\_ **Presentation for Jurisdiction Board Members**

Thursday, March 3, 2011, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**If you are bringing a guest(s), please indicate the functions they will be attending and the total price.**

<b>FUNCTION:</b>	<b>No. of Guests:</b>	<b>Total Price</b>
3/3—Opening Session & Luncheon	\$30.00 a person _____	\$ _____
3/3—Welcome Reception	\$20.00 a person _____	\$ _____
3/4—Awards Luncheon	\$30.00 a person _____	\$ _____
3/4—Dinner Function	\$40.00 a person _____	\$ _____

**Total Amount Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

(Total amount includes registration fee & guest fees)

PAYMENT:  Check (Make payable to "The Conference")  Visa  MasterCard  Discover

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date: \_\_ / \_\_ (mm/yy) CSC \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please remember you are responsible for making your own hotel reservations**

Contact the **Marina Inn at Grande Dunes** no later than **February 7, 2011** at **1-877-913-1333**

Mention that you are with **ICFSEB** to ensure the rate of \$129 guestroom (plus tax & fees)

**PLEASE NOTE:** All registrations received **after JANUARY 22, 2011** (including on-site) will be charged the on-site fee of **\$300.00** per individual

*Additional meeting information available at [www.theconferenceonline.org](http://www.theconferenceonline.org)*

Are you a licensed Funeral Service Practitioner subject to Continuing Education Requirements?  Yes  No

Please list state(s) you are licensed in: \_\_\_\_\_

# 107th Annual Convention Agenda

## *Marina Inn at Grande Dunes—Myrtle Beach, South Carolina*

### *Tuesday, March 1, 2011*

Arrival of: Board of Directors  
& Exam Committee Members

7:00 pm—9:00 pm Executive Committee

### *Wednesday, March 2, 2011*

7:30 am—5:00 pm Exam Committee Meetings

9:00 am—3:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting

### *Thursday, March 3, 2011*

7:30 am—12:00 pm Exam Committee Meetings

7:30 am—12:15 pm Association of Executives of  
Funeral Service Boards Meeting

11:00 am—12:15 pm Presentation for  
Jurisdiction Board Members

12:30 pm—1:45 pm Business Meeting  
& Luncheon of the  
107th Annual Convention  
(Welcome, Roll-call, & Intros)

2:00 pm—3:00 pm Bylaws Discussion & Vote

3:00 pm—5:00 pm Risk Management

4:00 pm—5:00 pm Sweepstakes: Legislative Raids  
*Troy Elliot, Association  
of Social Work Boards  
Room TBD*

4:00 pm—5:00 pm Board Leadership  
*Room TBD*

4:00 pm—5:00 pm Emergency Preparedness  
*Room TBD*

5:30 pm—6:30 pm Welcome Reception

### *Friday, March 4, 2011*

7:00 am—8:00 am Past Presidents Breakfast

8:15 am—8:30 am Welcome/Announcements

8:30 am—9:30 am Actively Seeking Efficiencies  
Through Technology to Reduce Paper  
*David Christian, Assistant Deputy Director  
SC Division of Professional & Occupational Licensing*

9:30 am—10:20 am HR 3655 Bereaved  
Consumers Bill of Rights  
*Craig Tregillus, FTC  
Funeral Rule Coordinator*

10:30 am—12:00 pm District Meeting

10:30 am—12:00 pm District Meeting

10:30 am—12:00 pm District Meeting

12:00 pm—12:30 pm Board of Directors  
Meeting and Photos

12:30 pm—2:00 pm Awards Luncheon  
Associations of Execs. & District Reports

*President's Distinguished Service Award  
Recognition of President  
Installation of Officers for 2011—2012  
Presentation of Gavel*

2:00 pm—2:15 pm Break

2:15 pm—3:15 pm Legislative Updates &  
Recent Regulatory Cases  
*Dale Atkinson, Atkinson & Atkinson*

3:15 pm—5:15 pm Group Exercise:  
The Future of Resomation Regulation

7:00 pm—9:00 pm Dinner Function

## *Licensure Mobility Made Easier*

As of November, Canadian Provinces have made it easier for a funeral director licensed in one province to become licensed in another. This has been made possible with the development of a common "Statement of Good Standing" form. The common labor mobility form was developed with input from all of the Canadian Provinces and makes it easier to share the necessary information for an applicant who already possesses license in one province, but seeking licensure in another. The form ensures consistency of information between provinces.

The Canadian government previously established a requirement that called for the removal of barriers to mobility that became

enforceable in the spring of 2010. The form, which is intended to facilitate mobility obligations under the Canadian Agreement on Internal Trade, will assist in the commitment by each Provincial Premier to advance Labor Mobility.

"The form will make it easier to assess an applicant's eligibility and make consistent the information that is shared amongst regulators," said Susan Beck from Ontario's Board of Funeral Services, who was instrumental in achieving consensus amongst the participants.

To become licensed in another province, applicants will be required to submit an application and fee to the province they are trying to become licensed in, as well as submit to a criminal background

check, and pass that province's jurisprudence exam. The applicant's current regulatory board must submit the Statement of Good Standing form to the regulatory board the applicant is applying to.

There are similar agreements between jurisdictions in the United States. District 7, which is comprised of Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas, developed a common form to improve the reciprocal process in their states. For more information of the Statement of Good Standing form, you may contact the Ontario Board of Funeral Services.

## *The Conference Partners with the Government Accountability Office*

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) is following up on a report issued in 2003 on the various regulatory structures and mechanisms the federal government and states use for regulating the death care industry, including (1) funeral homes, (2) crematories, (3) cemeteries, (4) pre-need funeral plans, and (5) third party sales of funeral goods. Specifically, Congress has requested that the GAO determine the extent to which regulation has changed since 2003 and identify the basis for those reforms.

The Conference is partnering with the GAO to provide an overview of the organization and its membership as well as address questions dealing with state regulation of funeral service. In the coming weeks, Conference membership will be contacted and asked to provide more specific information applicable in their jurisdiction. The Conference looks forward to serving as a resource for the Government Accountability Office for this important project and in the future.

## *The Conference Renews with Pearson VUE*

The International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards (ICFSEB) has signed a multi-year contract with Pearson VUE for computer-based delivery and test development for its examination program. ICFSEB examinations are delivered exclusively thru Pearson VUE's company-owned and -operated network of Pearson Professional Centers across the nation.

"The Conference values its partnership with Pearson VUE," said Robert Barnes, president of ICFSEB. "Pearson VUE continues to provide our certification program with the reliability and responsiveness our candidates have come to expect when seeking their certification."

"We are pleased that ICFSEB has renewed with Pearson VUE", said Robert Whelan, president and chief executive officer of Pearson VUE. "The services of a certified ICFSEB professional can make a tremendous difference to family members undergoing a difficult time in their lives, and we're honored to play a role in helping certify these individuals."



# Proposed By-laws Changes

The Resolutions and Bylaws Committee has reviewed The Conference's bylaws and identified areas that warrant updating. The revisions noted below are based on leading practices, input from legal counsel and a thorough review of bylaws from other not-for-profit associations similar in mission to The International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards. While much of the policy is intended to remain the same,

many sections have been reworded for clarity, i.e. despite changes in language, the intent is not to change the existing policy.

The Resolutions and Bylaws Committee submitted a draft of proposed by-law changes, updates and clarifications for consideration by the Board of Directors on September 27, 2010.

The Board of Directors voted to recommend the adoption of the following revisions:

Description of change	Rationale
1. Introduced a definitions section	Clarify up front all of the key terms in the document. Currently they appear throughout the document. [Reference: Proposed Article III]
2. Reviewed all definitions and added a few new definitions for terms used in the bylaws.	Enhance clarity in the terms used in the bylaws and introduce definitions for terms used in the bylaws. Most of the existing definitions are spread out in the bylaws. [Reference: Proposed Article III]
3. Limit those eligible to sit on the Board of Directors to board members or employees of a regulatory body.	At the February 2010, the BOD decided the bylaws should be clarified to restrict eligibility to only current board member and staff of regulatory bodies. [Reference: Proposed Article VII, section 3; Current Article VII, section A, 2, 9, 10]
4. Revise The Conference purposes to reflect the mandate and mission of the organization.	The education mandate has clearly been the authority of the American Board of Funeral Service Education since 1962, when the authority for accreditation of funeral service institutions/programs was transferred from The Conference to the American Board. It is imperative that the respective purposes of both organizations be clearly articulated in order to avoid any overlap or ambiguity. [Reference: Current Article II Purpose, section A Education]
5. Reduce the number of standing committees to do the work of The Conference.	A leading practice is to establish standing committees for the work of the organization. However, standing committees are for work that is regularly done. Three committees, plus the Exam Committee should be sufficient to carry out the mandate of The Conference. [Reference: Proposed Article IX; Current Article X]
6. Reviewed for consistency of language.	For clarity and consistency, the language of the bylaws was reviewed and revised where necessary. These were mostly housekeeping items throughout the document.
7. Addition of an indemnity provision	It is important that those doing the work of The Conference be afforded protection. [Article X, section 8]
* Please visit <a href="http://www.theconferenceonline.org">www.theconferenceonline.org</a> after January 3, 2011 for the complete listing of proposed revisions.	

## *NBE Statistics January 1, 2010 - November 30, 2010*

<b>National Board Arts Examination</b>						
	Total Tested	Pass #	Pass %	Fail #	Fail %	Absent #
First Time	1243	969	78%	274	22%	9
Repeater	398	131	33%	267	67%	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1641</b>	<b>1100</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>National Board Science Examination</b>						
	Total Tested	Pass #	Pass %	Fail #	Fail %	Absent #
First Time	1224	956	78%	268	22%	12
Repeater	335	113	34%	222	66%	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>1559</b>	<b>1069</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>25</b>

For a full listing of quarterly stats, please visit [www.theconferenceonline.org/stats-2010.shtml](http://www.theconferenceonline.org/stats-2010.shtml)

## Regulatory News

- The Oklahoma Funeral Board has named Mark Riley as the new executive director.
- J. Michael Martineau is the new administrator of the Rhode Island Board of Funeral Directing & Embalming.
- Priscilla Bode is the new board administrator of the Montana Board of Funeral Service.
- With the retirement of Ann Cunningham of Ohio, Mack Smith of Kansas will fill the office of president of the Association of Executives of Funeral Service Board. Oklahoma's Chris Ferguson will take over as vice president.

\* The Conference welcomes any contributions you might share from your jurisdictions. Please submit items to [info@theconferenceonline.org](mailto:info@theconferenceonline.org).

On behalf of its Board of Directors, the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) is pleased to announce its 35th Annual Forum.



The forum begins on Friday, January 28, 2011, and continues through the morning of Sunday, January 30, 2011. The forum will feature presentations by a variety of experts on current issues that impact regulatory boards. Board members, administrators, executive directors, attorneys, investigators, and staff are invited to attend this informative event. For more information please visit [www.farb.org](http://www.farb.org).



The Conference is a proud member and supporter of the Council of Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation. CLEAR is the premier international resource for professional regulation stakeholders. For more information about CLEAR and their role in the regulatory community, please visit [www.clearhq.org](http://www.clearhq.org).

**Please Take the Customer Satisfaction Survey**  
**Online at:**  
<http://theconferenceonline.org/Survey.shtml>  
**Thank You!**

**THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF FUNERAL SERVICE  
EXAMINING BOARDS**

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**Executive Officers**

**President**

ROBERT N. BARNES, CFSP (2nd Term, expires 2012)  
Portland, ME

**Vice President**

RANDAL R. BANGERT (2nd Term, expires 2012)  
Lincoln, NE

**Secretary/Treasurer**

JOSEPH G. RICHER (2nd Term, expires 2011)  
Toronto, ON

**Past President (2008-2009)**

LISA M. MOORE (2nd Term, expires 2010)  
Sacramento, CA



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