BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF)
JAY POSTER, Funeral Director License No. 619)))
RESPONDENT.)))

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CASE NO. FB14-12

CONSENT DECREE

The State of Nevada BOARD of Funeral and Cemetery Services ("BOARD") having jurisdiction over licensee JAY POSTER ("POSTER"), pursuant to NRS 642.470; complaint against said licensee having been received alleging violations of the Nevada statutes and regulations controlling the practice of funeral directors; and the parties being mutually desirous of settling the controversy between them relative to the pending complaint;

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED between the undersigned parties that this matter shall be settled and resolved upon the following terms:

VOLUNTARY WAIVER OF RIGHTS

POSTER is aware of, understands, and has been advised of the effect of this Consent Decree, which he has carefully read and fully acknowledged. POSTER has had the opportunity to consult with competent counsel of his choice.

POSTER has freely and voluntarily entered into this Consent Decree, and he is aware of his rights to contest the charges pending against him. These rights include representation by an attorney at his own expense, the right to file an answer in response to a formal complaint, the right to a public hearing on any charges or allegations formally filed, the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses called to testify against him, the right to present evidence on his own behalf, the right to testify on his own behalf, the right to receive written findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting the decision on the merits of the complaint, and the right to obtain judicial review of the decision. All of these rights are being voluntarily waived by POSTER in exchange for the BOARD'S acceptance of this Consent Decree.

If the Consent Decree is not accepted by the BOARD, no member of the BOARD will be disqualified from further hearing of this matter, by reason of his or her consideration of the Consent Decree and POSTER hereby waives any claim of bias or prejudice based upon said consideration by any member of the BOARD in any subsequent disciplinary hearing conducted by the BOARD.

JURISDICTION

POSTER acknowledges that the BOARD has jurisdiction over him and the conduct alleged in the Complaint. POSTER acknowledges that the BOARD has the legal power and authority to take disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, the revocation of his license to practice as a funeral director in Nevada.

POSTER acknowledges that the BOARD will retain jurisdiction over this matter until all terms and conditions set forth in this Consent Decree have been met to the satisfaction of the BOARD.

PUBLICATION OF CONSENT DECREE

POSTER acknowledges that at the time this Consent Decree becomes effective, it also becomes a public document and will be reported to the State of Nevada, Legislative Council Bureau, Disciplinary Action Reporting System; and such other national databases as required by law. It is also understood that any meeting during which the BOARD considers and accepts or rejects this Consent Decree is open to the public and that the minutes of the BOARD meeting are a public document, available for inspection by any person so requesting.

INDEMNIFICATION

POSTER, for himself, his heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, hereby indemnifies and holds harmless the State of Nevada, the BOARD, the Nevada Attorney General's office and each of their members, agents and employees in their individual and representative capacities against any and all claims, suits, demands, actions, debts, damages, costs, charges, and expenses, including court costs and attorney's fees against any persons entities as well as all liability, losses, and damages of any nature whatsoever that the persons and entities named in this paragraph shall have or may at any time sustain or

suffer by reason of this investigation, this disciplinary action, this settlement or its administration.

STIPULATED FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

POSTER understands the nature of the allegations under consideration by the BOARD. He acknowledges that the conduct alleged in the Complaint, if proven, constitutes violations of the Nevada Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services Practice Act (NRS and NAC 642) and NRS Chapter 440. He further recognizes that if this matter were to be taken to a disciplinary hearing before the BOARD, there is a substantial likelihood that the following allegations could be proven as true, and that as a result he would be subject to disciplinary action by the BOARD. As such, POSTER does not contest the following allegations:

- 1. POSTER held a valid Funeral Director license on the date of the alleged violations and continues to hold a valid Funeral Director license through the present day.
- 2. A complaint was received by the BOARD on or about August 25, 2014, alleging that POSTER, while working as a licensed funeral director at King David Memorial Chapel on August 18, 2014, proceeded with a burial without having obtained the required burial permit.
- 3. Additionally details of an incident report suggest that misrepresentation was made to Southern Nevada Health District regarding the interment.
- 4. NRS 642.480(1) states that unprofessional conduct includes misrepresentation or fraud in the operation of a funeral establishment.
- 5. NRS 642.480(2) states that unprofessional conduct includes violation of any state law or municipal or county ordinance or regulation affecting the handling, custody, care or transportation of dead bodies.
- 6. NRS 440.450 states that the funeral director or person acting as the undertaker is responsible for securing a burial or removal permit prior to any disposition of a body.
- 7. NRS 440.520 which states that the funeral director shall deliver the burial permit to the sexton or person in charge of the place of burial, before interring or otherwise disposing of the body.

1	8. NRS 440.560 states that no person in charge of any premises in which
2	interments are made shall inter or permit the interment or other disposition of any body unless
3	it is accompanied by a burial, removal, or transit permit.
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5	9. That pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 642.470:
6 7 8	The following acts are grounds for which the Board may take disciplinary action against a person who holds a funeral director's license, a permit to operate a funeral establishment or a license to conduct direct cremations or immediate burials, or may refuse to issue such a license or permit to an applicant therefor:
9 10 11	 Conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude. Unprofessional conduct. False or misleading advertising. Conviction of a felony relating to the practice of funeral directors. Conviction of a misdemeanor that is related directly to the business of a funeral establishment.
12 13 14	10. That pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 642.473: If the Board determines that a person who holds a funeral director's license, a permit to operate a funeral establishment or a license to conduct direct cremations or immediate burials has committed any of the acts set forth in NRS 642.470, the Board may:
16 17 18 19 20 21 222 223	 (a) Refuse to renew the license or permit; (b) Revoke the license or permit; (c) Suspend the license or permit for a definite period or until further order of the Board; (d) Impose a fine of not more than \$5,000 for each act that constitutes a ground for disciplinary action; (e) Place the person on probation for a definite period subject to any reasonable conditions imposed by the Board; (f) Administer a public reprimand; or (g) Impose any combination of disciplinary actions set forth in paragraphs (a) to (f), inclusive. 2. The Board shall not administer a private reprimand. 3. An order that imposes discipline and the findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting that order are public records.
24	11. POSTER does not contest the allegations in the Complaint, and acknowledges
25	that as a consequence he is subject to discipline pursuant to the above charges and statutory
26	provisions.
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STIPULATED ADJUDICATION

POSTER stipulates that pursuant to the authority of NRS 642.473, that his funeral license number 619 shall be placed on probation for six (6) months. During the term of probation, POSTER agrees to comply with the following conditions:

- 1. Within thirty (30) days of the approval and execution of this Consent Decree, POSTER shall pay five hundred fifty (\$550.00) in legal and investigative fees and three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) in administrative fines.
- a. No grace period is permitted. Full payment not actually received by the BOARD on or before the thirty days as indicated above, shall be construed as an event of default by POSTER.
- b. In the event of default, POSTER agrees that his funeral director license shall be immediately suspended. The suspension of POSTER's license shall continue until the unpaid balance is paid in full and the suspension is subject to being reported to all appropriate agencies.
- c. POSTER acknowledges that the BOARD has the legal power and authority to take action against him, including instituting debt collection actions for unpaid monetary assessments in this case.
- 2. POSTER must attend at least a three (3) hour course pre-approved by the BOARD Executive Director on the issue of ethics as it relates to the funeral industry.
- 3. POSTER shall obey all federal, state and local laws, and orders of the BOARD, which are not inconsistent with this Consent Decree, pertaining to the practice as a funeral director in this State. From the date of execution of this Consent Decree until POSTER satisfies the payment requirements of subsection 1 of this Stipulated Adjudication section, POSTER shall report any and all violations to the BOARD in writing within seventy-two (72) hours.
- 4. POSTER is required to notify the BOARD in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after any change in employment as a funeral director, including self-

employment, on sulting or volunteering. Any notification of termination or change of employment shall contain a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding it.

- 5. POSTER agrees that he will be financially responsible for all requirements of this Consent Decree, including the cost of any reasonable financial assessments by the Board for the cost of monitoring his compliance or carrying out the provisions of this Consent Decree upon a determination of non-compliance with the provisions of this Consent Decree.
- 6. After a minimum of six (6) months, POSTER may apply to the BOARD for termination of his probation and full reinstatement of his funeral license number 619. POSTER understands that prior to terminating his probation and full reinstatement of his license he must prove to the BOARD's satisfaction that he has complied with all the terms and conditions of his Consent Decree. POSTER shall submit a written request to the BOARD for termination of his probation. Upon receipt of this request, the BOARD may request additional information from POSTER to determine his compliance with the Consent Decree. Upon establishing POSTER has met all of the requirements of the Consent Decree, he shall meet with the Chair of the BOARD or his/her designee, the Executive Director and BOARD counsel for evaluation of his compliance with the Consent Decree and for their recommendation of termination of probation, full reinstatement, or additional disciplinary action at a separate hearing before the BOARD.

VIOLATION OF TERMS OF CONSENT DECREE

POSTER understands that the BOARD may, upon thirty (30) days' notice to POSTER, convene a hearing for the limited purpose of establishing that he violated the terms of this Consent Decree. If such a hearing results in a finding of a violation of this Consent Decree, the BOARD may impose any penalty upon POSTER authorized by NRS 642.473 including, but not limited to, revocation of his license to practice as a funeral director in the State of Nevada.

POSTER agrees to waive his right to appeal the substantive legal basis of the original disciplinary action, which is the basis for this Consent Decree. In the event an alleged

violation of the Consent Decree is taken to hearing and the facts which constitute the violation are determined to be not proven, no disciplinary action shall be taken by the BOARD.

ACCEPTANCE BY THE BOARD

This Consent Decree will be presented and accepted by the BOARD with a recommendation for approval from the Attorney General's Office at its next meeting.

COMPLETE CONSENT DECREE

This Consent Decree embodies the entire agreement between the BOARD and JAY POSTER. It may not be altered, amended, or modified without the express written consent of the parties.

Attorney for Respondent

The foregoing Consent Decree between JAY POSTER and the STATE OF NEVADA FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICES BOARD in Case No. FB14-12 is approved as to form and content.

ADAM PAUL LAXALT Attorney General

> HENNA RASUL Senior Deputy Attorney General

100 N. Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701

(775) 684-1234

Counsel to the State of Nevada Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services

ORDER By a majority vote on the <u>Soruday</u> of <u>January</u>, 2015, the State of Nevada Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services approved and adopted the terms and conditions set

forth in the attached Consent Decree with JAY POSTER, License No. 619.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE.

DATED this Jord day of January, 2015

Wayne Fazzino

for the Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services