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Funeral & Cemetery Services Board*

BEFORE THE NEVADA FUNERAL & CEMETERY SERVICES BOARD

STATE OF NEVADA

In the Matter of:

Case No. FB24-04

MCDERMOTT'S FUNERAL AND
CREMATION SERVICE, a Funeral
Establishment, and CHRISTOPHER M.
GRANT, a Funeral Director,

Respondents.

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

This matter was heard by the State of Nevada Funeral & Cemetery Services Board ("Board") on August 6, 2025, via Zoom videoconference, with Board Chairman Dr. Randy Sharp and Board Members Kim Kandaras, Laura Sussman, Dr. Raymond Giddens, Jr., Reverend Dr. D. Edward Chaney, Jeffery Long, and Celena DiLullo present. Respondent Christopher M. Grant ("GRANT"), a Funeral Director, individually and on behalf of Respondent McDERMOTT'S Funeral and Cremation Service ("MCDERMOTT'S"), a Funeral Establishment, (collectively, "RESPONDENTS") appeared *pro se*. The Board Staff and executive Director Stephanie McGee were represented by Deputy Attorney General Matthew Feeley. Senior Deputy Attorney General Todd Wiess provided legal counsel to the Board.

The Board, having considered the testimony of witnesses, the exhibits introduced at the hearing, together with all papers and pleadings filed with the Board in this matter and pursuant to NAC 642.180(5) and (12), makes the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and decision.

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FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant to the Complaint, McDERMOTT'S held a permit as a Funeral Establishment issued by the Nevada Funeral & Cemetery Services Board ("Board"), Permit Number EST110.

2. At all times relevant to the Complaint, GRANT held a license as a Funeral Director issued by the Board, License Number FD920.

3. RESPONDENTS are therefore subject to the jurisdiction of the Board and Board Staff and the provisions of NRS chapters 642, 451, and 452 and NAC chapters 642, 451, and 452.

4. Pursuant to NRS 642.5172 through NRS 642.524, NRS 642.130 and NRS 642.135, the Board may take disciplinary action by way of this Complaint.

5. At all times relevant to this complaint, GRANT was and is the managing Funeral Director at McDERMOTT'S located at 2121 Western Avenue in Las Vegas.

6. JOAN JULIEN died on December 11, 2023, and was initially in the care of Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center (hereinafter, "Sunrise").

7. On December 13, 2023, GRANT entered into a telephonic agreement with JOAN JULIEN's daughter, Claudia Kelly, whereby she authorized RESPONDENTS to arrange JOAN JULIEN's cremation. GRANT accepted payment for these services during the telephonic exchange.

8. That same day, JOAN JULIEN was transferred from Sunrise to RESPONDENTS' facility, and GRANT initiated and signed the electronic death record with the Southern Nevada Health District.

9. On December 19, 2023, Claudia Kelly electronically signed the "Funeral Arrangement Agreement" and "Cremation Authorization and Order for Disposition" forms, thereby memorializing the prior telephonic agreement made on December 13, 2023.

10. In early January 2024, Claudia Kelly contacted RESPONDENTS to follow up on the status of the cremation, having previously been informed that the process would take approximately two weeks to complete. At that time, RESPONDENTS purported that there was a backlog and represented that the cremated remains would be ready by January 15, 2024.

1 11. Having received no update by January 15, 2024, Claudia Kelly contacted
2 RESPONDENTS again on January 16, 2024. RESPONDENTS informed her that the cremation had not
3 yet been performed and again attributed the delay to a backlog.

4 12. On January 22, 2024, Claudia Kelly presented to RESPONDENTS' facility and was then
5 informed by GRANT that the delay was due to a physician from Sunrise not having signed the death
6 record.

7 13. On January 29, 2024, Claudia Kelly presented to Sunrise to resolve the issue directly and
8 was informed that Sunrise had not received any communication from RESPONDENTS regarding a
9 pending physician's signature. That same day, Claudia Kelly returned to RESPONDENTS' facility and
10 insisted they contact Sunrise in her presence.

11 14. On January 30, 2024, a physician from Sunrise signed and certified the death record. That
12 same day, the Southern Nevada Health District signed the electronic death record and issued the burial
13 transit permit.

14 15. RESPONDENTS cremated JOAN JULIEN on January 31, 2024, 51 days after her death.

15 16. On February 1, 2024, JOAN JULIEN's remains were delivered to Claudia Kelly without
16 a death certificate.

17 17. Claudia Kelly later retrieved the death certificate independently.

18 18. On March 16, 2024, Claudia Kelly filed an Informal Administrative Complaint against
19 RESPONDENTS, alleging misrepresentation and undue delay in the cremation.

20 19. On March 18, 2024, Board Executive Director Stephanie McGee issued a Notice of
21 Summary of Informal Complaint ("233B Letter") to RESPONDENTS.

22 20. On April 24, 2024, the Board's inspector, Dr. Wayne Fazzino, initiated an investigation of
23 this matter.

24 21. RESPONDENTS submitted their response to the 233B letter on April 25, 2024, 13 days
25 past the 15-day deadline.

26 22. On May 17, 2024, the Board's inspector prepared an Investigative Report detailing his
27 findings.
28

1 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

2 The Board has considered all relevant statutes and regulations, and specifically:

3 23. NRS 642.5175, which sets out the grounds for which the Board may take certain
4 disciplinary action, and states in pertinent part:

5 **NRS 642.5175 Grounds.** The following acts are grounds for which the
6 Board may take disciplinary action against any person who holds a license,
7 permit or certificate issued by the Board pursuant to this chapter or [chapter](#)
8 [451](#) or [452](#) of NRS, or may refuse to issue such a license, permit or
certificate to an applicant therefor:

9 ...

10 **2. Unprofessional conduct.**

11 24. NRS 642.5174 defines “unprofessional conduct” as it relates to NRS 642.5175, and states
12 in pertinent part:

13 **NRS 642.5174 “Unprofessional conduct” defined.** For the purposes
14 of [NRS 642.5175](#), unprofessional conduct includes:

15 1. Misrepresentation or fraud in the operation of a funeral
establishment, direct cremation facility, cemetery or crematory, or the
16 practice of a funeral director or funeral arranger.

17 ...

18 11. Violation of any provision of this chapter, any regulation adopted
pursuant thereto or any order of the Board.

19 12. Violation of any state law or municipal or county ordinance or
20 regulation affecting the handling, custody, care or transportation of dead
human bodies, including, without limitation, [chapters 440, 451](#) and [452](#) of
21 NRS.

22 ...

23 15. Taking undue advantage of the patrons of a funeral establishment
24 or direct cremation facility, or being guilty of fraud or misrepresentation in
the sale of merchandise to those patrons.
25

26 ...

27 18. Unethical practices contrary to the public interest as determined
28 by the Board.

1 25. NRS 451.020 sets forth that a decedent must be buried or cremated within a reasonable
2 time, and states in pertinent part:

3
4 **NRS 451.020 Burial or cremation within reasonable time after death; transportation and disposal of residue of cremated body.**

5 1. Except in cases of dissection provided for in NRS 451.010, and
6 where a dead body shall rightfully be carried through or removed from the
7 State for the purpose of burial elsewhere, **every dead body of a human**
8 **being lying within this state, and the remains of any dissected body after**
9 **dissection, shall be decently buried or cremated within a reasonable**
10 **time after death.**

11 26. NRS 642.345 sets out that a funeral director is responsible for the proper management of
12 each funeral establishment, and states in pertinent part:

13 **NRS 642.345 Funeral directors: Management of funeral**
14 **establishment or direct cremation facility prohibited without approval**
15 **of Board; responsibilities.**

16 3. A funeral director is responsible for the proper management of each
17 funeral establishment or direct cremation facility of which the funeral
18 director is the manager.

19 27. NAC 642.180(4) sets out the requirement for a licensee to respond to the receipt of a 233B
20 letter within 15 days, and states in pertinent part:

21 **NAC 642.180 Procedure for disciplinary action.**

22 4. Upon the receipt of a summary of an informal complaint that has
23 been filed against him or her, a licensee shall submit to the Board a
24 written response to the informal complaint within 15 days after the date
25 on which the informal complaint was served. A response to an informal
26 complaint must respond to the allegations made in the informal complaint
27 and be accompanied by all documentation that would be useful to the staff
28 and legal counsel in their review of the allegations made in the informal
complaint and the responses made by the licensee to those allegations.
Failure by a licensee to cooperate with the Board during an investigation of
an informal complaint, including, without limitation, **failing to respond**
timely to the Board regarding a summary of the informal complaint
sent to the licensee by the staff pursuant to this subsection, is a ground
for disciplinary action by the Board against the licensee.

1 5. If a licensee fails to respond as required pursuant to subsection 4, he or
2 she shall be deemed to have admitted the allegations in the informal
3 complaint. Based on these admissions, the Board may impose appropriate
4 discipline on the licensee at the hearing on the informal complaint.

5 28. NRS 642.5176 sets out the authorized discipline as such:

6 **NRS 642.5176 Authorized disciplinary action; private reprimands
7 prohibited; orders imposing discipline deemed public records.**

8 1. If the Board determines that a person who holds a license, permit or
9 certificate issued by the Board pursuant to this chapter or [chapter](#)
10 [451](#) or [452](#) of NRS has committed any of the acts set forth in [NRS](#)
11 [642.5175](#), the Board may:

12 (a) Refuse to renew the license, permit or certificate;

13 (b) Revoke the license, permit or certificate;

14 (c) Suspend the license, permit or certificate for a definite period or
15 until further order of the Board;

16 (d) Impose a fine of not more than \$5,000 for each act that constitutes
17 a ground for disciplinary action;

18 (e) Place the person on probation for a definite period subject to any
19 reasonable conditions imposed by the Board;

20 (f) Administer a public reprimand; or

21 (g) Impose any combination of disciplinary actions set forth in
22 paragraphs (a) to (f), inclusive.

23 2. The Board shall not administer a private reprimand.

24 3. An order that imposes discipline and the findings of fact and conclusions of law
25 supporting that order are public records.

26 The Board, in considering the relevant statutes and regulations and as evidenced by the facts described
27 above, finds and concludes that RESPONDENTS committed the following violations of law:

28 29. GRANT violated NRS 642.5174(1) and 642.5174(15), when he misrepresented the
cremation services would take approximately two weeks to complete from the date of the telephonic
agreement.

30. GRANT violated NRS 642.5174(18), when he, as described by the above related facts to include the various delays throughout the entire process from death to cremation, engaged in unethical practices contrary to the public interest.

31. GRANT violated NRS 451.020, when he failed to bury or cremate the decedent within a reasonable time after death.

32. In the matter of the 233B letter that was sent on March 18, 2024, RESPONDENTS violated NRS 642.180(4) when they failed to submit to the Board a written response within 15 days.

33. In each of the matters of at issue in this complaint, GRANT failed to properly manage the funeral establishment for which he is the manager, violating NRS 642.345.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, by unanimous decision of the board as follows:

34. RESPONDENTS shall pay a fine of \$9,000.00, (a \$1,500.00 fine for 6 violations, totaling \$9,000.00), fully due one year after the date of this ORDER, with a payment arrangement plan to be submitted to and approved by the Executive Director within 30 days, and each Respondent shall be jointly and severally liable for payment of the total fine of \$9,000.00.

35. RESPONDENTS shall pay all reasonable and necessary attorney's fees and costs, in the amount of, but only up to the amount of, \$2,000.00, as calculated by the report attached hereto as Exhibit 1 (determined to be \$2,041.52), fully due one year after the date of this ORDER, with a payment arrangement plan to be submitted to and approved by the Executive Director within 30 days, and each Respondent shall be jointly and severally liable for payment of the total fees of \$2,000.00.

36. RESPONDENTS are both hereby publicly reprimanded for the conduct described in the Findings of Fact in paragraphs 1-22 and the Conclusions of Law in paragraphs 29-33, as set forth above.

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1 37. Violation of any terms of this Order may constitute unprofessional conduct and be grounds
2 for further discipline against RESPONDENTS as described in NRS 642.5174(11).

3 DATED this 18th day of August, 2025.

4
5 STATE OF NEVADA BOARD OF
6 FUNERAL AND CEMETARY SERVICES

7 By: 
8 Dr. Randy Sharp
9 Chairman of the Board

10 Submitted by:

11 AARON D. FORD
12 Attorney General

13 By: /s/ Matthew Feeley
14 MATTHEW FEELEY (Bar. No. 13336)
15 Deputy Attorney General
16 1 State of Nevada Way, Suite 100
17 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119
18 (702) 486-3120
19 Attorneys for the Nevada
20 Funeral & Cemetery Services Board
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 22nd day of August, 2025, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER by depositing a copy of the same in the United States mail, properly addressed, postage prepaid, CERTIFIED and REGULAR MAIL addressed as follows:

McDERMOTT'S Funeral and Crematory Service
Christopher M. Grant
2121 Western Avenue, Suite 3A
Las Vegas, NV, 89102

Certified Mail No. 958 9 0710 5270 0042 9919 67


An Employee of the Nevada State Board of Funeral & Cemetery Services

EXHIBIT 1

Office of the Attorney General

Listing Report with Task Codes

Date	Prof	Matter ID/Client Sort Matter Description Narrative	Component	Task Code	Units	Price	Value
Matter ID: 50913-175							
07/03/2025	MPF	50913-175/ Board of Funeral & Cemetery Services (20111) McDermott's Funeral and Cremation Service - Admin FB24-04 Review of case and discussion with Intern	T	LIT PROS	2.00	157.04	314.08
07/11/2025	MPF	50913-175/ Board of Funeral & Cemetery Services (20111) McDermott's Funeral and Cremation Service - Admin FB24-04 Review Complaint	T	LIT PROS	2.00	157.04	314.08
08/01/2025	MPF	50913-175/ Board of Funeral & Cemetery Services (20111) McDermott's Funeral and Cremation Service - Admin FB24-04 Prepare Exhibits	T	LIT PROS	3.00	157.04	471.12
08/03/2025	MPF	50913-175/ Board of Funeral & Cemetery Services (20111) McDermott's Funeral and Cremation Service - Admin FB24-04 Prepare for Hearing	T	LIT PROS	2.00	157.04	314.08
08/05/2025	MPF	50913-175/ Board of Funeral & Cemetery Services (20111) McDermott's Funeral and Cremation Service - Admin FB24-04 Prepare for Hearing	T	LIT PROS	1.00	157.04	157.04
08/06/2025	MPF	50913-175/ Board of Funeral & Cemetery Services (20111) McDermott's Funeral and Cremation Service - Admin FB24-04 Hearing on Disciplinary Complaint	T	HRG/APP	3.00	157.04	471.12
Matter ID: 50913-175					13.00		2,041.52
Grand Total:					13.00		\$2,041.52

