

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF MORTUARY SCIENCE EXAMINERS
OF THE STATE OF IOWA**

IN THE MATTER OF:)	Case No. 06-013
)	
RICK LEE KNUTSON, F.D.)	
License. No. 104 02362)	
)	CONFIDENTIAL STATEMENT OF
)	MATTERS ASSERTED IN SUPPORT
)	OF A NOTICE OF HEARING AND
Respondent.)	STATEMENT OF CHARGES IN A
)	DISCIPLINARY CASE
)	

The Iowa Board of Mortuary Science Examiners (“Board”) issued a Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges in this case on the 12th day of January, 2007, and sets forth the following summary of facts in support of the allegations contained therein:

1. Respondent was issued Iowa license number 104-02362 on the 5th day of November, 1987. Respondent failed to renew his funeral director’s license in a timely manner and his license became inactive on December 16, 2005. Respondent has not reactivated his license, but the license remains subject to reactivation.

2. For a period of some months, Respondent has performed mortuary science services from a funeral establishment, Knutson Family Chapel, 101 N. Elm St., Avoca, IA 51521, that had not been issued an establishment license by the Board. Respondent submitted an establishment license application in October 2006, but the application listed Respondent as one of two funeral directors. Because Respondent holds an inactive license, the application was returned to him.

3. Respondent recently resubmitted the application naming only Ron Knutson as the funeral director associated with Knutson Family Chapel. Ron Knutson does hold an active license as a funeral director. The Board issued the establishment permit on January 4, 2007.

4. Information supplied to the Board, including funeral notices and a death certificate, indicate that Rick Knutson, in connection with then unlicensed funeral establishment

Knutson Family Chapel, repeatedly performed mortuary science services. Respondent has allowed mortuary science services to be performed in an unlicensed funeral establishment.

5. On December 26, 2006, the Iowa Insurance Division issued a Cease and Desist Order to Ricky L. Knutson d/b/a/ Knutson Family Chapel and Knutson Family Chapel, L.L.C., finding that Mr. Knutson failed to secure both an establishment permit and a sales permit prior to selling funeral merchandise and services on a pre-need basis in violation of Iowa Code sections 523A.501 and 523A.502.

6. While the exact number of instances is unknown to the Board, the Board has also been supplied information demonstrating Respondent's failure to properly place into trust funds received from consumers in connection with pre-arrangements for MB (Consumer 1) and IM (Consumer 2), in violation of Iowa Code sections 523A.201 and 523A.202, and associated provisions of Iowa Code chapter 523A. Both events occurred in 2006.

7. These allegations support the Board's charges:

a. Repeatedly practicing mortuary science on an inactive license in association with an unlicensed funeral home establishment, in violation of Iowa Code sections 147.55(3) and (8), 156.4(2), 156.9(1) and (2)(d), 156.15(1), and 272C.10(3) and (8) (2005), and 645 Iowa Admin. Code 101.10(7), 103.3(5)(a), and 103.3(5)(b).

b. Violating statutory requirements of the Iowa Insurance Division by selling pre-need funeral services and merchandise without proper permit, and failing to properly place consumer funds into trust, in violation of Iowa Code sections 147.55(3), 272C.10(3), 523A.201, 523A.202, 523A.501, 523A.502, and associated provisions of chapter 523A, (2005) and 645 Iowa Administrative Code 103.3(8)(b).

This Confidential Statement of Matters Asserted is filed and issued on the 12th day of January, 2007.