

In September 2023, a hospital advised the Sangamon County Coroner's Office that a decedent had been in its morgue for over a month. Respondent had been contracted to provide direct cremation services for this decedent and had, in fact, provided cremains to the family although no cremation had taken place. Respondent charged the family for services which were never rendered.

On September 28, 2023, various law enforcement authorities conducted a search of Respondent's business. Several deteriorating and unidentified bodies were removed as well as multiple cremains. It was discovered in numerous instances that families had received wrong or misidentified cremains. Additionally, Respondent had not obtained appropriate permits for a multitude of individuals prior to cremation and failed to file death certificates in a timely manner as required.

The aforementioned conduct as set forth herein, if proven to be true, would constitute grounds for disciplinary action against Respondent's license pursuant to 225 ILCS 41/15-75(b)(3), 41/15-75(b)(5), 41/15-75(b)(9), 41/15-75(b)(17), 41/15-75(b)(19) and 41/15-75(b)(22) (2020).

Respondent admits that the information recited herein is accurate and complete. At all times material to the matter set forth in this Consent Order, the Department had jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties herein.

Respondent has been advised of the right to have all pending allegations reduced to written charges, the right to a hearing where the Department bears the burden to prove its allegations by clear and convincing evidence, the right to contest any charges brought and present mitigating evidence, the right to counsel and the right to administrative review of any order resulting from a hearing. Respondent knowingly waives each of these rights as well as any right to administrative review of this Consent Order. Such waiver ceases if this Consent Order is rejected by the Illinois Funeral Directors and Embalmers Licensing and Disciplinary Board ("Board") or the Secretary or the Secretary's designee. Respondent acknowledges that he has entered into this Consent Order freely and of his own will without threat or coercion by the Department or any person and has not relied upon any representation made by or on behalf of the Department other than those specifically included herein.

Respondent acknowledges that the Department attorney may be requested to communicate with the Board or the Secretary or the Secretary's designee in furtherance of the approval of this Consent Order.

Respondent has been informed that this Consent Order will be presented to the Secretary or the Secretary's designee. If this Consent Order is not approved, Respondent waives any right to raise any prejudice resulting from the Secretary's or the Secretary's designee's consideration of this Consent Order. Respondent understands that this Consent Order is not effective unless and until it is adopted by the Secretary or the Secretary's designee. A copy of any original signature(s) shall be given the full force and effect of an original signature(s) affixed to this Consent Order.

Respondent and the Department agree, in order to resolve this matter, that Respondent be permitted to enter into a Consent Order with the Department providing for the imposition of disciplinary measures which are fair and equitable in the circumstances and which are consistent with the best interests of the People of the State of Illinois.

CONDITIONS

Wherefore, the Department, by its attorneys, Frank Lamas, Chief of General Prosecutions, and Diane M. Para, and Albert A. Heinz, Respondent, agree:

- A. Respondent's Illinois Funeral Director and Embalmer License No. 034.016979 is permanently revoked by operation of this Consent Order.
- B. Respondent expressly agrees never to file a petition for restoration of his Illinois funeral director and embalmer license.
- C. Respondent shall not practice or hold himself out as a funeral director and embalmer in the State of Illinois and shall remove any references depicting funeral director and embalmer licensure from his business website within thirty (30) days from the effective date of this Consent Order.
- D. Respondent shall cause all indicia of funeral director and embalmer licensure to be surrendered to the Department along with this executed Consent Order.
- E. Respondent shall not work in the death care services industry including, but not limited to, employment at or operation of any funeral home, cemetery or crematorium in the State of Illinois.

- F. Respondent shall not seek or obtain a license to sell preneed funeral and burial insurance in the State of Illinois.
- G. This Consent Order is a public disciplinary action and will be reported to all applicable public indexes. This Consent Order will be available to the general public.
- H. This Order is a final administrative order. The effective date of this Order is the date when it is signed by the Secretary or the Secretary's designee unless otherwise stated.

Signatures on following page

October 4, 2023

Date

[Redacted Signature]

Diane M. Para
Attorney for the Department

10/4/2023

Date

[Redacted Signature]

Albert A. Heinz
Respondent

October 4, 2023

Date

[Redacted Signature]

Charles R. Hanley
Member, Illinois Funeral Directors and Embalmers
Licensing and Disciplinary Board

The foregoing Consent Order is approved in full.

Dated this 5th day of October, 2023.

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
SECRETARY MARIO TRETO, JR.

[Redacted Signature]

Secretary

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

Case No. 202309103
License No. 034.016979