

**IN THE MATTER OF  
BRANDON WILLIAMS**

**License Number: RC245**

**Case Number: 2024-030**

\* **BEFORE THE MARYLAND**  
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\* **BOARD OF MORTICIANS**  
\* **AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS**  
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**PRE-CHARGE CONSENT ORDER OF REPRIMAND AND FINE**

**BACKGROUND**

On March 21, 2024 the Maryland Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors (the “Board”) conducted a routine inspection of Heaven Bound Cremation Services at 4445 Crain Highway in White Plains, Maryland pursuant to Maryland Code, Health Occupations Article (“H.O.”) § 7-205 (2024) and COMAR 10.29.18, 10.29.19, and 10.29.20. Mr. Brandon Williams (the “Respondent”) was acting as the supervising crematory operator responsible for day-to-day operations of the Heaven Bound Cremation Services. As a result of the inspection the Board opened a formal complaint into the facility and voted to offer the Respondent a pre-charge consent order in lieu of formal disciplinary proceedings. On September 5, 2024, the Board held a pre-charge case resolution conference, and the Respondent agreed to enter the following Consent Order (hereinafter referred to as the “Order”).

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Board Finds that:

1. The Board issued the Respondent crematory operator registration RC245 on October 10, 2019. That registration was valid and in good standing at all times relevant to this Order.
2. The Respondent worked at Heaven Bound Crematory Services, LLC as the supervising crematory operator and was designated as the person responsible for day-to-day operations pursuant to Code of Maryland Regulations (“COMAR”) 10.29.17.03(B)(4).
3. On or about March 21, 2024, the Board’s Inspector visited the Heaven Bound Cremation Services<sup>1</sup> to conduct a routine inspection which revealed the following:

<sup>1</sup> The Respondent is married to the owner of Heaven Bound Cremation Services, LLC (“Heaven Bound”), operating under permit number CR0037 to operate Heaven Bound. The Board issued the permit on December 16, 2016 and it remained valid at all times relevant to this matter.

- a. human bodies in cardboard boxes stacked on top of each other with no support between the boxes;
  - b. human bodies in ripped body bags with arms and legs hanging out of the body bags;
  - c. human remains that were not being stored at temperatures below 40F; and
  - d. blood on the refrigeration unit and bodily fluids on the floor.
4. The inspector provided the Respondent and the owner with a copy of the failed inspection report.
  5. The Inspector conducted a second inspection on April 22, 2024. The second inspection revealed the following:
    - a. a strong odor of decomposing remains; and
    - b. flies coming out of boxes containing human bodies.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing findings of fact, the Board concludes as a matter of law that the Respondent violated statutory provisions of the Maryland Code Health Occupations Article, §7-316 and regulatory provisions of the Code of Maryland Regulations (“COMAR”) 10.29.01 *et seq.*

COMAR 10.29.18.06 allows the Board to discipline any crematory permit holder or registered crematory operator for committing any of the offenses listed in Maryland Annotated Code Health Occupations (“Md. Code Ann. H.O.”) §7-316(a)(26).

Pursuant to H.O. §7-316(a):

Subject to the hearing provisions of §7-139 of this subtitle and except as to a funeral establishment license, the Board may deny a license to any applicant, reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke any license if the applicant or licensee:

...

(18) Violates any provision of this title or of the laws relating to cremation...

...

(24) Violates any rule or regulation adopted by the Board....

Pursuant to COMAR 10.29.18.02:

(11) Human remains shall be properly stored before cremation;

Pursuant to COMAR 10.29.19.03 cremation containers:

B. Shall provide a completely enclosed covering for the human remains;

Services, LLC complete recertification through one of the recognized national organizations that offer crematory operator training courses and provide proof of completion to the Board of recertification within **SIXTY (60) DAYS** from the effective date of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that if the Respondent violates any of the terms and conditions of the probation contained in this Order, the Board, in its discretion and after notice and an opportunity to be heard, if there is a genuine dispute as to material fact, or an opportunity for a show cause hearing before the Board, may impose any other disciplinary sanction which the Board is statutorily authorized to impose in this case under H.O. §7-316, including a reprimand, probation, suspension or revocation, and/or additional monetary fine, said violation being proven by a preponderance of the evidence; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall comply with the Maryland Morticians and Funeral Directors Act, H.O. §§7-101 *et seq.*, and all Federal and State laws regarding governing the practice of funeral services and cremation in the State of Maryland; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent may file a petition to terminate the probation in this Order no earlier than **TWO (2) YEARS** from its effective date; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Board may not consider a petition to terminate the probation in this Order earlier than **TWO (2) YEARS** from its effective date and has sole discretion to terminate the probation in this Order provided that the Respondent has been satisfactorily compliant with the probation terms; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent is responsible for any costs and expenses associated with complying with this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this is a Final Decision and Order of the Board and, as such, is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** pursuant to Maryland Code Annotated, General Provisions Article §4-101 *et seq.*

09/27/24



Date

Michele Kutta, Board President

- C. Shall be resistant to leakage or spillage;
- D. Shall be of sufficient strength and rigidity for ease of handling;
- E. Shall provide protection to the health and safety of crematory establishment personnel and the public....

Pursuant to COMAR 10.29.19.05(D):

Whenever human remains are unable to be cremated within 48 hours of taking custody thereof, the permit holder shall maintain the human remains in a refrigerated holding facility, either on or off site, at 40F or less, unless the remains have been embalmed....

The Respondent violated the regulations governing storing human bodies. The containers were not stored in a way to prevent leakage or spillage. The containers were ripped which allowed the Inspector to observe arms and legs hanging out of the containers. The remains were also not being stored at 40°F or lower as required.

### **ORDER**

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby:

**ORDERED** that the Respondent's Crematory Operator registration, RC245, is hereby **REPRIMANDED** and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent's registration to practice as a Crematory Operator under registration, RC245, is placed on **PROBATION** for a minimum of **TWO (2) YEARS** from the effective date of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent's Crematory Operator registration, RC245, will be displayed as "On Probation" on the Board's website for the duration of the probationary period; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall pay to the Board a monetary fine of **TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$2,000.00)** in full by money order or cashier's check made payable to the Board and delivered personally or by certified mail to the Board within **THIRTY (30) DAYS** of the effective date of this Order. Failure to pay this monetary fine in full to the Board within 30 days of the effective date of this Order shall constitute a violation of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent take and complete an Ethics Course approved by the Board and provide proof of completion within **THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the effective date of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent complete recertification through one of the recognized national organizations that offer crematory operator training courses and provide proof of completion to the Board of recertification within **SIXTY (60) DAYS** from the effective date of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent ensure all crematory operators working at Heaven Bound Cremation

**CONSENT**

By this Consent, I acknowledge that I have read this Consent Order in its entirety and I hereby admit the truth of the Findings of Fact, and accept and submit to the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions. I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered into after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to legal counsel authorized to practice law in Maryland, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to request subpoenas for witnesses, to call witnesses on my own behalf, to introduce testimony and evidence on my own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law. I waive these rights, as well as any appeal rights under Maryland Code Annotated, State Government Article § 10-222.

I sign this Consent Order after having an opportunity to consult with an attorney, voluntarily and without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning, terms, and effect of this Consent Order.

9.23.24  
Date

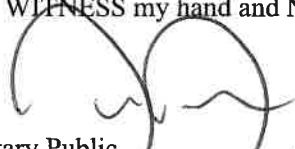
  
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BRANDON WILLIAMS, RC245

***NOTARIZATION***

STATE OF MARYLAND  
CITY/COUNTY of Charles

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 23rd day of September, 2024 before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, BRANDON WILLIAMS personally appeared, and declared and affirmed under penalties of perjury that signing the foregoing Consent Order was her voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and Notarial Seal.

  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires: 12/15/2026

