

BEFORE THE MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE

In the Matter of:

**KNIGHT AND STRONG FUNERAL
HOME, LLC
AND
STANLEY MCGEE, INDIVIDUALLY AND
IN HIS CAPACITY AS LICENSEE IN
CHARGE OF KNIGHT AND STRONG
FUNERAL HOME**

No. 1072102913

Respondents

FINAL ORDER

THIS MATTER came before the Mississippi State Board of Funeral Service ("Board") on September 8, 2025, for the purpose of presenting certain charges filed in Cause No. 1072102913, against Knight and Strong Funeral Home, LLC and Stanley McGee, Individually and in His Capacity as Licensee in Charge of Knight and Strong Funeral Home ("Respondents"). A quorum of the Board members was present throughout the hearing and deliberations in this matter.

Respondents, having been properly served, called on the day of the hearing and being fully informed of Respondents' rights to a hearing before the Board, did appear at the hearing and were not represented by an attorney. Special Assistant Attorney General Wyatt Dunn served as legal counsel for the Board. Attorney Dunn introduced into evidence the Board's Composite Exhibits A-D. The Board's Executive Director was called to testify. Respondents testified individually and introduced no exhibits. A court reporter made a record of the proceedings.

Special Assistant Attorney General Kristen N. Love, designated by the Board to serve as its Administrative Hearing Officer for this matter, presided over the proceeding and was directed by the Board to prepare its written decision in accordance with its deliberations. The hearing was held pursuant to Title 73, Chapter 11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, and pursuant to all other applicable Mississippi laws and regulations.

Based upon clear and convincing evidence, the Board makes the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Board is established pursuant to MISS. CODE ANN. § 73-11-43 and is charged with the duty of licensing and regulating the practice of funeral service and funeral directing in the State of Mississippi.

2. MISS. CODE ANN. § 73-11-49 authorizes the Board to adopt such rules and regulations as it finds necessary to conduct the business of the Board and to carry out its licensure and regulatory functions.

3. Under MISS. CODE ANN. § 73-11-57, the Board is authorized to revoke, suspend, refuse to renew a license, deny an application, place a licensee on probationary status and/or take any other action as appropriate for a violation of the laws, rules, and regulations governing licensees, namely the provisions of Title 73, Chapter 11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, or any Board rules or regulations.

4. Respondents were properly noticed of the Complaint and the date and time of the hearing in accordance with MISS. CODE ANN. § 73-11-57.

5. Respondents did appear at the hearing and were not represented by an attorney.

6. At all times relevant hereto, Knight and Strong Funeral Home, LLC ("Respondent Strong") was licensed by the Board as a funeral establishment located in Yazoo City, Yazoo County, Mississippi holding license number FE-9770. Therefore, Respondent is subject to provisions of Title 73, Chapter 11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, and Board rules and regulations. Knight and Strong Funeral Home, LLC is owned and operated by Curtis Strong.

7. At all times relevant hereto, Stanley McGee ("Respondent McGee") was licensed by the Board as a funeral service practitioner holding license number FS-1117. Respondent McGee is also the designated licensee in charge of Knight and Strong Funeral Home. Therefore, Respondent is subject to provisions of Title 73, Chapter 11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, and Board rules and regulations.

8. The Board received a complaint that alleged Respondent Strong completed the arrangements for the family of Alan T. Singleton ("Family") without the assistance Respondent McGee who is the licensee in charge of Knight and Strong Funeral Home, LLC. Additionally, on or about February 9, 2024, while completing these arrangements, Respondent Strong provided the Family with an itemized list of goods and services which set the price for "Basic Services" at Three Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$3,000.00), as opposed to One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$1,500.00) which is the amount provided on the funeral home's general price list for "Basic Services." After investigation, the Board's investigator Henry Glaze made findings consistent with the allegations contained in the complaint.

9. On or about August 21, 2025, the Board issued its Notice of Hearing and Complaint against Respondents. Respondents were charged with acting in violation of Section 73-11-57(1)(f), Section 73-11-57(1)(p)(ii), Section 73-11-57.2(1), Section 73-11-57.2(2), 30 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 2401, R. 9.1, 30 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 2401, R. 9.4 and Section 73-11-57(1)(g).

10. Respondents did appear at the hearing, were not represented by an attorney and introduced no exhibits.

11. The evidence and sworn testimony presented at the hearing clearly and convincingly establish a basis for disciplinary action against the Respondents. Investigator Glaze testified that he is familiar with the Board's Rules and Regulations. When he interviewed Respondent McGee, Respondent McGee admitted that he only performed the embalming but did not meet with the family. The family also confirmed that they did not meet with Respondent McGee when making the arrangements. Respondent Strong admitted that he made funeral arrangements for the family of Alan T. Singleton ("Family") without holding a funeral service practitioner license issued by the Board. He completed these arrangements without the appropriate licensure and without the assistance of Respondent McGee, the licensee in charge of Knight and Strong Funeral Home, LLC. Respondent Strong acknowledged that his actions did not comply with the Board's Rules and Regulations. He further testified that Respondent McGee was not present at the funeral home when the Family arrived and that he should have waited for McGee's return.

12. Respondent McGee admitted that he did not meet with the Family and only performed embalming services. He also acknowledged that he did not execute the contract for services with the Family. The funeral home's general price list and the itemized statement executed with the Family were admitted into evidence as Exhibits B and C, respectively. Respondent Strong explained that both documents listed the price for "Basic Services" as One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$1,500.00). Although the scope of services described under "Basic Services" differed between the general price list and the itemized statement, the pricing remained consistent.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Title 73, Chapter 11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended. Venue is likewise properly placed before the Board to hear this matter at its office in Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi.

2. The Board is authorized pursuant to MISS. CODE ANN. § 73-11-57 to conduct hearings if it has reason to believe that a licensee has violated the provisions of Title 73, Chapter 11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, or any of the rules or regulations of the Board.

3. This matter was duly and properly convened with all substantive and procedural requirements satisfied.

4. The Board is specifically authorized to impose any of the disciplinary sanctions provided in the provisions of MISS. CODE ANN. § 73-11-57 when it determines that a licensee has violated the laws, rules and regulations governing Board licensees and to prescribe conditions under which persons may practice in the best interest of the public.

5. MISS. CODE ANN. § 73-11-57(1)(g) states, in relevant part, that the Board is authorized to impose such disciplinary action upon satisfactory proof at proper hearing and in accordance with the provisions of this chapter for violation of thereof or any rule or regulation of the Board.

6. Section 73-11-57(1)(f) prohibits “[t]he permitting of a person other than a funeral service or funeral directing licensee to make arrangements for a funeral and/or form of disposition.”

7. Section 73-11-57(1)(p)(ii) prohibits licensees from “[k]nowingly performing any act which in any way assists an unlicensed person to practice funeral service or funeral directing.”

8. Section 73-11-57.2(1) sets forth “[n]o person or entity shall engage in an activity for which a license is required under this chapter, without holding such licensure in good standing.”

9. Section 73-11-57.2(2) sets forth “[a] person may not be, act as, or advertise or hold himself or herself out to be a funeral service, a funeral director, or a certified crematory operator unless he or she is currently licensed by the board.”

10. Pursuant to 30 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 2401, R. 9.1. “funeral providers... shall provide accurate and up-to-date information on price lists for funeral goods and services offered. Copies of the price lists used by the funeral establishment or funeral provider must be on file with the Board before the list is used.”

11. As required by 30 Miss. Admin Code Pt. 2401 R. 9.4. “price lists must reflect the prices that the funeral establishment or provider will actually charge the consumer for the funeral goods and services selected.”

12. Board licensees are prohibited from acting in violation of the laws, rules and regulations governing funeral service and the practice of funeral directing and/or funeral service in the State of Mississippi as set forth in Section 73-11-57(1)(g).

13. The Board finds the evidence and testimony presented at the hearing clearly and convincingly establishes a basis for disciplinary action against Respondent Strong in that Respondent Strong failed to comply with Board Rules and Regulations, namely Section 73-11-57(1)(f), Section 73-11-57(1)(p)(ii), Section 73-11-57.2(1), Section 73-11-57.2(2), and Section 73-11-57(1)(g).

14. The Board finds the evidence and testimony presented at the hearing clearly and convincingly establishes a basis for disciplinary action against Respondent McGee in that Respondent McGee failed to comply with Board Rules and Regulations, namely Section 73-11-57(1)(f), Section 73-11-57(1)(p)(ii), and Section 73-11-57(1)(g). The Board finds the evidence and testimony presented at the hearing was insufficient to find Respondent McGee acted in violation of Section 73-11-57.2(1) and Section 73-11-57.2(2).

15. The evidence and testimony presented at the hearing was insufficient to find Respondents Strong and McGee acted in violation of 30 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 2401, R. 9.1 and 30 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 2401, R. 9.4.

16. Respondent Strong admitted that he made funeral arrangements for the Family without holding a funeral service practitioner license issued by the Board. He completed these

arrangements without the appropriate licensure and without the assistance of Respondent McGee, the licensee in charge of Knight and Strong Funeral Home, LLC. Respondent Strong acknowledged that his actions did not comply with the Board's Rules and Regulations. He further testified that Respondent McGee was not present at the funeral home when the Family arrived and that he should have waited for McGee's return. Respondent McGee admitted that he did not meet with the Family and only performed embalming services. He also acknowledged that he did not execute the contract for services with the Family. The funeral home's general price list and the itemized statement executed with the Family were admitted into evidence as Exhibits B and C, respectively. Respondent Strong explained that both documents listed the price for "Basic Services" as One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$1,500.00). Although the scope of services described under "Basic Services" differed between the general price list and the itemized statement, the pricing remained consistent.

Based upon its Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board finds as follows:

FINAL ORDER

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that, Respondent Strong, Knight and Strong Funeral Home, LLC, holder of funeral establishment license number FE-9770 acted in violation of MISS. CODE ANN. Section 73-11-57(1)(f), Section 73-11-57(1)(p)(ii), Section 73-11-57.2(1), Section 73-11-57.2(2), and Section 73-11-57(1)(g).

FURTHER ORDERED, that, for the violations cited above, a monetary penalty is assessed in the amount of Two Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$2000.00) and shall be paid to the Board by Respondent Strong in accordance with MISS. CODE ANN. § 73-11-57. Payment is due at the Board's office on or before sixty (60) calendar days from the date of execution of this Order. Failure to pay the monetary penalty according to these terms may result in further disciplinary action.

FURTHER ORDERED that, Respondent McGee, licensee in charge of Knight and Strong Funeral Home, LLC, holder of funeral service practitioner license number FS-1117 acted in violation of MISS. CODE ANN. Section 73-11-57(1)(f), Section 73-11-57(1)(p)(ii), and Section 73-11-57(1)(g).

FURTHER ORDERED, that, for the violations cited above, the Board imposes no discipline against Respondent McGee's license.

FURTHER ORDERED, this decision and opinion shall be a final order of the Board and shall be conclusive evidence of the matters described herein.

FURTHER ORDERED, this action and order of the Board shall be public record. It may be shared with other licensing boards (in- and out-of-state) and the public and may be reported to the appropriate entities as required or authorized by state and/or federal law or guidelines. This action shall be spread upon the Minutes of the Board as its official act and deed.

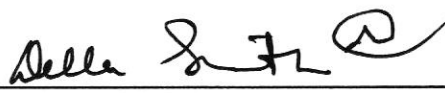
FURTHER ORDERED, upon execution of this Final Order by affixing the authorized signature below, the provisions of this Final Order shall become the Final Order of the Board.

FURTHER ORDERED that this Final Order shall be served upon Respondents by Certified Mail.

SO ORDERED, this the 22nd day of OCTOBER, 2025.

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE



BY: 
DELLA SMITH
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

Respondents may, within thirty (30) days after the decision of the Board, file with the Board a written notice stating that he feels himself aggrieved by this decision and may appeal therefrom to the circuit court of the county and judicial district of his residence in accordance with MISS. CODE ANN. § 73-11-57.