

BEFORE THE STATE BOARD
OF FUNERAL AND
CEMETERY SERVICE
CAUSE NO: 2022 SBFCS 0016

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF:

FILED

RANDY RAY LANKFORD
LICENSE NO.: FD21800053 (Active)

JUL 26 2022

Indiana Professional
Licensing Agency

PETITION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION

The State of Indiana ("Petitioner"), by counsel, Deputy Attorney General Ian Mathew, pursuant to Ind. Code ch. 4-21.5-4 and Ind. Code § 25-1-11-13, petitions the State Board of Funeral and Cemetery Service ("the Board") to summarily suspend the funeral director license of Randy Ray Lankford ("Respondent") for a period of ninety (90) days. In support, Petitioner states as follows:

Background

1. Respondent holds funeral director license FD21800053, which was issued by the Board on November 8, 2018 and will expire on December 31, 2022.
2. Respondent's address on file with the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency ("IPLA") is 3106 Middle Road, Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130.
3. At all times relevant, Respondent was the managing director of Lankford Funeral Home and Family Center, which holds funeral home license FH11900011 (Active).
4. Respondent is a "practitioner" as that term is defined by Ind. Code § 25-1-11-2.

Conduct Demonstrating Clear and Immediate Danger

5. On July 1, 2022, the Clark County Coroner's Office ("CCC") notified the Jeffersonville Police Department ("JPD") that it had received information regarding conditions at Lankford Funeral Home and Family Center.

6. JPD officers then went to the funeral home to investigate.

7. The officers found thirty-one (31) deceased individuals in body bags inside the funeral home in various stages of decomposition.

8. The bodies were located in different rooms throughout the facility.

9. Several of the bodies had been in the facility for an extended period of time, with at least one (1) of them having been there since March.

10. The bodies were not being refrigerated, and three (3) of the building's four (4) air conditioning units were inoperable.

11. Several of the bodies were leaking biological material onto the floors and surfaces.

12. The officers also found the cremated remains of seventeen (17) individuals at the funeral home as well.

13. CCC took possession of the bodies and cremains and is currently in the process of identifying and returning them to their families.

14. Indiana Code § 25-1-11-13 provides that the Board "may summarily suspend a practitioner's license for ninety (90) days before a final adjudication or during the appeals process if the board finds that a practitioner represents a clear

and immediate danger to the public's health, safety, or property if the practitioner is allowed to continue to practice.”

15. Because of the above-described conduct, Respondent represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health, safety, or property if allowed to continue to practice as a funeral director in Indiana.

REQUESTED RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Petitioner requests:

- I. That a hearing be scheduled on this Petition for Summary Suspension as soon as is practicable for the Board;
- II. That, after conducting a hearing, the Board issue an order summarily suspending Respondent’s funeral director license for a period of ninety (90) days; and,
- III. That the Board award all other relief it deems proper.

Respectfully,

Office of the Indiana Attorney General



Ian Mathew
Deputy Attorney General
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 26th day of July, 2022, a true and correct copy of this Petition for Summary Suspension was served upon the below-listed party or parties:

Randy Ray Lankford
3106 Middle Road
Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130
fdrandy2017@gmail.com
By U.S. Mail and E-Mail



Ian Mathew
Deputy Attorney General
Attorney No.: 36392-49