

**IN THE MATTER OF
DARRELL CALVEY
AND THE ENTITY OPERATING AS
WRIGHT AND CALVEY FUNERAL
HOME, INC.
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA**

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD
OF EMBALMERS AND FUNERAL
DIRECTORS**

FILED: OCT 27 2021


CLERK

FINDINGS OF FACT and DECISIONS of the BOARD

This matter came before the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors on October 12, 2021 for a ruling on an Admission and Consent submitted by the parties.

Present:

CHANEL R. DEBOSE, Prosecuting Attorney, for and on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

CHRISTOPHER LENTO, General Counsel, for and on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

After considering the law, the evidence, the entire record of these proceedings, and the Admission and Consent submitted by the parties for a ruling on the Admission and Consent, DARRELL CALVEY and the entity operating as WRIGHT AND CALVEY FUNERAL HOME, INC., who waived their appearances to appear before the Board to be a part of the proceedings held on October 12, 2021. The Louisiana Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors rules as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

That DARRELL CALVEY is a licensed funeral director and licensed embalmer (#E1703); designated agent; and an owner of the establishment operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. (#2837), Hammond, Louisiana, and, therefore, subject to the jurisdiction of this Board: that evidence contained within the record of these proceedings, and the Admission and Consent signed by the parties, reflect that Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. are guilty of violating the following provisions: LA R.S. 37:855 (A) (Right to Arrange Funeral Goods and Services); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Embalming Prematurely); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Failure to Provide Specific Price Lists); LA.

R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Concealing the Language and Contents contained within the Disclosure/Disclaimer Form and the Release/Embalming Authorization Form); LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Unlicensed Funeral Director); LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Unlicensed Embalmer); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Acting in Concert with an Unlicensed Funeral Director); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Acting in Concert with an Unlicensed Embalmer).

CONCLUSIONS

As to **Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc.**, the Board members found that Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. violated the following provisions: LA R.S. 37:855 (A) (Right to Arrange Funeral Goods and Services); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Embalming Prematurely); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Failure to Provide Specific Price Lists); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Concealing the Language and Contents contained within the Disclosure/Disclaimer Form and the Release/Embalming Authorization Form); LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Unlicensed Funeral Director); LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Unlicensed Embalmer); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Acting in Concert with an Unlicensed Funeral Director); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Acting in Concert with an Unlicensed Embalmer), as evidenced by documentation appearing in the file and the Admission and Consent signed by Darrell Calvey on behalf of himself and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc., admitting to the following:

- 1. On or around March 13, 2021 through March 23, 2021, Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. violated LA R.S. 37:855 (Right to Arrange Funeral Goods and Services) as it relates to LA R.S. 8:655 by failing to allow Calenthia Torrence-Harper, Brooke Torrence, and Shanita Torrence, the next of kin and daughters of the decedent, Hollis Lee Torrence, the right to arrange their father's disposition by embalming his body without his daughters' permission.**
- 2. On or around March 13, 2021 through March 23, 2021, Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. violated LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) by engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by embalming the decedent, Hollis Lee Torrence's, body prematurely**

and without the permission of his daughters, Calenthia Torrence-Harper, Brooke Torrence, and Shanita Torrence.

3. On or around March 13, 2021 through March 23, 2021, Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. violated LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) by engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by failing to provide the decedent's daughters, Calenthia Torrence-Harper, Brooke Torrence, and Shanita Torrence with a general price list of general services before the goods and services were selected; by failing to provide the decedent's daughters with a casket price list before the casket was selected; by failing to provide an outer burial container price list before the vault was selected during the process of making funeral arrangements for their deceased father, Hollis Lee Torrence.
4. On or around March 13, 2021 through March 23, 2021, Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. violated LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) for engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by concealing the language and contents contained within the Disclosure/Disclaimer Form and the Release/Embalming Authorization Form from Calenthia Torrence-Harper and Brooke Torrence in bad faith and presenting the documents to the two daughters in an effort to willfully distort the truth in an attempt to deceive, cheat, or defraud the family.
5. On or around March 13, 2021 through March 23, 2021, Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. violated LA R.S. 37:848 (A) by allowing a person, not certified and registered under the provisions of the Chapter governing the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors, to embalm or pretend to practice the science of embalming, or conduct the business of funeral directing by allowing Bryant Wright to direct the funeral of the late Hollis Lee Torrence.
6. On or around March 13, 2021 through March 23, 2021, Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. violated LA R.S. 37:848 (A) by allowing a person, not certified and registered under the provisions of the Chapter governing the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors, to embalm or pretend to practice the science of embalming, or conduct the business of funeral directing by allowing Bryant Wright to embalm the body of the late Hollis Lee Torrence.
7. On or around March 13, 2021 through March 23, 2021, Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. violated LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) for engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by knowingly acting in concert with the firms manager, Joseph Fleet, Sr., and the firms co-owner, Bryant Wright, to allow Bryant Wright, an unlicensed funeral director to conduct the business of funeral directing, and sign the name of the firms manager on the statement of funeral goods and services when Darrell Calvey, Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc., and Joseph Fleet, Sr. knew or should have known that Bryant Wright was not a licensed funeral director, and their actions were in violation of the laws of the Louisiana Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.
8. On or around March 13, 2021 through March 23, 2021, Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. violated LA R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) for engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by knowingly acting in concert with the firms manager, Joseph Fleet, Sr., and the firms co-owner, Bryant Wright, to allow Bryant Wright, an unlicensed embalmer, to embalm or pretend to practice the science of embalming, and sign the name of the firms manager on the embalming log beside the name of Hollis Lee Torrence, when Darrell Calvey, Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc., and Joseph Fleet, Sr. knew or should have known that Bryant Wright was not a licensed embalmer, and their actions were in

violation of the laws of the Louisiana Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

DECISION OF THE BOARD

Accordingly, for the reasons as stated and noted herein above;

IT IS ORDERED BY THE BOARD that Darrell Calvey and the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. are hereby found guilty of violating the following provisions: LA R.S. 37:855 (A) (Right to Arrange Funeral Goods and Services); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Embalming Prematurely); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Failure to Provide Specific Price Lists); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Concealing the Language and Contents contained within the Disclosure/Disclaimer Form and the Release/Embalming Authorization Form); LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Unlicensed Funeral Director); LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Unlicensed Embalmer); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Acting in Concert with an Unlicensed Funeral Director); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Acting in Concert with an Unlicensed Embalmer).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD that pursuant to LA. R.S. 37:850, the penalty statute applicable to these violations, which states: Whoever violates the provisions of this Part shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars, nor more than two-thousand, five-hundred dollars, and costs of the court reporter and attorney for the board for each offense, or by imprisonment for not less than thirty days, nor more than one-hundred eighty days for each offense, or both such fine and imprisonment, Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. and its representative, Darrell Calvey are fined the sum of Twenty-Thousand (\$20,000.00) dollars, Two-Thousand, Five-Hundred (\$2,500.00) dollars for each offense for the above cited violations of LA R.S. 37:855 (A) (Right to Arrange Funeral Goods and Services); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Embalming Prematurely); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Failure to Provide Specific Price Lists); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Concealing the Language and Contents contained within the Disclosure/Disclaimer Form and the Release/Embalming

Authorization Form); LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Unlicensed Funeral Director); LA R.S. 37:848 (A) (Unlawful Practice) (Unlicensed Embalmer); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Acting in Concert with an Unlicensed Funeral Director); LA. R.S. 37:846 (A) (5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct) (Acting in Concert with an Unlicensed Embalmer).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD that Ten-Thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars of the afore-referenced fine for the above cited violations is suspended contingent upon the completion of the terms of probation herein ordered.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD that Darrell Calvey, owner and operator of the entity operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. is hereby placed on probation for one year, three-hundred, sixty-five (365) days. The probationary period becomes effective upon receipt of this decision.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD that if Darrell Calvey and/or Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. commit any additional violations during the one year probationary period, then the ten-thousand (\$10,000.00) dollar suspended portion of the twenty-thousand (\$20,000.00) dollar fine ordered herein will become executive and due immediately upon conviction of any other violations of the rules and laws governing this Board.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD that Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc., and its representative Darrell Calvey are to pay the sum of Three-Thousand, One-Hundred, Thirty-Five (\$3,135.00) Dollars for the attorney's fees incurred by the Board for the handling of this matter from the date the matter was accepted by the Board through October 12, 2021, the date the Admission and Consent was accepted by the Board Members.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD that the total assessed cost to Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. and Darrell Calvey is Thirteen-Thousand, One-Hundred, Thirty-Five (\$13,135.00) Dollars in fines and fees owed to the Board for the above cited violations. The assessed fines herein do not include the ten-thousand (\$10,000.00) dollar suspended portion of the twenty-thousand (\$20,000.00) dollar fine. The above assessed fines and attorney's fees are to be paid by Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc. and/or its representative Darrell Calvey within thirty (30) days of receipt of this decision.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE BOARD that should the costs not be received by the Board within thirty (30) days of the notification of costs due, then the license of the

establishment operating as Wright and Calvey Funeral Home, Inc., Hammond, Louisiana shall be suspended until such time as all costs are paid.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Floyd R. L...", is written over a horizontal line.

SECRETARY

Metairie, Louisiana
October 27, 2021