

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND EMBALMERS  
SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**March 13, 2024**

*Department of Health Professions*

*Perimeter Center*

*9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201*

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**CALL TO ORDER:** A Special Conference Committee of the Board was called to order at 10:29 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mia Mimms, FSL, Chair  
R. Thomas Slusser, FSL

**DHP STAFF PRESENT:** Melanie Pagano, Deputy Executive Director  
Florence Venable, Discipline Operations Manager  
Christine Corey, Adjudication Specialist

**MATTER:** **Nation Removal Service, LLC**  
**License No.: 0509-000210**  
**Case No.: 228466**

**DISCUSSION:** A representative of Nation Removal Service, LLC appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a notice of the Board dated February 9, 2024. Nation Removal Service was not represented by counsel.

The Committee fully discussed the allegations in the Notice with Nation Removal Service, LLC.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Upon a motion by Mr. Slusser and duly seconded by Ms. Mimms, the Committee voted to convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711.A (27) of the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Nation Removal Service, LLC. Additionally, Mr. Slusser moved that Ms. Pagano and Ms. Venable attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its discussions.

**RECONVENE:** Having certified that the matters discussed in the preceding closed session met the requirements of §2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, the Committee reconvened in open session and announced its decision

**DECISION:** Upon a motion by Mr. Slusser and duly seconded by Ms. Mimms, the Committee made certain findings of fact and conclusions of the law and voted to issue a Reprimand and monetary penalty. The motion carried.

The vote was unanimous.

**AJOURNMENT:** The Committee adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

**MATTER:** Gary E. Maxwell, FSL  
License No.: 0502-860010  
Case No.: 226187

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Maxwell appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a notice of the Board dated February 9, 2024. Mr. Maxwell was not represented by counsel.

The Committee fully discussed the allegations in the Notice with Mr. Maxwell.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Upon a motion by Mr. Slusser and duly seconded by Ms. Mimms, the Committee voted to convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711.A (27) of the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Gary Maxwell, FSL. Additionally, Mr. Slusser moved that Ms. Pagano and Ms. Venable attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its discussions.

**RECONVENE:** Having certified that the matters discussed in the preceding closed session met the requirements of §2.2-

3712 of the Code of Virginia, the Committee reconvened in open session and announced its decision.

**DECISION:**

Upon a motion by Mr. Slusser and duly seconded by Ms. Mimms, the Board voted to issue a Reprimand. The motion carried.

The vote was unanimous.

**AJOURNMENT:**

The Committee adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

**MATTER:**

**Ashton Kendra Silva, FSL**  
**License No.: 0502-901729**  
**Case No.: 225882**

**DISCUSSION:**

Ms. Silva appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a notice of the Board dated February 9, 2024. Ms. Silva was not represented by counsel.

The Committee fully discussed the allegations in the Notice with Ms. Silva.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Upon a motion by Mr. Slusser and duly seconded by Ms. Mimms, the Committee voted to convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711.A (27) of the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Ashton Silva, FSL.

Additionally, Mr. Slusser moved that Ms. Pagano and Ms. Venable attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its discussions.

**RECONVENE:**

Having certified that the matters discussed in the preceding closed session met the requirements of §2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, the Committee reconvened in open session and announced its decision

**DECISION:**

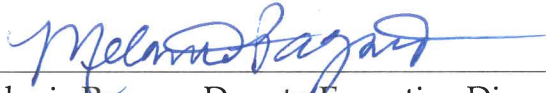
Upon a motion by Mr. Slusser and duly seconded by Ms. Mimms, the Committee made certain findings of

fact and conclusions of the law and voted to issue a Reprimand. The motion carried.

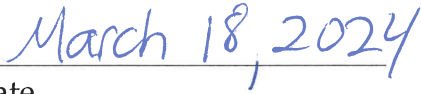
The vote was unanimous.

**AJOURNMENT:**

The Committee adjourned at 2:10 p.m.



Melanie Pagano, Deputy Executive Director



Date