



WV FDA FACT LINE

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April 2010

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The 2010 Regular Legislative Session is now complete. Although we did not have major legislation proposed for passage this year, we were very active working on legislation which had an impact on funeral service. There were in excess of 2,000 bills introduced in the House and Senate of which we monitored or worked 48 for you, including 14 Rules Bills relative to environmental protection and one resolution dealing with regulation of cemeteries.

Following is a summary of some of the bills of interest.

- SB-110—Power of Attorney—Did not pass
- SB-205—WV Cemetery Act—Did not pass
Study Resolution adopted
- SB-213—Budget Bill—Passed—Included
\$1.7 million for indigent funerals
- SB-456—Disturbing the Peace (included
funerals)—Did not pass
- HB-2045—Funeral and Cremation ex-
penses for indigent persons—Did
not pass—WV FDA was opposed
- HB-2247—Employee right to decline to
work more than 40 hours in a
workweek—Did not pass
- HB 4022—Exempting Funeral procession
from tolls on Turnpike—Did not
pass
- HB 4457—Relating to Access and Protec-
tion of cemeteries—Passed

We were again successful this year. Thank you to Mark Tomblyn, your WV FDA Legislative Committee chairman, for his work with these issues.

Please remember “Politics is not a Spectator Sport.”

WV FDA-PAC

Past President and Legislative Chairman Mark Tomblyn has been named chairman of the Association Political Action Committee while the Association office has been delegated the responsibility of receiving PAC contributions, accounting functions, and report preparation.

This is an election year and the PAC fund is in desperate need of contributions. We are a legislated profession, and it is critical that we support those who will listen to the issues, and now is not the time to desert our friends in the House and Senate.

Please contribute to the PAC now, so that we can continue the successes we have had in the past.

Your contribution should now be sent to:
WV FDA-PAC
815 Quarrier Street, Suite 345
Charleston, WV 25301-2645

All contributions should be in the form of a

WEST VIRGINIA FUNERAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION
815 QUARRIER STREET, SUITE 345
CHARLESTON, WV 25301-2616

Telephone: 304/345-4711 or 800/585-2351 (toll free in WV)
Fax: 304/346-6416—E-mail: RPrice0851@aol.com—Website: www.wvfda.org

personal check as corporate checks are not allowed.

A sincere "Thank You" to all who contribute. A thank you sign including your name will be posted at our Annual Convention.

(This information is intended for Association members only and all contributions are voluntary. Nonmembers, please disregard)

WVFDA ANNUAL CONVENTION

The 116th Annual Convention of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association will be held June 7-9, 2010, at the Charleston Marriott Hotel, Charleston, West Virginia.

Room reservations at the Marriott may be made by calling 1-800-228-9290. Be sure to indicate that reservations are for the WVFDA Convention to insure that you will receive the Convention rate. The cutoff date is May 23, 2010.

This year the convention will feature a Monday golf tournament and golf dinner with golf awards, six (6) hours of funeral continuing education, three (3) hours OSHA continuing education, three (3) hours insurance continuing education, lunches, memorial service, breakfasts, and exhibits.

The convention has been planned to include business, exhibits, recreation, socials, and education. Dress for the convention is business casual. We look forward to seeing you at Charleston.

ANNUAL WVFDA ADVOCACY SUMMIT

The Annual WVFDA Advocacy Summit was held February 9-11, 2010 at the Marriott Hotel, Charleston. The abundance of snow created a travel problem for our members, but

the West Virginia Legislature was in Session and we had a good turnout of legislators for our Legislative Reception Wednesday evening. This gave us a great opportunity to talk one on one with those who make Legislative decisions.

Our members visited the Capitol Wednesday afternoon to view our West Virginia Legislature at work and visit with their legislators.

Mr. Richard Jeffery of the Federal OSHA office presented two hours of OSHA continuing education and the WVFDA Legislative Committee presented one hour of funeral service education Wednesday morning. Thursday morning Michael J. Watkins, CFSP, NFDA Senior Vice-President of Operations, presented three hours of funeral service education entitled "Standing Out in the Crowd." His presentation was interesting, informing, and offered information regarding "opportunities to set your business above the competition." Two hours of insurance education was presented by John McDowell Thursday afternoon.

Our Advocacy Summit (Midwinter Meeting) for 2011 is scheduled for February 8-10, 2011 at the Charleston Marriott Hotel. Please place this date on your calendar and plan to attend. The Senators and Delegates attending our Legislative Reception expect to see their Funeral Director from "back home." Our Legislative Reception and visits to the Capitol are of extreme importance to funeral service. Your attendance is needed and important to our efforts.

DISTRICT STRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Association President Susan Mace appointed an Ad-Hoc Committee to study and make recommendations on the purpose, structure, and alignment of our Districts due to a rising concern regarding the participation, involvement,

and lack of District activity.

The Committee held meetings in September and December, worked together and developed purpose, structure, boundaries, leadership development, and District Governor's job description. The new districts have been proposed and will be sent to the membership to be voted on at our Annual Convention, June 7-9, 2010 at Charleston.

Thanks to an excellent committee for a very, very good work product

PFDI HONORS BRENT PARKER

Preferred Funeral Directors International (PFDI) is a professional association of licensed funeral directors founded in 1937. Membership in PFDI is by invitation only, and thereby represents an elite selection of independently owned and family operated funeral businesses. Cunningham-Parker-Johnson funeral Home in Charleston has been a PFDI member since 1980.

Brent Parker was owner of the Cunningham-Parker-Johnson Funeral Home until his untimely death in July 2008. To honor Brent, PFDI created "The Parker," an award to be presented to the death care professional that best exemplifies Brent's humanitarian and professional spirit during the preceding year.

The inaugural recipient of "The Parker" was Tonya Johnson Parker, Brent's widow and business partner. Under tremendous pressure that would have caused many to give up, Tonya rallied her staff, and with the support and confidence of the Charleston community, has sustained Cunningham-Parker-Johnson Funeral home as a locally owned and family operated business.

Congratulations, Tonya, for being the first recipient of this much deserved award.

IN MEMORIAM

MARGARETE COCKRELL

Margarete Cockrell, 83 of Hurricane, WV passed away Sunday December 6, 2009.

She was the mother-in-law of Dale Windon, a Supplier member of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association.

The thoughts and prayers of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association are with the Cockrell Family.

LULA B. HIGGINBOTHAM

Lula B. Higginbotham, age 86, of Frankford died Monday January 4, 2010 in Greenbrier Manor, Fairlea, following a long illness.

Mrs. Higginbotham was the mother of William M. Higginbotham, president of Shanklin Funeral Home, a member of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association, WVFDA District III, and National Funeral Directors Association.

The thoughts and prayers of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association are with the Higginbotham family.

WILBERT "WORTIE" KITTLE

Wilbert "Wortie" Kittle, 63, passed away peacefully December 14, 2009 Ruby Memorial Hospital.

He was the father of T. Scott Kittle of Stemple & Forman Funeral Home, a member of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association,



National Funeral Directors Association, and WVFDA District V.

The thoughts and prayers of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association are with the Kittle Family.

BARBARA MELTON

Barbara Marie Cook Melton of the Cabell Heights Community died Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at the Raleigh General Hospital. She was 63 years of age.

Barbara was an employee of Melton Mortuary, Inc., a member of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association, WVFDA District III, and National Funeral Directors Association.

The thoughts and prayers of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association are with the Melton Family.

LUCY C. HATTEN ROLLINS

Lucy C. Hatten Rollins died Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at her home. She was born October 17, 1928.

Lucy was the owner and operator of Rollins Funeral Home, Inc. where she compassionately served her community for over 40 years. She was a member of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association, WVFDA District VII, and National Funeral Directors Association.

The thoughts and prayers of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association are with the Rollins Family.

VIRGINIA MITTENDORF SMELL

Virginia Mittendorf Smell, 96, of Meadowdale, passed away Monday, March 8, 2010 at the Windy Hill Village in Kingwood.

Mrs. Smell was the mother of Thomas W. Smell, owner of Browning Funeral Home, Kingwood, West Virginia, a member of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association, WVFDA District V, and National Funeral Directors Association.

The thoughts and prayers of the West Virginia Funeral Directors Association are with the Smell family.

NFDA PAST PRESIDENT HOGAN DIES

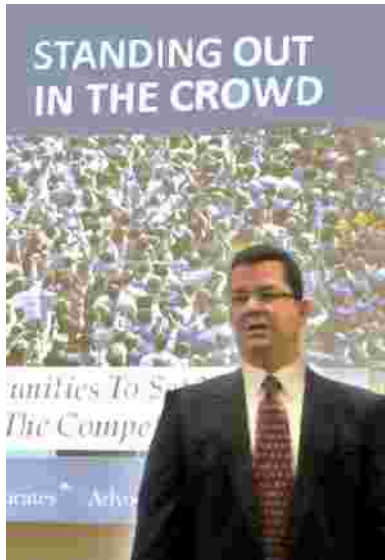
John J. (Jack) Hogan Jr., a lifelong resident and business leader in Flushing NY, passed away on Sunday January 25, 2010 at age 71. He grew up over the family business, the Fogarty Funeral Home, which he operated as its President from 1960.

Jack Hogan was highly respected in the funeral industry, holding various leadership positions in the Metropolitan, New York State and National Funeral Directors Associations, as well as being a founding member and eventual President of the Catholic Cemetery Guild, of the Brooklyn Dioceses. In 2006, Jack rose to the pinnacle of his profession by becoming the President of the National Funeral Directors Association. A position he served with pride and reverence.

Jack was the NFDA representative at our Annual Convention last year and captured the hearts of many of our members. He will be sadly missed.

WVFDA Mission Statement

WVFDA's mission is to serve its members and the public by furthering the profession of funeral service through enhanced educational opportunity, involvement in the public and private areas, and development of communications with its membership and all involved with the profession.



Advocacy Speaker, NFDA VP Watkins



WVFDA Members at District 2 & 3 Meeting



WVFDA Representatives visit Senator Rockefeller's Office



Executive Director Price and Delegate Greg Butcher



NFDA Banquet King John and Queen Alice



WVFDA Representatives at Washington D.C.



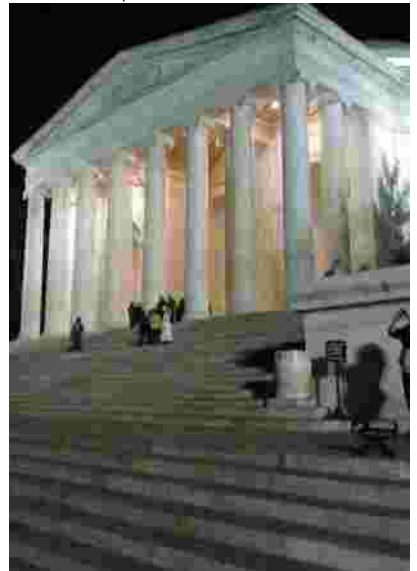
Our Nation's Capitol



Ira Handley, Roger Cooke, Congressman Mollohan, Susan Mace & John Reed



WVFDA Group with Congressman Rahall



The Lincoln Memorial



The Washington Monument



WVFDA Group with Congresswoman Capito

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All cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sales calls. You will be charged for these calls. To prevent this,, call 888-382-1222. It is the National DO NOT CALL list. It blocks your number for five (5) years. You must call from the cell phone number you want to have blocked. Should you continue to receive calls, you may file a complaint at www.donotcall.gov.

STATE AUTO ANNOUNCES DIVIDEND

The WVFDA endorsed State Auto Property/casualty Dividend Insurance Program has announced dividends for the July 1, 2009—December 31, 2009 dividend year.

This six month dividend percentage is 9%, which amounts to \$20,776.00 in dividends for an average of \$769.00 per participating member.

The next dividend year will be a full 12 months beginning January 1, 2010 and ending December 31, 2010

This program is only available to WVFDA members and access is only available through an independent agent representing State Auto.

To get in on the action and get started contact Phil Black at State Auto at 614-464-5331. (See additional contact information in the State Auto ad in this newsletter.)

COLUMIA UNIVERSITY PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS SURVEY

Funeral and allied professionals will play a significant role in a high fatality pandemic event. A high fatality pandemic will place enormous burdens on the death care and fu-

neral service profession as a whole, and an effective response to this, and any other large-scale emergency event, requires a well-prepared workforce. Yet the ability and intentions of individuals within the sector are largely unknown.

To that end, researchers from Columbia University are conducting a large, national, web-based survey to assess the pandemic preparedness of the sector. We ask you to please give a few minutes of your time to help with this important research by copying this link into your browser and completing the survey: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2BTovmQ2tMJiS3n8ND3S5g_3d_3d.

Please only complete the questionnaire one time and please feel free to circulate this to any of your colleagues in the industry to complete as well. The survey is entirely voluntary. If you have any additional questions about this survey, please contact Dr. Robyn Gershon at Rg405@columbia.edu or at 212-305-1186.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 20-22, 2010
Annual All Hazards Management Symposium
Tri-state Fire Academy
Huntington, WV
Contact: Robert B. Carpenter — 304-525-8121

May 5, 2010
WVFDA Board & Trust Board Meeting
Marriott Hotel
Charleston, WV

June 7-9, 2010
WVFDA 116th Annual Convention
Marriott Hotel
Charleston, WV

July 11-14, 2010
2010 NFDA Leadership Conference
Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Resort
Cambridge, MD

October 10-13, 2010
 129th NFDA Annual Convention & Expo
 New Orleans, LA

sition

Please send all inquiries to the Association of-
 fice.

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- Two (2) Firms seeking Licensed Funeral Director
- One (1) Person seeking Apprentice Position
- One (1) Individual seeking Licensed Po-

Telephone: 304-345-4711 or
 800-585-2351 (toll free in WV)
 Email: RPrice0851@aol.com

NOTE: Listings must be renewed every three months.

THANK YOU

We wish to thank those companies who have placed a business card advertisement in our newsletter. Your support of our Association is appreciated.

The cards published in this newsletter are those who have, as of the time of this newsletter going to print, purchased a business card advertisement in **WVFDA Fact Line**.

<p style="text-align: center;">WVFDA ANNUAL CONVENTION JUNE 7-9, 2010 CHARLESTON, WV COME! PARTICIPATE! ENJOY!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WVPFT ADMINISTRATOR PAUL VONSCHOELER ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS, INC. TELEPHONE: 800-486-1531 FAX: 800-469-0702 PVS@ADMINISTRATIVESYSTEMS.COM</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">PIERCE COMPANIES 4722 Bronze Way - Dallas, Texas 75236 (800) 527-6419 - Fax (214) 337-3658</p>  <p>DALE A. WINDON Sales Representative Home 1-304-736-3102 Fax 1-304-736-3953</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Poul Lemasters <i>Attorney, Funeral Director</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Lemasters</i> CONSULTING</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">Office: (513) 407 8114 Mobile: (513) 543 3549 142 Spyglass Court Cincinnati, OH 45238 Poul@LemastersConsulting.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Education • Litigation • Compliance • Pricing/Selling • Risk Management</i></p>



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