

ASSOCIATION OF EXECUTIVES OF FUNERAL SERVICE BOARDS

“REFLECTIONS FROM SAN ANTONIO”

March 26, 2008

If you missed the annual meeting of the Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards and the Association of Executives of Funeral Service Boards in San Antonio, you missed a great event. The program agenda's were full of great bits and pieces of information you could take back to your jurisdiction to ponder on or set your wheels in motion. I was impressed with the eagerness to share, listen and learn. Forums of this nature are difficult for regulators to find elsewhere. Thank you all for the enrichment.

The Association of Execs session was awesome. Apart from the excellent presentations, each jurisdiction had the opportunity to share a problem, ask a question, share a success or seek advise. Consultation at its finest! That gets to the root of our existence and the organizations purpose and objectives. I believe we have a solid foundation. With your continued interest and participation, our roots can reach out and touch all jurisdictions for the enhancement of consumer protection.

I plan to try a few new things in an effort to keep the organization engaged throughout the year. I'll keep you posted as things develop. I want to run them by the Executive Committee first (the officers). While I'm at it, I want to thank and congratulate that committee, Vice President Lynn Armstrong Patterson, District of Columbia and Secretary Ann Cunningham, Ohio. They're Super Troopers. The Blue Ribbon goes to Paul Harris (North Carolina) and Joe Richer (Ontario) for a super job this year and as usual, their dedicated support for our cause.

Next years agenda will be a work in progress with the hope of tailoring it to meet your needs and expectations. With that in mind, please e-mail me (dmcphee@dol.wa.gov) with topics or concerns you would like to see addressed at our next conference in Williamsburg, Virginia (February 2009) as well as “Round-Table Conference Calls” (that's a hint folks). It's your organization and your conference. I'll do my best to accommodate you.

It was a delight to see all of you this year. I love the networking. As for the new participants.....you're awesome! You jumped right in with both feet.

Warm Regards and thanks for your vote of confidence for the upcoming year.

Dennis A. McPhee, AEFBS President
State of Washington

