

***ASSOCIATION OF EXECUTIVES
OF
FUNERAL SERVICE BOARDS***

December 29, 2009

Hello regulatory colleagues! I hope your Christmas season went well and you are all gearing up for the coming new-year.

The Executive Committee has placed the final agenda for our annual meeting (February 25-26, 2010) on the AEFSB website. The meeting format from last year seemed to be quite popular with the membership, so we are using a similar format for this year's meeting.

The general state of the economy has impacted many of us. We face the new-year with budget shortfalls, cut backs, travel restrictions and the list goes on. In spite of the setbacks, I encourage each of you to do your best in trying to attend the 2010 annual meeting. We educate ourselves by learning how other jurisdictions conduct business, handle issues, or try a new approach to something. Please continue to share new trends, best practices and your ideas for our organization going forward, regardless of your ability to travel. You do make a difference.

You may have noted there were no roundtable conference calls this past year. The Executive Committee decided not to have the calls. I do believe we need to find other ways to stay engaged throughout the year. This is especially true when travel restrictions affect one's ability to travel to the annual meeting. I welcome any ideas you may have going forward.

Remember, this is your organization and your annual meeting. We benefit from what we invest in it.

Warm Regards and have a Happy New Year!

Dennis A. McPhee, AEFSB President
State of Washington