

## History of The Conference

The Conference had its beginning in 1903, when a group of state licensing boards came together in Denver to discuss their common problems in transporting bodies across state lines. In 1904 delegates convened for the second meeting of this organization at St. Louis and adopted the name "The Joint Conference of Embalmer's Examining Boards and State Boards of Health" and formally organized. In 1928 the organization began to consider the question of accrediting schools of Mortuary Science and Education and a system of grading schools was established.

By 1934, 27 states had adopted rules and regulations that applicants for licensure had to be graduates of Conference-approved schools. In 1930 The Conference established the first National Board Examination which was sent directly to State Boards for administration and grading. By 1932 an exam committee was established to grade the exams and report the results back to the respective state boards. In 1940 the organization's name was changed to "The Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards of the United States, Inc." In 1997 "International" was added to the name to reflect the Canadian membership.

## Contacting The Conference

The ICFSEB provides consulting services, seminars, and presentations to its constituent state regulatory boards at the request of the board as well as seminars for mortuary colleges. These presentations include use of examinations in licensure, evaluation of current practices, orientations for new board members about the Conference, services offered, item-writing workshops, etc.

Regulatory agencies and colleges of mortuary arts and sciences should contact the office of the executive director for additional information.

### The International Conference

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WHO WE ARE  
&  
WHAT WE DO



2007~2008

## Organization of The Conference

The ICFSEB is governed by a Board of Directors elected from nine districts throughout the U.S. and Canada. They are elected for three-year terms at the annual convention. Each year the board elects a president, vice president, and secretary-treasurer who serve as executive officers of The Conference.

President

**O. C. "Chet" Robbins**

Austin, Texas

Vice President

**Billie Watson Hughes**

Alexandria, Virginia

Secretary-Treasurer

**Lisa M. Moore**

Sacramento, California

Past President

**Jerry W. Griffin**

Liberty, Missouri

Director, District 1

**Robert N. Barnes**

Portland, Maine

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**Gerard "Skip" Mikell**

North Charleston, South Carolina

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**Joseph G. Richer**

Toronto, Ontario

Director, District 6

**Randal R. Bangert**

Lincoln, Nebraska

Director, District 8

**Kathy Nolan Mathews**

Longview, Washington

Director, District 9

ABFSE Representative

**Jacquelyn S. Taylor**

Newton, Massachusetts

## Mission of The Conference

The International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards is the premier source for examination services, information, and regulatory support to the death care profession.

### Mission Statement

*The International Conference is a not-for-profit voluntary association providing examination services, information, and regulatory support to funeral service licensing boards and educators, legislators and other regulatory agencies, and the public at large in various states, districts, provinces, jurisdictions, and internationally*



### Goals

The following related goals provide a foundation for the strategic planning process of the ICFSEB.

- 1: The Conference is known as the premier source within its areas of expertise.
- 2: The Conference is the examination services provider for the death care profession.
- 3: The Conference is the recognized information resource clearinghouse for the death care profession and the public.
- 4: The Conference is the regulatory support leader for the death care profession.
- 5: The Conference supports death care education.

## Services of The Conference

- ▶ Validated National Board Examination
- ▶ Practice National Board Examination
- ▶ Direct candidate certification of results
- ▶ Archiving of NBE results for applicants
- ▶ Comparative report on statistical analysis of the examination
- ▶ Quarterly newsletters
- ▶ Consultation services to regulatory boards
- ▶ Professional seminars and presentations
- ▶ Annual convention for regulatory board members, state executives, and mortuary college educators.
- ▶ Financial support of ABFSE

### State Services

- ▶ State board examinations, custom examinations, state laws, rules and regulations examinations
- ▶ Compilation of state regulations in licensing, continuing education, and pre-need
- ▶ Directory of regulatory boards and ABFSE-accredited colleges of mortuary arts and sciences
- ▶ Clearing house for the dissemination of information to regulatory licensing boards in areas of mutual concern in funeral service