

Arkansas Insurance Department

Asa Hutchinson
Governor



Allen Kerr
Commissioner

December 7, 2018

Via Certified Mail No. 7009 1680 0002 2607 8163 and First Class Mail

Ms. Crystal Bigelow
107 Sitton Place
Clinton, AR 72031

Re: In the Matter of Crystal Bigelow, Applicant for Apprentice Funeral Director and Embalmer, Respondent

Dear Ms. Bigelow:

Enclosed please find the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order in the above referenced case. Feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amanda Gibson", is written over a faint, larger signature.

Amanda Gibson
Associate Counsel
Legal Division

Enc.

**BEFORE THE STATE BOARD OF EMBALMERS, FUNERAL DIRECTORS,
CEMETERIES, AND BURIAL SERVICES**

**IN THE MATTER OF
Crystal Bigelow, Applicant for Apprentice
Funeral Director and Embalmer, Respondent**

Case No. 18-14

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER

A hearing on the above-referenced matter was held before the Arkansas State Board of Embalmers, Funeral Directors, Cemeteries, and Burial Services (the “Board”) on December 4, 2018, at the Arkansas Insurance Department, First Floor Hearing Room, 1200 W. 3rd St., Little Rock. The Respondent, Crystal Bigelow, appeared. Amanda Gibson, Associate Counsel at the Arkansas Insurance Department appeared on behalf of the Board. Finding proper notice was given to the Respondent, the Board, from all the evidence presented, issues the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is currently employed at Roller-McNutt Funeral Home in Clinton, AR.
2. On September 10, 2018, Respondent submitted an application for registration as an apprentice funeral director and apprentice embalmer.
3. On July 1, 2014, Respondent pled guilty to possession of a firearm by certain persons, terroristic threatening, false imprisonment, and endangering the welfare of a minor. These crimes are all felonies and stemmed from an incident that occurred in or around her home.
4. As a result, Respondent was sentenced to 120 months in prison but is now on parole after serving two years.
5. Respondent is currently on annual supervision, which means that she reports annually to her parole officer.

6. Respondent's parole will end in 2025 with the possibility of early release in 2020.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent's actions, as set forth in the Findings of Fact 3 and 4 above, constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-29-301(a)(8)(A), in that Respondent cannot pass the State Police criminal background check required of embalmers because of her felony convictions.

2. Respondent's actions, as set forth in the Findings of Fact 3 and 4 above, constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-29-302(a)(6)(A), in that Respondent cannot pass the State Police criminal background check required of funeral directors because of her felony convictions.

ORDER

Based upon the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing, the Board hereby orders that Respondent Crystal Bigelow's request to register as an Apprentice Funeral Director and an Apprentice Embalmer, notwithstanding her felony convictions, is **GRANTED**.

The Board further orders the Respondent to comply with the following conditions:

1. On an annual basis during the term of Respondent's parole, whether that extends to 2020 or until 2025, the Respondent shall submit to the Board, reports from her parole officer that confirm that she is meeting all conditions and requirements of her parole.

2. Respondent's apprenticeship registrations are further conditioned upon her continued compliance with all laws and rules governing her registrations, and with all conditions and requirements of her parole.

Pursuant to the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-212, the Respondent may petition for judicial review of this decision by filing a petition in the Circuit

Court of the county in which she resides or does business, or in the Circuit Court of Pulaski County, within thirty (30) days after service of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 4TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2018.

**STATE BOARD OF EMBALMERS,
FUNERAL DIRECTORS,
CEMETERIES, AND BURIAL
SERVICES**

By:



Amanda Gibson
Counsel for the Board