

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION
BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS
AND EMBALMERS,
PETITIONERS

IN THE MATTERS OF:

TODD W. LAUZON
License No. EMB 01151

T. LAUZON FUNERAL HOME, LLC
License No. FH 00140,
RESPONDENTS

SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Todd Lauzon (hereinafter "Respondents") is a licensed funeral director and embalmer pursuant to *R.I. Gen. Laws 5-33.2*, et seq.; and, T. Lauzon Funeral Home, LLC (hereinafter "Respondents") is a licensed funeral service establishment pursuant to *R.I. Gen. Laws 5-33.2*, et seq. The Department of Health received complaints concerning the professional activities of the Respondents. An investigation was undertaken concerning these complaints. The Following are the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law concerning the professional activities and licenses of the Respondents:

1. On various dates from June 30, 2010 to November 5, 2010 the Department of Health ("DOH") has received complaints and supporting documents alleging that the cremated remains of Decedent were buried in Precious Blood Cemetery in a plot owned by Decedent's father without the proper authorization or knowledge of the cemetery.

2. After multiple attempts by the DOH Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers ("Board") to obtain a written response to the complaint, the Respondent Todd Lauzon did not reply prompting an onsite inspection.
3. On or about October 29, 2010, an inspection of Respondent T. Lauzon Funeral Home was performed by DOH Investigators. An interview of the Respondent Todd Lauzon was conducted and he stated he buried the remains of Decedent in Precious Blood Cemetery on his own and did not inform the cemetery. Respondent also stated the Decedent had a pre-need contract for goods and services. Respondent produced the original unsigned contract for a funeral service and burial for one amount and also a second unsigned contract by the decedent for a cremation and burial for a lesser amount both dated April 8, 2008. Respondent stated he refunded the difference to decedent however he did not have proof of said refund.
4. On or about November 3, 2010, the Respondent submitted a written response in which he admitted he did not obtain the proper permit for the burial and apologized to the Board.
5. On or about November 9, 2010 DOH Investigators met with the Decedent's niece, who is also the executrix of the estate, to review the Cremation Order of the Decedent. Said niece stated she has never seen this Cremation Order and the signature on the Cremation Order was not her signature. Decedent never indicated a preference to be cremated.
6. Based upon the above information, the Respondents are allegedly in violation of *R.I. Gen. Laws 5-33.2*, et seq. in that the Respondents conducted a burial with

no cemetery authorization or permit to bury the remains in Precious Blood Cemetery and Decedent paid for a funeral and burial and was cremated without a funeral service.

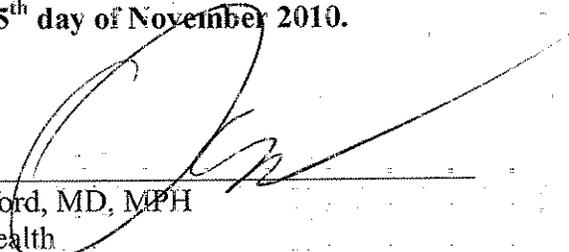
ORDER

THEREFORE, based upon the foregoing, the Director of Health has determined that the continuation of the license of **Todd Lauzon** as a licensed funeral director and embalmer constitutes an imminent threat to the health, welfare and safety of the public. Accordingly, the funeral director and embalmer license of Todd Lauzon is hereby **Suspended** forthwith pursuant to *R.I. Gen. Laws 42-35-14(c)*. This **Suspension** shall continue indefinitely pending further Order of the Department of Health.

Additionally, based upon the foregoing, the Director of Health has determined that the continuation of the license of **T. Lauzon Funeral Home, LLC** as a licensed funeral service establishment constitutes an imminent threat to the health, welfare and safety of the public. Accordingly, the funeral service establishment license of T. Lauzon Funeral Home, LLC is hereby **Suspended** forthwith pursuant to *R.I. Gen. Laws 42-35-14(c)*. This **Suspension** shall continue indefinitely pending further Order of the Department of Health.

The Respondents may request a hearing on this matter that will be scheduled within a reasonable time, if requested.

Signed this 15th day of November 2010.



David R. Gifford, MD, MPH
Director of Health

CERTIFICATION

I certify that I have hand-delivered the within **SUMMARY SUSPENSION** to, Todd Lauzon, and T. Lauzon Funeral Home, LLC, 185 Spring Street, Woonsocket, RI 02895 on this 15th day of November, 2010.