

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
EMBALMERS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

**IN THE MATTER OF
GREGORY STROTHER**

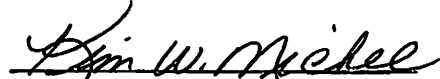
and the entity operating as

**WHITE OAKS FUNERAL
HOME, L.L.C.
OAKDALE, LOUISIANA**

FILED: December 10, 2025

**CONSOLIDATED
COMPLAINT NUMBERS:
24.25.0039 AND 24.25.0044**

**CONTEMPT MATTER:
24.25.0004**


CLERK

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND BOARD ORDER

The above-captioned matter was scheduled to come before the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors ("LSBEFD" or "Board") on October 8, 2025, for a formal administrative and contempt hearing pursuant to La. R.S. 37:840(A)(4) and La. R.S. 37:847. In lieu of a formal hearing, Gregory Strother and White Oaks Funeral Home (collectively referred to as "Respondent") submitted an Admission and Consent (attached hereto as Exhibit 1) for the Board's consideration.

APPEARANCES

The following were present for the presentation of the Admission and Consent:

BOARD MEMBERS: STEPHEN BOUDREAUX, ANNA WILBERT-BREAUX, WILLIE DAVIS, JR., TROY DENNARD, CHARLES JOSEPH "JOE" EAGAN, III, TERRY LUNEAU, AND KELLY RUSH SAVOY

KIM MICHEL, Executive Director, for and on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors; and

CARRIE L. JONES, General Counsel, for and on behalf of the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

After considering Admission and Consent along with the applicable law, the Board accepted the Findings of Facts and Conclusion of Law as presented in the Admission and Consent signed by the Respondent on October 7, 2025.

JURISDICTION

The Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors has jurisdiction over the Respondent(s) pursuant to LA R.S. 37:840, which grants the Board authority to enforce the provisions of the Embalming and Funeral Directors Practice Act.

Gregory Strother (#E-2031) is a licensed embalmer and funeral director, and, as such, he is subject to the jurisdiction of this Board.

White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. (2696) is a licensed funeral establishment, and, as Consolidated Complaint # 24.25.0039 and 24.25.0044 / Contempt #25.25.0004
LSBEFD Board Order

such, it is subject to the jurisdiction of this Board.

Gregory Strother and White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. further admitted and consented to the jurisdiction of the Board over these matters and acknowledged the Board's power and authority to accept and enter into such decree, and they further waived their appearances, and all requirements of notice in the Admission and Consent.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Gregory Strother is a licensed embalmer and funeral director in the State of Louisiana, holding License Number #E-2031.
2. White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. is a licensed funeral establishment in Louisiana, holding Establishment License Number #2696.

Case No. 24.25.0004 – Contempt

3. On January 13, 2025, Respondent was ordered to attend a show cause hearing on March 13, 2025, as to why Respondent failed to attend a preliminary conference noticed for January 14, 2025. (Case No. 24.25.0004)
4. On March 13, 2025, Respondent appeared for the contempt hearing, and the Board suspended White Oaks Funeral Home's establishment license for forty-five (45) days and ordered White Oaks Funeral Home to post a notice viewable to the public that the funeral establishment's license was suspended. The Board Order was memorialized in writing on March 20, 2025.
5. During the suspension period, on or around March 24, 2025, the Board Inspector inspected White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C.'s branch located at 6324 Masonic Drive, Alexandria, LA, and there was no signage or notice posted notifying the public that the funeral establishment's license was suspended, which was in direct violation of the Board Order.

Case No. 24.25.0039 – Administrative Charges

6. On March 18, 2025, in a separate and unrelated matter, a complaint was filed by Cynthia D. Bennett and Curtis W. Bennett alleging that they had not received burial policies or a refund after preplanning their funerals with Mr. Strother and paying a deposit of \$1,000.00. (Case No. 24.25.0039)
7. On or about March 25, 2025, Respondent was notified of the Bennetts' complaint and provided an opportunity to respond to the allegations in writing.
8. On April 10, 2025, Respondent submitted a written response, which included a copy of a cashier's check dated March 31, 2025, in the amount of \$1,000.00 refunding the Bennetts.

Case No. 24.25.0044 – Administrative Charges

9. On April 29, 2025, in a separate and unrelated matter, Donald Cutts and Gwendolyn Cutts filed a complaint alleging that funds for their prearranged funeral were not refunded upon request, and their contract was improperly handled, including being marked for cremation without their request. (Case No. 24.25.0044)
10. On or about May 2, 2025, Respondent was notified of the Cutts' complaint and provided an opportunity to respond to the allegations in writing.

11. On May 22, 2025, Respondent's wife, Kimberly Strother (U-2031), submitted a written response on behalf of Respondent acknowledging the issue and indicated that funds were being appropriated for a refund.
12. On August 15, 2025, after the matter was set for hearing, Respondent issued a cashier's check to Gwendolyn Cutts in the amount of \$6,175.00.

Cases Consolidated for Hearing

13. The Bennetts and Cutts' complaints were consolidated and set for an administrative hearing on August 7, 2025. (Case No. 24.25.0039 and 24.25.0044)
14. Respondent was also scheduled for a contempt hearing on August 7, 2025, for failing to post a notice viewable to the public that the funeral establishment's license was suspended in violation of the March 2025 Board Order. (Case No. 24.25.0004) Respondent failed to appear on August 7, 2025, and the consolidated administrative hearing and the contempt hearing were reset for October 8, 2025.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:846(A)(5) by engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by failing to abide by the Board Order issued on March 13, 2025.
2. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:846(A)(5) by engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by failing to return the money paid to White Oaks Funeral Home for the preneed funeral contracts of Donald Cutts and Gwendolyn Cutts within a reasonable time after the family requested return of the funds.
3. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:846(A)(5) by engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by failing to return subsequent calls to Donald Cutts and Gwendolyn Cutts regarding the status of their preneed funeral contracts and for misrepresenting to the Cutts that Respondent was sending a refund check within the week, when Gregory Strother knew the company was not sending a refund check to Donald Cutts and Gwendolyn Cutts.
4. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:846(A)(5) unprofessional and unethical conduct by failing to prepare a written preneed funeral contract that conformed with LA R.S. 37:862 at the request of Cynthia Bennett.
5. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:846(A)(5) unprofessional and unethical conduct by failing to prepare a written preneed funeral contract that conformed with LA R.S. 37:862 at the request of Curtis Bennett.
6. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:846(A)(5) unprofessional and unethical conduct by failing to correctly fill out and complete the White Oaks Funeral Home Before Need Cremation/Burial Benefits form in accordance with LA R.S. 37:862(A)(4) and (A)(5) and by failing to properly complete the preneed funeral contract in accordance with the disposition request

of Donald Cutts.

7. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:846(A)(5) unprofessional and unethical conduct by failing to correctly fill out and complete the White Oaks Funeral Home Before Need Cremation/Burial Benefits form in accordance with LA R.S. 37:862(A)(4) and (A)(5) and by failing to properly complete the preneed funeral contract in accordance with the disposition request of Gwendolyn Cutts.
8. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:846(A)(5) by engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by leading Cynthia and Curtin Bennett to believe that they had entered into a preneed funeral contracts and that the funds that they gave to Gregory Strother for their preneed funeral arrangements were placed in a prearranged funeral insurance policy when Respondent knew or should have known that the funds were not placed in a prearranged funeral insurance policy.
9. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:846(A)(5) by engaging in unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct by leading Donald Cutts and Gwendolyn Cutts to believe that they had entered into preneed funeral contracts and that the funds that they gave to Gregory Strother for their preneed funeral arrangements were placed in a prearranged funeral insurance policy when Respondent knew or should have known that the funds were not placed in a prearranged funeral insurance policy.
10. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(B)(2) when Respondent failed to deposit Cynthia Bennett's five hundred dollars (\$500.00) preneed payment into a preneed insurance policy or annuity.
11. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(B)(2) when Respondent failed to deposit Curtis Bennett's five hundred dollars (\$500.00) preneed payment into a preneed insurance policy or annuity.
12. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(B)(2) when Respondent failed to deposit Donald Cutts' three thousand, eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$3,087.50) preneed payment into a preneed insurance policy or annuity.
13. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(B)(2) when Respondent failed to deposit Gwendolyn Cutts' three thousand, eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$3,087.50) preneed payment into a preneed insurance policy or annuity.
14. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(B)(1) when Respondent failed to deposit Cynthia Bennett's five hundred dollars (\$500.00) preneed payment into a funeral trust account.
15. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(B)(1) when Respondent failed to deposit Curtis Bennett's five hundred dollars (\$500.00) preneed payment into a funeral trust account.

16. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(B)(1) when Respondent failed to deposit Donald Cutts's three thousand, eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$3,087.50) preneed payment into a funeral trust account.
17. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(B)(1) when Respondent failed to deposit Gwendolyn Cutts's three thousand, eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$3,087.50) preneed payment into a funeral trust account.
18. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(D) for failing to file an annual report of funeral trust accounts with the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors on behalf of Cynthia Bennett for the years of 2023 and 2024.
19. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(D) for failing to file an annual report of funeral trust accounts with the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors on behalf of Curtis Bennett for the years of 2023 and 2024.
20. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(D) for failing to file an annual report of funeral trust accounts with the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors on behalf of Donald Cutts for the years of 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.
21. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865 (D) for failing to file an annual report of funeral trust accounts with the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors on behalf of Gwendolyn Cutts for the years of 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.
22. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(E) for having access to or use of the five hundred dollars (\$500.00) deposit belonging to Cynthia Bennett contrary to law, which requires money received for preneed funeral contracts to be placed in an insurance policy, an annuity, or a trust account which can only be accessed or used for the purposes expressly provided for in LA R.S. 37:865(E).
23. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(E) for having access to or use of the five hundred dollars (\$500.00) deposit belonging to Curtis Bennett contrary to law, which requires money received for preneed funeral contracts to be placed in an insurance policy, an annuity, or a trust account which can only be accessed or used for the purposes expressly provided for in LA R.S. 37:865(E).
24. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(E) for having access to or use of the three thousand, eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$3,087.50) deposit belonging to Donald Cutts contrary to law, which requires money received for preneed funeral contracts to be placed in an insurance policy, an annuity, or a trust account which can only be accessed or used for the purposes expressly provided for in LA R.S. 37:865(E).

25. Gregory Strother, owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. violated LA R.S. 37:865(E) for having access to or use of the three thousand, eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$3,087.50) deposit belonging to Gwendolyn Cutts contrary to law, which requires money received for preneed funeral contracts to be placed in an insurance policy, an annuity, or a trust account which can only be accessed or used for the purposes expressly provided for in LA R.S. 37:865(E).

The Respondent(s) admitted their responsibility as owner, manager, and registered agent of the entity operating as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C., and as White Oaks Funeral Home, L.L.C. for violating the following provisions:

- **LA R.S. 37:846(A)(5) (Unprofessional, Unethical, or Dishonest Conduct)**
 - Failing to Abide by a Board Order;
 - Failing to prepare a written Preneed Funeral Contract for Cynthia D. Bennett Pursuant to LA R.S. 37:862(A)(4) and (A)(5);
 - Failing to prepare a written Preneed Funeral Contract for Curtis W. Bennett Pursuant to LA R.S. 37:862(A)(4) and (A)(5);
 - Falsely Misleading Cynthia D. Bennett and Curtis W. Bennett to believe that they had entered into a Preneed Funeral Contract;
 - Failing to Return Deposits to Donald Cutts and Gwendolyn Cutts Within a Reasonable Time;
 - Failing to Return Subsequent Phone Calls and Misrepresenting the Truth to Donald Cutts and Gwendolyn Cutts;
 - Failing to Correctly Fill Out and Complete the Written Preneed Funeral Contract for Donald Cutts Pursuant to LA R.S. 37:862(A)(4) and (A)(5);
 - Failing to Properly Complete the Preneed Funeral Contract in Accordance With the Disposition Request of Donald Cutts;
 - Failing to Correctly Fill Out and Complete the Written Preneed Funeral Contract for Gwendolyn Cutts Pursuant to LA R.S. 37:862(A)(4) and (A)(5);
 - Failing to Properly Complete the Preneed Funeral Contract in Accordance With the Disposition Request of Gwendolyn Cutts; and
 - Falsely Misleading Donald Cutts and Gwendolyn Cutts to believe that they had entered into a Preneed Funeral Contract;

- **LA R.S. 37:865(B)(2) (Restrictions on Use or Disposition of Funds)**
 - Failing to Deposit Cynthia Bennett's Funds into a Preneed Insurance Policy or Annuity;
 - Failing to Deposit Curtis Bennett's Funds into a Preneed Insurance Policy or Annuity;
 - Failing to Deposit Donald Cutts's Funds into a Preneed Insurance Policy or Annuity;
 - Failing to Deposit Gwendolyn Cutts's Funds into a Preneed Insurance Policy or Annuity;

- **LA R.S. 37:865(B)(1) (Restrictions on Use or Disposition of Funds)**
 - Failing to Deposit Cynthia Bennett's Funds into a Funeral Trust Account;
 - Failing to Deposit Curtis Bennett's Funds into a Funeral Trust Account;
 - Failing to Deposit Donald Cutts's Funds into a Funeral Trust Account;
 - Failing to Deposit Gwendolyn Cutts's Funds into a Funeral Trust Account;

- **LA R.S. 37:865(D) (Restrictions on Use or Disposition of Funds)**
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Cynthia Bennett in 2023;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Cynthia Bennett in 2024;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Curtin Bennett in 2023;

- Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Curtin Bennett in 2024;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Donald Cutts in 2020;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Donald Cutts in 2021;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Donald Cutts in 2022;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Donald Cutts in 2023;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Donald Cutts in 2024;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Gwendolyn Cutts in 2020;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Gwendolyn Cutts in 2021;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Gwendolyn Cutts in 2022;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Gwendolyn Cutts in 2023;
 - Failing to File an Annual Report of Funeral Trust Account with the LSBEFD on behalf of Gwendolyn Cutts in 2024;
- LA R.S. 37:865(E) (Restrictions on Use or Disposition of Funds)
 - Having Access and Use of Cynthia Bennett's Preneed Funds Contrary to Law;
 - Having Access and Use of Curtis Bennett's Preneed Funds Contrary to Law
 - Having Access and Use of Donald Cutts' Preneed Funds Contrary to Law;
 - Having Access and Use of Gwendolyn Cutts' Preneed Funds Contrary to Law.

BOARD ORDER

After consideration of the Admission and Consent in lieu of a hearing on October 8, 2025, and upon motion, the LSBEFD affirmed, by a majority vote of those present and not recused, the following Order:

IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED the Admission and Consent submitted by White Oaks Funeral Home and Gregory Strother (collectively referred to as Respondent) is hereby accepted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Respondent is fined a total of \$1,800 for violating La. R.S. 37:846(A)(5) (unprofessional, unethical, or dishonest conduct) – 11 counts.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Respondent is fined a total of \$4,500 for violating La. R.S. 37:865(B)(2) (restrictions on use or disposition of funds) – 4 counts of failing to deposit funds into a preneed insurance policy.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Respondent is fined a total of \$4,500 for violating La. R.S. 37:865(B)(1) (restrictions on use or disposition of funds) – 4 counts of failing to deposit funds into a funeral trust account.

Consolidated Complaint # 24.25.0039 and 24.25.0044 / Contempt #25.25.0004
LSBEFD Board Order

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Respondent is fined a total of \$4,500 for violating La. R.S. 37:865(D) (restrictions on use or disposition of funds) – 14 counts of failing to file annual report of funeral trust account with the LSBEFD.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Respondent is fined a total of \$4,500 for violating La. R.S. 37:865(B) (restrictions on use or disposition of funds) – 4 counts of having access and use of personnel funds contrary to law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Respondent be assessed all attorney fees associated with this Admission and Consent and for the preparation of this Board Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the combined fine (\$19,800) and attorney fees (\$26,846.95) assessed against Respondent total \$46,646.95. Said fine and attorney fees shall be paid in full within 45 days of issuance of the Board Order and failure to pay shall result in the automatic suspension of the establishment's license for a minimum of sixty (60) days and the license shall not be reinstated until the fine and fees are paid in full.

- General Counsel, Carrie L. Jones in the amount \$11,310.00; and
- Prosecuting Attorney, Chanel Robinson Debose, in the amount \$15,536.95.

BY ORDER OF THE LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
EMBALMERS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS


EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Metairie, Louisiana
Order rendered on October 8, 2025, and memorialized in writing on December 10, 2025.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On December 10, 2025, I served a true copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Board Order on Gregory Strother in his individual capacity and as agent of the entity operating as WHITE OAKS FUNERAL HOME, L.L.C., OAKDALE, LOUISIANA

**GREGORY STROTHER
WHITE OAKS FUNERAL HOME, L.L.C.
OAKDALE, LOUISIANA
P.O. Box 776**

Oakdale, LA 71463

Via prioritymail


Kim Michel, LSBEFD Executive Director