

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

**IN THE MATTER OF  
Paradise Funeral Home of Arkansas,  
Board ID # 24943,  
And Stephanie Westbrook, a licensed  
Funeral Director and Manager, Board ID #23962,  
Respondents**

Case No. 20-02

**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 August 18, 2020, in the Diamond Mine on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Department of Commerce building, located at 1 Commerce Way, Little Rock, AR 72202. Respondents Paradise Funeral Home, represented by Derrick Blake, and Stephanie Westbrook appeared. Amanda Gibson, Associate Counsel at the Arkansas Insurance Department, appeared on behalf of the Board. Finding proper notice was given to the Respondents, the Board, from all the evidence presented, issues the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Respondent funeral home (“Paradise”) is licensed as a Type A establishment.
2. The late Cedric Wilson (“Wilson”) was not licensed by this Board. At all times relevant hereto, Wilson was employed by Paradise.
3. Respondent Stephanie Westbrook (“Westbrook”) was the manager of record for Paradise.
4. The Complainant in this matter is Latoya Davidson, the sister of the decedent.

5. In the days after the death of the decedent, Wilson contacted the Complainant seeking for her to use Paradise to handle the services.
6. Complainant alleges that Wilson told her that he owns and runs a funeral home.
7. Complainant alleges that she advised Wilson that she intended to use the services of another funeral home.
8. Wilson then stated that the owner of the funeral home Complainant had planned to use no longer had his own funeral home. Wilson stated that he also was working for another funeral home in the area (Helena).
9. Wilson further stated to the Complainant that the funeral home she planned to use was “no good” and that their “prices are too high”.
10. The Complainant and her family ultimately chose another funeral home to handle the services.
11. Respondent Westbrook’s response to the complaint contained a statement that she had no knowledge of the events leading up to the filing of the complaint.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Respondent Westbrook’s supervision of Wilson was adequate, and her actions did not violate Board Rule IV.2(f).
2. Respondent Paradise Funeral Home, as Wilson’s employer, was responsible for its employees’ actions, but there were no actions on the part of the funeral home that violated Ark. Code Ann. § 17-29-311(a)(4).

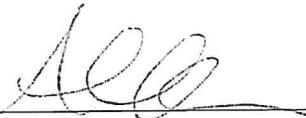
**ORDER**

Based upon the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing, the Board hereby orders that the charges in the Notice of Public Hearing are hereby **DISMISSED**.

**IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2020.**

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

By:



---

Amanda Gibson  
Counsel for the Board