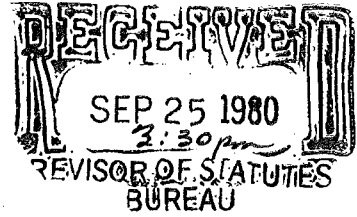


HSS 136

CERTIFICATE



STATE OF WISCONSIN)
)
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES)

I, Donald E. Percy, Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services and custodian of the official records of said department do hereby certify that the annexed rules relating to minimum embalming standards were duly approved and adopted by this department on September 25, 1980.

I further certify that said copy has been compared by me with the original on file in this department and that the same is a true copy thereof, and of the whole of such original.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the department at the State Office Building, 1 W. Wilson St., in the city of Madison, this 25th day of SEPTEMBER, A.D. 1980.

SEAL:

Donald E. Percy, Secretary
Department of Health and Social Services

Print. eff. date 12-1-80

ORDER OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ADOPTING RULES

Relating to rules concerning minimum embalming standards.

Analysis prepared by the Department of Regulation and Licensing.

These rules, interpreting section 155.01, Wis. Stats., establish minimum standards for embalming. Embalming is required under certain conditions specified in Chapters H 17 and 18 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code and requested in the majority of funerals for the purpose of disinfection and preservation of dead human bodies. The proposed rules define procedures that would ensure proper disinfection and preservation when embalming is required or requested.

Minimum embalming standards provide a basis for the Funeral Directors and Embalmers Examining Board, which is delegated authority by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services to enforce rules promulgated by the department under Chapter 155 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to take appropriate disciplinary action on complaints alleging incompetent practice or unprofessional conduct with respect to embalming practices and procedures.

Licensees currently perform embalming procedures similar or identical to those proposed. They would not incur any additional expense in terms of supplies, equipment, or advanced training to comply with the rules; therefore, it may be assumed that it will result in no direct or indirect increase in cost for services provided by licensed embalmers to the public.

ORDER

Now therefore it is ordered that pursuant to authority vested in the Department of Health and Social Services by sections 155.01 and 227.014(2), Wis. Stats., the department hereby adopts rules interpreting section 155.01, Wis. Stats., as follows:

Chapter HSS 136 of the Wisconsin administrative code is created to read:

CHAPTER HSS 136

EMBALMING STANDARDS

HSS 136.01 Minimum Embalming Standards. Rules in this chapter establish minimum standards for embalming dead human bodies.

HSS 136.02 Definitions. (1) "Embalming" means the use of procedures specified in this chapter for the preservation and disinfection of dead human bodies.

(2) "Embalming fluid" means a chemical solution injected in arteries, and placed in body cavities, to preserve and disinfect a dead human body.

(3) "Autopsy compound" means an absorbent powder or gel dessicant used to preserve, disinfect and harden body organs after autopsy or the remains of a dead human body in the state of advanced decomposition.

HSS 136.03 License Required. (1) No person may embalm a dead human body unless the person holds an embalmer's license and a current certificate of registration issued by the Funeral Directors and Embalmers Examining Board, pursuant to s. 445.05, Stats.

(2) Embalming may only be performed in:

- (a) Funeral establishments holding a license and a current certificate of registration issued by the Funeral Directors and Embalmers Examining Board;
- (b) Hospitals;
- (c) Facilities approved by a local medical examiner or coroner if a disaster occurs; or
- (d) Private homes as provided in H 17.11, Wis. Adm. Code.

HSS 136.04 Preparation of Bodies Prior to Embalming. Prior to embalming, or prior to public viewing or final disposition of the body if embalming is not performed, the embalmer shall:

- (1) Remove and return all clothing not in need of disinfection;
- (2) Disinfect and sanitize, as needed, any soiled clothing before returning it;
- (3) Wash the entire body thoroughly with a germicidal soap or detergent; and
- (4) Clean body orifices and treat with a topical disinfectant.

HSS 136.05 Embalming Procedures. In every embalming, the embalmer shall perform at least the following procedures:

- (1) Arterial Injection
 - (a) For each 50 pounds of body weight, at least one gallon of arterial embalming fluid shall be injected into the arteries of the body. The embalming fluid should be diluted to the percentage of concentration recommended by the manufacturer of the embalming fluid.
 - (b) Multiple injection sites shall be used if arterial circulation is impaired by:
 - 1. arterial blockage
 - 2. trauma
 - 3. autopsy procedures
- (2) Treatment of Body Cavities. The embalmer shall treat body cavities by:
 - (a) Removing liquids and semi-solids contained in the body by aspiration;

- (b) Injecting in body cavities at least 8 ounces of concentrated cavity chemicals for each 50 pounds of body weight except that no more than 32 ounces must be injected for body weight in excess of 200 pounds; and
- (c) Repeating cavity treatment if distension or purging occurs after reaspiration.

(3) Treatment After Autopsy. The embalmer shall treat bodies after autopsy by:

- (a) Hypodermically injecting embalming fluid into areas where the arterial system has been destroyed by autopsy procedures;
- (b) Removing the visceral contents placed in the body after autopsy and immersing the contents in concentrated cavity chemicals or other accepted embalming chemicals for at least one hour; and
- (c) Applying an autopsy compound to the visceral contents following replacement of the contents in the body.

HSS 136.06 Treatment for Advanced Decomposition. Bodies in a state of advanced decomposition shall be embalmed according to procedures specified in HSS 136.05 unless the degree of decomposition prevents use of those procedures in which case the embalmer shall:

(1) Cover the body in cotton saturated with liquid disinfectant, disinfectant gel or powder; and

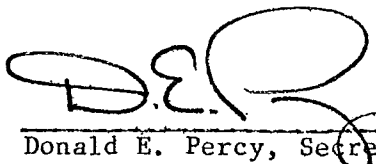
(2) Place the body in an impermeable disaster or body pouch and completely seal the pouch.

HSS 136.07 Partial Embalming. If only partial embalming is requested, the body shall be prepared as specified in HSS 136.04 and only procedures authorized by next of kin or other designated persons may be performed.

The rule adoption contained in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin administrative register, pursuant to s. 227.026, Wis. Stats.

Dated: **Sept. 25, 1980**

Wisconsin Department of
Health and Social Services


Donald E. Percy, Secretary

Seal



State of Wisconsin \

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
1 WEST WILSON STREET
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53702

September 25, 1980

Mr. Orlan Prestegard
Revisor of Statutes
411 West, State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear Mr. Prestegard:

As provided in section 227.023, Wis. Stats., there is hereby submitted a certified copy of HSS 136 relating to minimum embalming standards.

This rule is being submitted to the Secretary of State as required by section 227.023, Wis. Stats.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.E. Percy".

Donald E. Percy
SECRETARY

Enclosure