

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE FUNERAL DIRECTORS EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :

: FINAL DECISION & ORDER  
: ADOPTING STIPULATION  
: 93 FDR 038

CRAIG W. STILSON,  
RESPONDENT. :

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The parties to this action for the purpose of Wis. Stats., 227.53 are:

Craig W. Stilson  
24475 W. Reservation Line Road, #26  
Curtice, Ohio 43412

Funeral Directors Examining Board  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

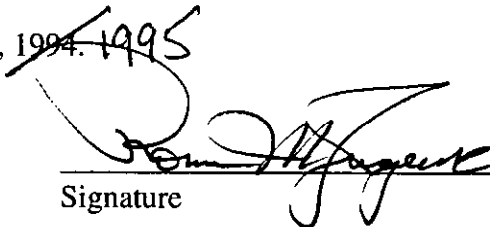
The State of Wisconsin, Funeral Directors Examining Board, having considered the Stipulation Agreement annexed hereto of the parties, in resolution of the captioned-matter, makes the following:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED pursuant to jurisdiction and authority granted to the Board, that the Stipulation Agreement annexed hereto, filed by Complainant's attorney, shall be and hereby is incorporated, made and ordered the Final Decision and Order of the State of Wisconsin Funeral Directors Examining Board.

Let a copy of this Order be served on Respondent by Certified Mail.

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, ~~1994~~ 1995

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE FUNERAL DIRECTORS EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :  
 :  
CRAIG W. STILSON, : STIPULATION  
RESPONDENT. : 93 FDR 038

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Respondent Craig W. Stilson (Stilson), and Complainant's Attorney Henry E. Sanders, Division of Enforcement, having reached agreement for disposition of the captioned-matter, hereby stipulate and agree as follows:

1. This Stipulation shall be submitted to the Funeral Directors Examining Board (Board) for approval and disposition of the matter. If the terms of the Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, then the parties shall not be bound by any of the provisions of the Stipulation.

a. This Stipulation is dispositive of Investigative Complaint file #93 FDR 038.

2. Respondent has been advised of his right to a public hearing on each and every allegation of the complaint, but hereby freely and voluntarily waives his right to a hearing in this matter on the condition that all provisions of this Stipulation be acceptable to and approved by the Board.

a. Respondent further agrees to waive any appeal of the Board's Final Decision and Order adopting the Stipulation Agreement.

3. Respondent Stilson, presently of 24475 W. Reservation Line Road, #26, Curtice, Ohio 43412, was at all time material to the complaint, licensed as a Funeral Director, under the provisions of ch. 445, Wis. Stats., and had been so licensed since March 18, 1993.

a. Respondent's present licensure status is that of an inactive Wisconsin licensee, and he possesses a "Certificate in Good Standing."

4. On September 2, 1993, in Circuit Court, Branch II, Grant County -- Wisconsin, Case #93 CR 193, Respondent was found guilty, pursuant to his No Contest plea, to theft, in violation of secs. 943.20(1)(a) & (3)(a), Wis. Stats., Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

5. That attached hereto as Exhibit "B" is a certified copy of the Criminal Complaint pursuant to which Respondent pled "No Contest," and was found guilty.

6. Based upon the above enumerated conviction, Respondent has violated sec. FDE 3.02(1), Wis. Adm. Code, violating . . . any state or federal law substantially related to the practice of funeral directing.

7. Based upon the above and in settlement of this matter, Respondent hereby consents, accepts and agrees to be suspended for a period of thirty (30) days, and to pay to the Department the amount of \$100.00 as part assessment of costs in resolving this matter. The \$100.00 shall be by cashier's check or money order and made payable to the Department of Regulation and Licensing.

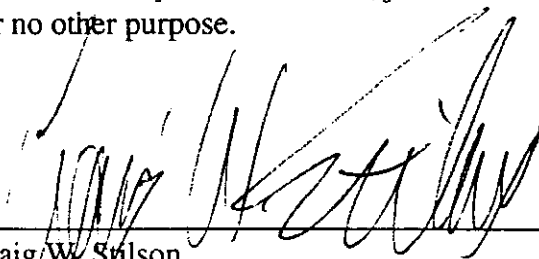
8. Since Respondent presently possess a "Certificate in Good Standing," inactive license, a hold will be placed upon his right to renew and if he should ever apply for renewal, prior to granting renewal to Respondent, he shall first serve the thirty (30) days suspension and pay the \$100.00 part assessment of costs to the Department.

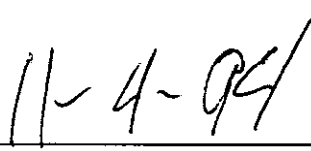
9. As basis in mitigation and for acceptance of this Stipulation, the Board is advised that at the time of the above mentioned offense (04/07/93), Respondent had only been licensed since March 18, 1993, was 25 years of age (D.O.B. 06/16/67), had recently been let go from a previous-employer/funeral establishment, had only recently become employed with his employer where the theft occurred, and had little or no money to pay his daily living expenses of rent, student loan(s), life and car insurances, bank loan, visa card bill, and car related expenses.

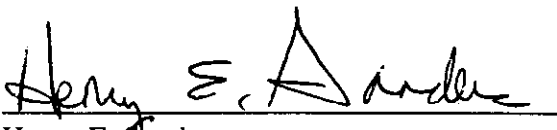
10. If and when Respondent shall reapply for renewal, and the suspension commences, on or before the effective date of suspension, he shall submit all copies of his licenses/certificates to the department, which renewed licenses/certificates shall be returned to him at the end of his ordered suspension period, and he shall be allowed to commence funeral directing without further notice, if he otherwise qualifies for renewal.

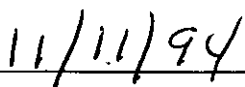
11. Respondent agrees that this Stipulation Agreement may be incorporated into the Board's Final Decision and Order adopting the Stipulation Agreement.

12. Respondent further agrees that Complainant's Attorney Sanders, may appear at any closed deliberative meeting of the Board with respect to this Stipulation, but that appearance is limited solely to clarification, justification and to statements in support of the Stipulation and for no other purpose.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Craig W. Stilson  
Respondent

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Henry E. Sanders  
Complainant's Attorney

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

HES:djm  
DOEATTY-glg636.doc

State of Wisconsin, Plaintiff -vs- Craig Stilson, Defendant 6/16/67 <small>Defendant's Date of Birth</small>	<b>TYPE OF CONVICTION (Select One)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence to Wisconsin State Prisons <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sentence Withheld, Probation Ordered <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence Imposed & Stayed, Probation Ordered  <b>COURT CASE NUMBER</b> . 93CR193
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The defendant entered plea(s) of:  Guilty  Not Guilty  No Contest

The  Court  Jury found the defendant guilty of the following crime(s):

CRIME(S)	WIS STATUTE(S) VIOLATED	FELONY OR MISDEMEANOR (F OR M)	CLASS (A-E)	DATE(S) CRIME COMMITTED
Theft	943.20(1)(a)&(3)(a), 939.51(3)(a)	M	A	4/7/93

IT IS ADJUDGED that the defendant is convicted on 9/2/93 as found guilty and:

- on \_\_\_\_\_ is sentenced to prison for \_\_\_\_\_
- on \_\_\_\_\_ is sentenced to intensive sanctions for \_\_\_\_\_
- on \_\_\_\_\_ is sentenced to county jail/HOC for \_\_\_\_\_
- on 9/2/93 is placed on probation for a period of 18 months

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

FILED

SEP 7 1993

DIANE PERKINS, Clerk  
GRANT COUNTY, WIS

**CONDITIONS OF SENTENCE/PROBATION**

Obligations: (Total amounts only)

<b>Fine</b> <small>(Includes jail assessments; drug assessments; penalty assessments)</small>	\$ _____
<b>Court costs</b> <small>(Includes service fees; witness fees; restitution surcharge; domestic abuse fees; subpoena fees; automation fees)</small>	\$ 20.00
<b>Attorney fees</b>	\$ TBD
<b>Restitution</b>	\$ 35.00
<b>Other</b> TRI-STATE CRIME STOPPERS	\$ 200.00
<b>Mandatory victim/witness surcharge(s)</b>	
felony _____ counts	\$ _____
misdemeanor <u>1</u> counts	\$ 30.00

**Jail:** To be incarcerated in the county jail/HOC for 10 days county jail work release

**Confinement Order:** For Intensive Sanctions sentence only - length of term: \_\_\_\_\_

**Miscellaneous** 50 hours of community service  
Restitution to be made within 1 week  
Def. to be fingerprinted.

IT IS ADJUDGED that \_\_\_\_\_ days sentence credit are due pursuant to s. 973.155 Wis. Stats. and shall be credited if on probation and it is revoked.

IT IS ORDERED that the Sheriff shall deliver the defendant into the custody of the Department located in the City of \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF JUDGE	Hon. Geo. S. Curry
DISTRICT ATTORNEY	Anthony Pozorski
DEFENSE ATTORNEY	Adrienne Borisy

BY THE COURT:

*Geo. S. Curry*  
Circuit Court Judge/Clerk/Deputy Clerk  
Sept 7, 1993

Date Signed

STATE OF WISCONSIN,

Plaintiff,

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

vs.

CRAIG W. STILSON,  
237 1/2 South Madison Street  
Lancaster, Wisconsin 53813  
D.O.B. 6/16/67

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT No. 93 CR 193  
FILED  
93-0193  
APR 30 1993

Defendant *Jim H. ...* Clerk  
GRANT COUNTY, WIS.

James Kopp, being first duly sworn, on oath, says that as he is informed and verily believes that on April 7, 1993, in the City of Platteville, Grant County, Wisconsin, the defendant did unlawfully take and carry away movable property of another without the consent of the owner and with the intent to permanently deprive the owner of possession of the property, to-wit: the defendant was working for the Bonin-Bendorf Funeral Home and while working the wake of Elizabeth Langkamp, the defendant stole the memorial money, which upon a finding of guilt would subject the defendant to a fine not to exceed \$10,000.00, imprisonment not to exceed nine (9) months, or both such fine and imprisonment, contrary to Sections 943.20 (1)(a) and (3)(a) and 939.51 (3)(a), Wisconsin Statutes, and prays that said defendant be dealt with according to law; and that the basis for the complainant's charge of such offense is:

Complainant is a duly authorized, appointed, and acting deputy sheriff for the Grant County Sheriff's Department. Complainant states that he obtained a written statement from Craig Stilson, the defendant named in this complaint. Complainant is informed by the defendant that on Friday, April 8, 1993, at 12:20 p.m., Deputy Jim Kopp came to the Bendorf Funeral Home in Platteville and met with him. Complainant is informed by the defendant that Deputy Kopp advised him that he was investigating some missing money from the memorials from the Langkamp funeral and he would like to talk to the defendant. Complainant is informed by the defendant that Deputy Kopp advised the defendant that he was not under arrest and that he could get up and leave at any time and he also told the defendant that the defendant did not have to talk to him unless he wanted to. Complainant is informed by the defendant that he gave the statement to Deputy Kopp of his own free will, that no one promised him anything or threatened him in any way except that whatever he told Deputy Kopp today he would not be arrested today and that if he is charged that he would be charged at a later time and that the defendant would not have to go with Deputy Kopp today and that after the interview was over he could leave and go wherever he wanted. Complainant is informed by the defendant that on April 7, 1993, he came to work at the Bendorf Funeral Home in

*EXHIBIT 'B'*

the City of Platteville, Grant County, Wisconsin, at 8:00 a.m. Complainant is informed by the defendant that Ed and the defendant did some preparation on a couple of the bodies that they had in the funeral home and they got everything ready at the home for the funeral taking place at the home. Complainant is informed by the defendant that at around 11:30 a.m. to noon they took Mrs. Langkamp and everything up to the church and they then set everything up at the church for the wake. Complainant is informed by the defendant that the family showed up around 1:00 p.m. and they rearranged the photographs and the trophies the way they wanted them. Complainant is informed by the defendant that visitation started and from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. it was a pretty steady flow of people and then from about 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. it slowed down. Complainant is informed by the defendant that at about 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Vic Johnson arrived and relieved him to go to supper. Complainant is informed by the defendant that he then returned to the funeral home to help Ed because he was busy with the Abing wake. Complainant is informed by the defendant that at the Langkamp wake they used a plexiglass memorial box with a lock and there is a key that is kept in the wicker basket below the table that the memorial box was sitting on. Complainant is informed by the defendant that the table was draped with a cloth. Complainant is informed by the defendant that he left the funeral home and went with his girlfriend and went to the Pizza Hut for supper and arrived back at the church (the wake was being held at St. Mary's Church in Platteville) at about 7:10 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. Complainant is informed by the defendant that when he got back to the church Vic told him that he had emptied the memorial box because it was getting full and he also told the defendant to keep an eye on this kid, a boy about 10 years old, he had black hair cut like in a butch and pointed him out to the defendant. Complainant is informed by the defendant that Vic told him that the kid was walking around the table and he was always looking at the blue bag that the memorials had been put into after they had been taken out of the locked box. Complainant is informed by the defendant that the kid was wearing gray pants with pockets on, white and black high top tennis shoes, and a gray sweatshirt. Complainant is informed by the defendant that he stood there for a while and then the family came over and asked the defendant some questions and the defendant went up by the altar and answered their questions and then he went and helped them clean some things up in the cry room in the back of the church. Complainant is informed by the defendant that there were a couple of times that he stepped outside and talked to Tom Kuhn who is the pastoral assistant at the church.

Complainant is informed by the defendant that they then had the Scripture wake and then everything was being put together for the family and either Ed or Nolan came up and helped get all of the trophies loaded up and the flowers all against the back wall. Complainant is informed by the defendant that during this time the defendant emptied the memorial box and the defendant laid everything on the table and separated the cards, the cards brought in by the visitors and the memorial cards. Complainant is informed

by the defendant that they took the ones out of the sack and then they straightened them and either Ed or Nolan put rubber bands around the stack of about a handful each. Complainant is informed by the defendant that the envelopes in the bag had already been straightened and had rubber bands around. Complainant is informed by the defendant that after this was done the cards and the memorials were given either to Bernice's husband or son.

Complainant is informed by the defendant that at one time during the wake the defendant emptied the memorial box and put them on the table. Complainant is informed by the defendant that he put them in piles and put rubber bands around them. Complainant is informed by the defendant that one of the bundles that the defendant made was smaller than the others and he put all the memorial envelopes in the blue bag to be given to the family except for the bundle that the complainant had made smaller than the rest and this stack of memorial envelopes he put in his pocket. Complainant is informed by the defendant that he did not have permission to take the money from either Ed Bendorf or from the family of the deceased. Complainant is informed by the defendant that the reason he took the money was because he got laid off from the Metcalfe-Kuenster-Page Funeral Home in February and he has been having problems financially. Complainant is informed by the defendant that Ed Bendorf did offer him some money but he told him that he didn't need any because he felt uncomfortable about taking money from him other than his paycheck.

Complainant is informed by the defendant that he went home that night and opened the memorials and he got \$80.00 in cash out of the envelopes and the next morning he walked over to the dumpster next to the Pit Stop in Lancaster and threw the envelopes in the dumpster. Complainant is informed by the defendant that he was going to use the money to pay his rent. Complainant is informed by the defendant that he turned \$55.00 over to Deputy Kopp at this time and that he will write a check out to Bernice Broihahn for the remaining \$25.00.

Complainant is familiar with the St. Mary's Church at which the above described wake was held and knows that it is located in the City of Platteville, Grant County, Wisconsin. Complainant states that Bernice Broihahn was the daughter of Elizabeth Langkamp. Complainant states that Elizabeth Langkamp was the deceased person for whom the wake was being conducted on April 7, 1993, at St. Mary's Church in the City of Platteville, Grant County, Wisconsin.

  
James Kopp, Complainant

Subscribed and sworn to before  
me this 30th day of April, 1993.

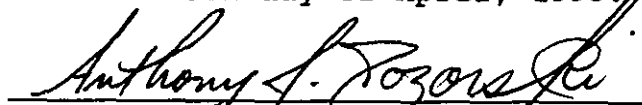
  
Anthony J. Pozorski, Asst. District Attorney

EXHIBIT "B"



Approved for filing

Anthony J. Pozorski  
Anthony J. Pozorski, Asst. District Attorney

jr

State of Wisconsin  
County of Grant

This document, having been compared by me, as legal custodian, with the original on file and recorded in my office, is a true copy of said original.

Dated November 16, 1993

Diane Perkins

DIANE PERKINS, Clerk of Circuit Court  
in and for Grant County, Wisconsin

By \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY CLERK

Exhibit 'B'

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## NOTICE OF APPEAL INFORMATION

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### Notice Of Rights For Rehearing Or Judicial Review, The Times Allowed For Each. And The Identification Of The Party To Be Named As Respondent.

**Serve Petition for Rehearing or Judicial Review on:**

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN FUNERAL DIRECTORS EXAMINING BOARD.

1400 East Washington Avenue  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708.

**The Date of Mailing this Decision is:**

JANUARY 25, 1995.

#### 1. REHEARING

Any person aggrieved by this order may file a written petition for rehearing within 20 days after service of this order, as provided in sec. 227.49 of the *Wisconsin Statutes*, a copy of which is reprinted on side two of this sheet. The 20 day period commences the day of personal service or mailing of this decision. (The date of mailing this decision is shown above.)

A petition for rehearing should name as respondent and be filed with the party identified in the box above.

A petition for rehearing is not a prerequisite for appeal or review.

#### 2. JUDICIAL REVIEW.

Any person aggrieved by this decision may petition for judicial review as specified in sec. 227.53, *Wisconsin Statutes* a copy of which is reprinted on side two of this sheet. By law, a petition for review must be filed in circuit court and should name as the respondent the party listed in the box above. A copy of the petition for judicial review should be served upon the party listed in the box above.

A petition must be filed within 30 days after service of this decision if there is no petition for rehearing, or within 30 days after service of the order finally disposing of a petition for rehearing, or within 30 days after the final disposition by operation of law of any petition for rehearing.

The 30-day period for serving and filing a petition commences on the day after personal service or mailing of the decision by the agency, or the day after the final disposition by operation of the law of any petition for rehearing. (The date of mailing this decision is shown above.)