

MINUTES
CONNECTICUT AUTOMOTIVE GLASS WORK AND
FLAT GLASS WORK BOARD
165 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106

MARCH 4, 2005

The Connecticut Automotive Glass Work and Flat Glass Work Examining Board held a regular Board Meeting on Friday, March 4, 2005 commencing at 9:36 a.m. in Room 126 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106.

Board Members present:	Edward J. Fusco (Flat Glass Work Journeyman) Mary E. Grabowski (Public Member) Kurt L. Muller (Auto Glass Work Contractor) Robert Steben (Auto/Flat Glass Work Contractor) John A. Wisniewski (Auto Glass Work Contractor)
Board Members not present:	Douglas Howard (Public member) Carl Von Dassel (Auto/Flat Glass Work Contractor)
Board Vacancies:	Unlimited Auto Glass Work Journeyman Public Member
Board Counsel:	Not Present
DCP Staff Present:	Richard M. Hurlburt, Director, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division Robert M. Kuzmich, License and Applications Specialist Gregory F. Carver, Investigator
Others Present:	Steven Palmer, Windshield Doctors Diane Palmer, Windshield Doctors Charles Cumpston, AGRR Magazine Mark Komaromi, IUPAT District Council 11 Valerie Stolfi, Connecticut Glass Dealers Association Glen Moses, Safelite Auto Glass Kevin McMahon, Connecticut Glass Dealers Association Mike Martone, Safelite Auto Glass Len Altizio, Super Glass

Charlie Eisenhofer, Glass Repair Specialist
Jeff Casey, Mr. Glass

Note: The administrative functions of this Board are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information, call Director Richard M. Hurlburt, Director at (860) 713-6135.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

1. The Automotive Glass Work and Flat Glass Work Examining Board Meeting was called to order at 9:36a.m. by Chairman Edward Fusco.

2. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

After a review of the minutes of the December 17, 2004 regular Board meeting by all members, *the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the draft of the minutes as submitted. (Grabowski/Wisniewski)*

3. COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY:

Mr. Moses commented that although he was not present at the last meeting, he noted that a statement was made about Safelite and their “team of lawyers” meeting with the Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection. He stated that Jim Napoli spoke and said that was not the case but Mr. Napoli’s response was not noted in the minutes. Mr. Wisniewski stated that Ms. Grabowski had requested a meeting, on behalf of the Board, with the Commissioner to discuss windshield repair and they were not granted this opportunity and yet Safelite was able to meet with the Commissioner. Mr. Wisniewski noted that he mentioned “Mr. Moses and a team of lawyers” relative to this meeting with the Commissioner at the last Board meeting and noted that Mr. Napoli stated that Mr. Moses was not in the meeting. Mr. Moses stated that glass magazines published Mr. Wisniewski statement.

Mr. Michael Martone who represents Safelite’s lobbyists clarified this matter and stated that it was Safelite’s lobbyists who, in fact, meet with the Commissioner. Board members Muller, Steben, and Grabowski all noted for the record that it is very unfair that others were granted a meeting with the Commissioner and this Board was not.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

A.) Continuation of Discussion on AUTOMOTIVE GLASS STANDARDS OF PRACTICE DRAFT – amended July 10, 2003 and FLAT GLASS STANDARDS OF PRACTICE DRAFT – amended June 25, 2003. Mr. Kuzmich advised the Board that this item is on

every agenda as an “on-going work in progress” and that the Board does not necessarily need to discuss this item at today’s meeting. The Board did not discuss this item further.

B.) Letter dated January 4, 2005 from Kevin McMahon, Education Chairman, Connecticut Glass Dealers Association concerning the *Ironworkers Union Training Program*. Mr. Fusco thanked Mr. McMahon for the letter and his concern. He noted that this letter raises many concerns.

5. REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Article from *US Glass, Metal & Glazing’s* January 2005 publication concerning flat glass licensing. Mr. Hurlburt noted that he recently spoke with Mr. Reilly regarding unrelated millwright issues and that the *Ironworkers* never got back in touch with him and never sent any applications back to the Department. Further, he noted that Mr. Reilly is not present at today’s meeting much to his surprise. Mr. Fusco speculates that the *Ironworkers* are using this time to amend their material to be submitted to the Board.

Mr. Hurlburt reviewed the curriculum issues relating to the *Ironworkers Program* for Mr. Wisniewski and other Board members. He noted that there are approximately 93 applications pending that were returned to Mr. Reilly for resubmission with more detailed documentation relating to education and work experience in the flat glass field. Mr. Fusco noted that the primary concern is that their curriculum and apprenticeship program are not consistent with the *Flat Glass Standards of Practice*.

Mr. Hurlburt noted that this item should be taken off the agenda after today’s meeting because the Department has not heard from the Union. He stated this is a “dead issue”. He clarified further for Mr. Wisniewski that there are a group of approximately ninety applications that are potentially eligible for “grandfathering” providing that the applications are substantiated with the proper documentation. Mr. Hurlburt noted that these applications in questions were submitted without any documentation and only a check. He also noted that when the Union claims to be teaching the full curriculum in accordance with the *Standards of Practice*, applicants following this curriculum will not be applying, theoretically, for at least three years from the date this curriculum went into effect. Ms. Grabowski questioned how long these applicants have to complete their applications. Mr. Hurlburt noted that he will check the law but stated that these applicants may have to take the appropriate examination.

B. Article from *OMAHA.COM.com* printed January 26, 2005 concerning Insurers’ control over repair jobs. This information was presented to the Board for their information and was acknowledged by them.

C. Advertisement from *The National Auto Glass Boycott Center* concerning the National Auto Glass Boycott Center. This information was presented to the Board for their information and was acknowledged by them.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Letter from Mr. Michael Sepelak, dated February 27, 2005, to Mr. Richard Hurlburt; Mr. Fusco questions whether this issue should be with the Board or with his employer. Mr. Sepelak's issue concerns getting credit for 13 months of previous employment with the Waterbury Glass Company. Mr. Hurlburt explained that Mr. Sepelak's employer needs to get Mr. Sepelak registered as an apprentice and set up a program with the apprentice training representative when he comes to his place of employment. The representative will then evaluate all his past education and on the job experience and give credit as appropriate. Mr. Hurlburt also noted that if Mr. Sepelak catches up with his related classroom instruction, perhaps the apprentice training representative will credit his prior 13 months of unregistered time.

Ms. Stolfi explained that this applicant is now enrolled in the *Connecticut Glass Dealers Apprenticeship Training Program* and stated the *Connecticut Department of Labor* has since ruled that his time earned prior to enrollment in a program will not be counted. She further noted that an apprenticeship program did not exist at the time this applicant worked with the Waterbury Glass Company. She also noted, as an aside, that she has many individuals in the same situation.

Mr. Hurlburt noted an option that other Boards sometimes use. The applicant can first complete all his school related school instruction and then apply directly to the Board for consideration of their previous unregistered time. Ms. Stolfi emphasized that this applicant is not looking to shortcut the required 6000 hours of on the job training and just wants credit for the 13 months of unregistered time that he previously worked. There is a possibility that he will receive some credit for his trade school instruction towards the required school related instruction.

In conclusion, Ms. Stolfi will ask this applicant to document his past experience and hold this until he completes his 144 hours of school related instruction and then reapply to the Board for consideration. The Board also discussed, as an aside, the need to emphasize to employers to register their apprentices so they do not lose time towards getting their license.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

A.) A member of the public raised the issue concerning Insurance Companies and the need to communicate to them that only licensed individuals can perform auto glass work. She noted lists that insurance companies use a list of contractors for purposes of referring work and stated that this list should now be comprised of only licensed individuals. Mr. Hurlburt noted that the law states violations will go against anyone who employs unlicensed personnel, engages unlicensed people for work, or supplies unlicensed individuals for work. Therefore, if insurance companies are supplying unlicensed individuals, then they stand in violation of the law. Mr. Moses stated that in many cases when companies sign up with various networks, the agreement they sign to do so, in its

language, covers the provider in that it requires these service people to be fully compliant with all applicable laws. The Board discussed the possibility of sending written notice from the Department to insurance companies and other associated parties informing them of the requirements of the law.

There being no further business, *the meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.*
(Grabowski/Muller; unanimous)

NEXT MEETING DATE; JUNE 24, 2005
STATE OFFICE BUILDING
165 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

TIME: 9:30 AM; ROOM 126

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A.
License and Applications Specialist