

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

**APRIL 27, 2007**

The Connecticut Automotive Glass Work and Flat Glass Work Examining Board held a regular Board Meeting on Friday, April 27, 2007 commencing at 9:26 AM in Room 117 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106.

Board Members present: Edward J. Fusco (*Unlimited Journeyperson-Flat Glass Work*)  
Jennifer Russell-Vanasse (*Unlimited Contractor-Flat Glass Work*)  
Carl Von Dassel (*Unlimited Contractor-Flat Glass Work*)

Board Members not present: Robert Steben (*Unlimited Contractor-Auto Glass Work*)  
John A. Wisniewski (*General Contractor-Auto Glass Work*)

Board Vacancies: *Unlimited Journeyperson-Auto Glass Work*  
*Three (3) Public Members*

Board Counsel: Not present as requested.

DCP Staff Present: Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A., License and Applications Specialist  
Janita Hamel, Inspector Supervisor  
Robert Nakano, Supervising Special Investigator  
Linda Roberts, Executive Assistant  
Jerry Padula, Legislative & Administrative Advisor  
Jim McCann, Staff Attorney

Others Present:

Glenn Moses, Safelite Auto Glass  
David Rosenberg, Safelite Auto Glass  
Valerie Stolfi, Connecticut Glass Dealers  
Association  
Edwin DeLeon, AG-2 Applicant  
John Pereira, III, FG-2 Applicant  
Dennis Gruell, Community Economic  
Development Fund  
Richard S. Groh  
Dennis McCarthy

**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:**

The Automotive Glass Work and Flat Glass Work Examining Board Meeting was called to order at 9:26 AM by Chairman Edward J. Fusco.

**2. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

After a review of the minutes of the January 26, 2007 regular Board meeting by all members, *the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the draft of the minutes as submitted. (Russell-Vanasse/Von Dassel)*

**3. COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY:**

A. Appearance before the Board by Joseph A. LaPorte concerning examination for Glaziers. It was noted by Mr. Fusco that Mr. LaPorte was not present at today's meeting

**4. OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Update regarding presentation by the National Glass Association of their On-Line and Correspondence Courses. It was noted that a presentation from Mr.

David Walker from the National Glass Company will take place at the Board's August 24, 2007 regular meeting.

## 5. REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Press Release, dated February 6, 2007, from D'leteren regarding Acquisition by Belron of Safelite in the USA. The Board acknowledged receipt of this material.

B. Seminar Schedule for the upcoming Independent Glass Association's Spring Auto Glass Show to be held May 17-19, 2007 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Board acknowledged receipt of this material.

C. Letter from Mr. Jerry P. Padula, Esq., Department of Consumer Protection, dated December 8, 2006, to Mr. Jack M. Guerrero concerning Shortening the Apprenticeship "Pending Period". The Board acknowledged receipt of this material.

D. Information from the Department, as of 01-25-07, concerning State Apprentices and Apprenticeships. The Board acknowledged receipt of this material.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Application of Mr. Edwin Deleon, Jr. for an Automotive Glass Journeyman license; for review and discussion by the Board. The members of the Board thoroughly reviewed Mr. Deleon's application for an AG-2 license. Mr. Kuzmich reviewed the current apprenticeship requirements for this license type. It was noted that the applicant has a background in plate glass and is now experienced in automotive glass work. *After some brief discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Deleon to sit for the Automotive Glass Journeyman's examination. (Russell-Vanasse/Von Dassel)*

B. Application of Mr. John Pereira, III for a Flat Glass Journeyman license; for review and discussion by the Board. Mr. Pereira noted that he owned a glass shop in Massachusetts and then moved it to Connecticut and found out that he needs to be licensed. He has ten years experience in Massachusetts in the flat glass trade. The Board noted that he really needs an FG-1 Examination because he is an Owner. Ms. Vanasse stated that any employees that he hires must also be either licensed as journeymen or enrolled in a State Apprenticeship Program. Other Board members further explained the details of starting an

apprenticeship program. Mr. Kuzmich noted that the Board can consider his experience and training as a substitute for an Apprenticeship Program; 6000 hours of on-the-job training and 432 hours of related classroom instruction. The Contractor Examination is a two part exam; technical and business and law.

Mr. Gruell, from the Community Economic Development Fund, explained that his role was to assist Mr. Pereira in purchasing his business. Mr. Pereira explained that his business comprises mirror installation in new residences for contractors and does window and door repair in both residential and commercial applications. Mr. McCarthy, speaking as Mr. Pereira's former employer, stated that he trained Mr. Pereira from the beginning and that when he left his employ, he had all the experience needed to supervise other employees. He stated that the Mr. Pereira is one of the top five employees he ever had and was extremely proficient at customer service and code knowledge. He stressed that he wouldn't be here today if Mr. Pereira wasn't such a great employee.

Ms. Vanasse explained that normally the process for an applicant is that they hold an FG-2 Journeyman license for two years and then they can sit for the FG-1 Examination which is both a technical and business examination. She noted that this process protects the employer from having someone they trained immediately go out and open their own glass shop. The Board also advised the applicant of available reference material he can use to prepare for the test.

*After careful consideration, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve Mr. Pereira to sit for the FG-1 Contractor Examination for flat glass work. (Von Dassel/Russell-Vanasse)*

It was noted that since his application type is being changed to an FG-1 Contractor, he owes an additional \$30.00 towards his application fee.

C. Update from Consumer Protection's Trade Practices Division regarding any Automotive Glass Work and Flat Glass Work Examining Board matters. Ms. Janita Hamel Supervising Inspector, presented the Board with a Case Detail Report from her Division documenting complaints related to this Board over the last year. She noted that Mr. Gregory Carver, former investigator with the Department has left and Mr. Keith Lombardi will be his replacement assigned to this Board for glass work related complaints. She noted the other investigators with the Department are Jack Korduner, Ray Fuoco, and another inspector who is out on medical leave and his status with the Department is unsure at this time.

Ms. Hamel briefly reviewed some of the Department's recent complaints that are now closed. She explained to the Board her history with the Department and its changes in workforce numbers over the years. She explained what an Assurance

of Voluntary Compliance is, its historical development, and how it became used by the Department.

In response to a question from Mr. Fusco, Ms. Hamel stated that the public can access complaint information on the Department's website also noting that at present, they are updating the website and as such, consumers are experiencing some temporary problems using it.

Mr. Nakano noted that some of the inspectors associated with this Board were not a part of the Trade Practices Division. It was only within the last two years that these people were reincorporated back into this Division. At the time they came back, they lacked support staff and information was not logged into the computer database in a timely manner. Times have since changed and Department procedures are now up-to-speed.

Ms. Hamel explained the Department hierarchy noting that the Division Director is Richard Maloney followed by Supervising Investigator Robert Nakano, then Ms. Hamel followed by the investigators.

D. Legislative update from Consumer Protection's Legal Division regarding any Automotive Glass Work and Flat Glass Work Examining Board issues. Mr. Jerry Padula introduced himself to the Board as the Department's Legislative Liaison and introduced new Department Attorney Jim McCann. Mr. Padula spoke of two new bills in the legislature that relate to this Board. Bill No. 1304 transfers motor vehicle appraisers to Consumer Protection. At present, he advised the Board that this Bill probably will not proceed but may come up again in the future. Bill No. 739 (renamed File 217) which prohibits automotive insurance professionals and appraisers from requiring that the customer use a specific person and/or shop for damage repair work to their vehicle. At present, the Bill has moved from the Transportation Committee to the Senate Floor.

Raised Bill No. 101 has been renamed File No. 227 and involves automotive appraisers to include notice with the appraisal that the customer has the right to choose the license repair shop. Shops themselves will also be required to display this notice to their customers as well as personal insurance cards.

Mr. Padula discussed three bills that will effect the enforcement of the Department's licensing laws. Two of these will most likely die because the concentration has been on one of the Bills. This Bill No. is 6983 and its intent is to address unlicensed practitioners and give "more teeth" to the statutes mirroring the home improvement and new home construction laws. At this point, the Bill looks like it will pass even though it met with some opposition from some of the trade boards. This was so because the Commissioner and not the Board would

have authority over these new criminal sanctions. One reason for this is to prevent respondents from incriminating themselves at Board Hearings if they have criminal charges pending. The second reason is because Boards meet infrequently and this Bill helps to prevent situations where the unlicensed individuals complete the work and leave the State before the complaint comes before the Board. Consolidating this power under the Commissioner speeds up this process dramatically. Mr. McCann noted his background as a criminal trial attorney and explained, in detail, the benefits of this Bill to the consumer.

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS:**

A. Application of Mr. Pedro Carballo for an Automotive Glass Flat Glass Contractor's License; It was noted by Mr. Kuzmich that this application was received on this past Wednesday from Mr. Carballo, in-person, which is why it does not appear on the agenda. His work experience credentials were reviewed, in part by questions from Mr. Fusco. It was determined that the applicant is opening a new business and he hopes to have his brother working for him in the future. His brother is previously working in New York State for an auto glass contractor and has approximately eighteen years experience. The Board reminded Mr. Carballo of the rules for apprenticeship training and the subsequent licensing process.

*After careful consideration by the Board and more detailed discussion, they voted unanimously, to approve Mr. Carballo to sit for the Automotive Glass Contractor's Examination (AG-1). (Von Dassel/Russell-Vanasse)*

It was noted by the Board that this is a difficult two part examination and that he needs to study hard. Mr. Kuzmich advised the applicant that part of the examination pertaining to Contractor Business and Law is open book. Mr. Fusco, again, cautioned Mr. Carballo to properly register and future employees otherwise he will be back before this Board again.

B. Ms. Linda Roberts introduced herself to the Board as the Commissioner's Executive Assistant. She noted that she has been assigned to oversee Department Finance, Personnel, and act as Board liaison between the Commissioners Office and the Boards and Commissions that fall under the auspices of his Office. She hopes that any Board member with any agency problems or otherwise please come to here for resolutions. She is also working on getting Board and Commission vacancies filled and also noted that there will be some tutorial sessions for Board members in the future regarding procedural aspects of their duties as a Board and on general ethics.

*There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45AM. (Von Dassel/Russell-Vanasse)*

**NEXT MEETING DATE; AUGUST 24, 2007 9:30 AM**

**STATE OFFICE BUILDING  
165 CAPITOL AVENUE, RM. 117  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT**

**TIME: 9:30 AM; ROOM 117**

Respectfully Submitted,

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