

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

**JANUARY 26, 2007**

The Connecticut Automotive Glass Work and Flat Glass Work Examining Board held a regular Board Meeting on Friday, January 26, 2007 commencing at 9:31 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*)  
John A. Wisniewski (*General Contractor-Auto Glass Work*)

Board Members not present: Robert Steben (*Unlimited 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  
Richard M. Hurlburt, Director

Others Present: Glenn Moses, Safelite Auto Glass  
David Rosenberg, Safelite Auto Glass  
Valerie Stolfi, Connecticut Glass Dealers Association

Robert J. Fortin, AG-3 Applicant  
Michael D. Micalizzi, FG-1 Applicant

**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 9:31 AM by Chairman Edward J. Fusco.

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

After a review of the minutes of the October 27, 2006 regular Board meeting by all members, *the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the draft of the minutes as submitted. (Von Dassel/Russell-Vanasse)*

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

No items were addressed under this agenda Item.

**4. OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Concluding discussions concerning Board's approval of NGA's On-Line and Correspondence Courses. Ms. Vanasse stated that she has in her possession today CD's of NGA's complete on-line training program for both automotive and flat glass and asked the Board on their final disposition. Mr. Hurlburt advised that the Department keep this information in its possession.

Mr. Wisniewski questioned the enormous cost encumbered by apprentices of purchasing, individually, the NGA on-line courses from *myglassclass.com*. as a non-member of the NGA. It was noted that companies can pay dues and have their employees use the NGA curriculum. Memberships in the NGA can be both individual or company memberships. NGA proportions dues for companies based on their size and annual sales starting at a minimum of \$175.00 per year.

Mr. Wisniewski noted that even at membership prices, the individual cost is still very expensive. Mr. Moses noted that the NGA prices for members and non-members are designed towards promoting membership in their organization. Mr. Moses noted that these on-line courses are without a proctor, teacher, or anyone to verify and questioned whether an individual is really absorbing anything from these courses.

*Mr. Hurlburt suggested that the NGA come before the Board and do a presentation addressing security issues, monitoring of students, etc. associated with their on-line training program. Mr. Kuzmich will contact the National Glass Association and request that they make a presentation to the Board at an upcoming regular meeting.*

## 5. REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Information from Auto Glass University concerning their online training course. It was noted that this information was received by the Department unsolicited and that the material is not complete and just a course outline. Mr. Hurlburt noted that the Board needs copies of the full curriculum. The material states that the course can be made available to the Department for a number of days by means of on-line access and that there is no bound format for the course. Mr. Hurlburt noted that this method would not allow for approval by the Board. If a complaint is received in the future about the program, the Department needs a record copy in their possession to address such matters.

*The Board tabled further discussion on this item pending a complete course submission by the provider. (Wisniewski/Russell-Vanasse).*

B. Copy of Hartford Courant Article, dated October 28, 2006, concerning State Licensing Laws for glass work. Mr. Fusco asked if the Trade Practices Division can be represented at the next meeting to update the Board regarding the status of their investigations pertaining to specific companies Mr. Fusco mentioned. Mr. Kuzmich will notify Mr. Rick Maloney, Director of this Division, and ask that he or a representative of his staff come to the next Board meeting in April.

C. Information from the Department concerning State Apprentices and Apprenticeships. Mr. Fusco acknowledged this information and reviewed the statistics with Board members.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Application of Mr. Robert J. Fortin for Temporary Limited Auto Glass Repair Contractor (AG-3); for review and discussion by the Board. Mr. Fortin explained that he owns a vinyl repair franchise and has been working this State since 1999. He has also done glass repair since this time also and utilizes the *GlasWeld* System. He explained his training background with this company and distributed information to the Board relative to this. It was noted that there is presently is no testing required for this license category.

*After brief discussion, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve Mr. Fortin's application for a Temporary Limited Repair Contractor license (AG-3). (Russell-Vanasse/Von Dassel)*

B. Application of Mr. Michael D. Micalizzi for an Unlimited Contractor's License for Flat Glass Work (FG-1); for review and discussion by the Board. Mr. Micalizzi explained that he underwent cancer treatment in 2001 and worked for himself in a business unrelated to glass work until he adequately recovered. At that time, he discovered he needed to be licensed in the glass field to continue work in the same which he had been doing since 1984. Mr. Micalizzi has worked for *Custom Glass* in Milford, Connecticut for the past year.

The Board reviewed his documented work experience. It was noted by the Board this applicant is applying for his license on the basis of his past medical hardship and equivalent experience and training and that if approved, an examination would still be required. After, brief discussion, the Board recommended that Mr. Micalizzi study the NGA study material since this is the study guide for the test. It was also noted that this applicant also needs to pass a business and law examination since he is applying for a contractor's license. *As such, the Board voted unanimously, to approve Mr. Micalizzi's application for an Unlimited Contractor's License for Flat Glass Work (FG-1) thereby allowing him to sit for this examination. (Russell-Vanasse/Von Dassel).*

Mr. Micalizzi asked the Board for advice on applying for his AG-1 license. In response the Board asked Mr. Hurlburt for advice on waiving the 144 hour related classroom instruction. He advised the Board that they have discretion in consideration of this requirement. He also noted that based upon research done over many years, Boards have considered as a "safe harbor", the ten year benchmark of hands on work experience as justification for admittance to the licensing examination without the related classroom instruction. The logic being that the person would not have remained gainfully employed for that long if they were not "worth their salt".

Mr. Fusco advised Mr. Micalizzi and applicants from Safelite, as represented by Mr. Moses and Mr. Rosenberg, that they should furnish the Board with the information, as instructed on the first page on the trade application, with regards to equivalent training and experience and their applications will be considered. Also the ten year benchmark, as discussed, is another option for the Board to consider an alternate to a completed apprenticeship program. Mr. Von Dassel emphasized to all that applicants are considered on a case-by-case basis.

C. Mr. Hurlburt questioned who would install solar panels in substitution for glass panels on the side of a building? Mr. Fusco stated that his union would do this work and that it would be bid under the Glass and Glazing Section of the specifications. Mr. Hurlburt explained that the legislature has before them a bill that would allow the lifting and hoisting of solar panels to be done by other appropriately qualified people eliminating the need for these people to get a solar electric license. These trade people would assist under the supervision of a licensed solar contractor. It was noted that Mr. Hurlburt created and drafted this bill and noted to the Board that it is important to have their support.

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS:**

A. Ms. Stolfi stated that members of the CGDA do not believe that the Department is policing licensing an asked if there is an available list of offenders found in violation issued by the Department of Consumer Protection. Mr. Hurlburt stated that the Board ask that a representative from the Trade Practices Division come to their April 27, 2007 meeting and update the Board on their investigations and enforcement procedures. In addition, any past actions should be in the approved minutes which are posted on the Department's website. As an aside, Mr. Hurlburt advised the Board that the Department is pursuing legislation to give them arrest powers.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:51AM. (*Von Dassel/Russell-Vanasse*)

**NEXT MEETING DATE;**

**APRIL 27, 2007**

**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