

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF SHORTHAND REPORTERS

FEBRUARY 27, 2012

The State Board of Examiners of Shorthand Reporters convened at 8:44 a.m. in Room-117 at the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106.

Board Members Present: John Brandon, Shorthand Reporter, Chairperson
Patricia Masi, Shorthand Reporter
Kathleen J. Kowalyshyn, Attorney
William Mangini, Public Member

Board Members Absent: Walter Rochow, Shorthand Reporter

Board Vacancies: One Shorthand Reporter
One Public Member

Board Counsel Present: None

DCP Staff Present: Nelson Leon
Richard M. Hurlburt
Vicky Bullock

Public Present: None

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information contact Richard M. Hurlburt, Director at (860) 713-6135 or Fax: (860) 706-1255.

Agency Website: www.ct.gov/dcp **Division E-Mail:** dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov

Chairperson Brandon called the meeting to order at 8:44 a.m. The minutes from the November 23, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Attorney Kowalyszyn made a motion to accept the minutes, Mr. Mangini seconded, and all were in favor.

Attorney Bullock stated that the State has proposed to eliminate this Board. Mr. Hurlburt told the group there would be a public hearing on March 2, 2012. Mr. Brandon said he would likely attend. Mr. Hurlburt thought it would make sense to have this Board act as an Advisory Board and just convene when an issue was raised.

Mr. Brandon felt that all Board members should contact legislators and request maintaining the Board. He felt this Board, being small, is not expensive to the State, and estimated that under \$200 per year is spent in travel reimbursement to the Board members. Mr. Brandon feels there is a need for this Board as it oversees many professional people.

Mr. Brandon noted that Walter Rochow, Shorthand Reporter and member of this Board, has not been present in over a year and thinks a replacement would be in order. Mr. Brandon felt finding a shorthand reporter to fill the vacancy would not be difficult and will contact the State Association. Mr. Brandon asked if anyone knew of an individual to fill the public member vacancy, and asked that we think of a replacement.

Under new business, Mr. Brandon brought to the table the question of lapses in licensing. Mr. Brandon pointed out that currently, no procedure exists in writing to address the issue. Mr. Brandon asked what happens with other Boards when faced with this, and Mr. Leon said licensees either pay the back fees and continue, or file a new application along with the fee. Mr. Leon said other Boards have language addressing this situation.

Mr. Brandon then asked how to go about getting the language changed. Attorney Bullock pointed out that proposed amendments to existing language must go through the legal process. Mr. Leon thought the proposed language change could be piggy-backed with current agency business.

Mr. Brandon recalled when this Board was created fifteen years ago (or so), situations were looked at on a case-by-case basis. He felt that, for one whose license has lapsed for more than one year, they should be tested again to insure competency with current national standards. The Board agreed that the maintaining of the Continuing Education credits requirement is not enough.

Mr. Hurlburt felt if the person could provide substantial evidence of having worked over the past year, that would be sufficient. Mr. Hurlburt offered to write draft language for the Board to approve.

Mr. Brandon asked if there was any new business to be conducted and, there being none, motion to adjourn made by Ms. Masi, second by Attorney Kowalyshyn, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nelson Leon
Board Secretary

The next meeting of this Board is scheduled for Monday, May 21, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. in Room-117