

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

JANUARY 25, 2008

The Connecticut Automotive Glass Work and Flat Glass Work Examining Board held a regular Board Meeting on Friday, January 25, 2008 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*)
John A. Wisniewski (*General Contractor-Auto Glass Work*)
Carl Von Dassel (*Unlimited Contractor-Flat Glass Work*)
David A. Wills (*Public Member*)

Board members not present: None.

Board Vacancies: *Unlimited Journeyperson-Auto Glass Work*
Unlimited Contractor-Auto Glass Work
Two (2) Public Members

Board Counsel: Not present as requested.

DCP Staff Present: Richard Hurlburt, Director; Department of Consumer Protection; Occupational & Professional Licensing Division
Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A., License and Applications Specialist

Others Present: David Rosenberg, *Safelite Auto Glass*
Kenneth J. Dowden, *FG-1Contractor Applicant*
Peter D. Collins *FG-1Contractor 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 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:

No items were addressed in this Section.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Application of Mr. Kenneth J Dowden for a Flat Glass Contractor's License (FG-1) for review and discussion by the Board. Mr. Kuzmich reminded the Board that Mr. Dowden had been before the Board at their last meeting. The applicant has provided the Board with documentation supporting his disability as suggested by Mr. Hurlburt at their last meeting. Mr. Dowden is asking the Board if he can take the examination orally. Mr. Kuzmich clarified that it was he who suggested to Mr. Dowden that he first come before the Board before he files an application and risk losing the non-refundable application fee.

Mr. Fusco sees no problem with approving Mr. Dowden to take the examination with special conditions and asked the Board for their feelings. All members of the Board agreed with Mr. Fusco. *As such, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve Mr. Dowden to sit for the FG-1 Contractor's Examination. (Von Dassel/Wisniewski).*

B. Continuation of discussion concerning Draft of potential amendments to the Regulations concerning Automotive Glass Work to incorporate State of Rhode

Island standards submitted by Board Member Mr. John A. Wisniewski. Mr. Wisniewski explained that Rhode Island Board passed the regulation but it will take approximately two years to go through due process of legislation. At present, Rhode Island auto glass people are licensed under the auspices of auto body work under which their Board falls.

Auto glass work will now have its own license and now has a draft regulation. Their regulation is very similar to that of Connecticut with several exceptions. Ms. Russell-Vanasse raised the issue of reciprocity between Rhode Island and Connecticut. This lead into a general discussion of Rhode Island's issues which promoted the development of their regulation/standard.

Mr. Rosenberg asked Mr. Wisniewski why Connecticut would want to make their standards the same as Rhode Island. He specifically noted that many of their issues appear to be Zoning Board related and questioned whether this Board wants that responsibility. Mr. Wisniewski noted Federal Standards which address chemical storage relating to local potential environmental hazards resulting from auto glass installation and storage of materials from contractors who may be operating out of their homes, as an example. Mr. Wisniewski does feel that the Board should have responsibility beyond just the technical abilities of the technicians.

Essentially, the Rhode Island regulation ensures that the business locations are zoned for the same; that the business has the required amount of liability insurance coverage in case of an emergency, and that the shop size conforms to the minimum square footage with at least one overhead type door.

Mr. Hurlburt stated that the Board does not have the statutory authority, at present, to require what Rhode Island does as stated above. A change in the Statutes requires a legislative change. He suggested that perhaps Valerie Stolfi, from the National Glass Association, could prepare a preliminary draft of these proposed changes which could be presented to the Commissioner at a meeting so that the Department would not be opposed or maybe even support this legislation should it move ahead.

After more extensive discussion and a line by line item review of Rhode Island's regulation as it pertains to **Replacement/Repair Contractors**, the Board decided to propose the following changes to their regulation:

- 1.) *Must provide the Board with any local approvals required to occupy the building as an Auto Glass and/or Flat Glass replacement facility.*

- 2.) Contractor must provide the Board with a liability policy or bonding of no less than five hundred thousand dollars.

The Board voted to postpone further action on this item to allow for some time for thought and to ask their associates in business of their opinions on these changes. In addition, they asked that the minutes of this meeting contain the draft of the proposed language for their review at their April 25, 2008 Board Meeting.

5. REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Hartford Courant newspaper article, dated January 18, 2008, submitted by Ms. Jennifer Russell-Vanasse; for review and discussion by the Board. The Board acknowledged receipt of this information.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Application of Mr. Peter D. Collins for a Flat Glass Contractor's license (FG-1); for review and discussion by the Board. Originally, Mr. Collins was sent back to him for additional information which the Department now has. He is applying for the Contractor Flat Glass license on the basis of equivalent experience and training. Mr. Collins explained that he is self-employed at present. It was noted that that he is currently operating illegally. Mr. Collins claimed that he originally sent all his paperwork in during the grandfathering period. Mr. Kuzmich was unable to find any record of his application.

The nature of Mr. Collins work is basically residential and it was explained to him by Mr. Hurlburt that either Mr. Collins can obtain the Flat Glass Contractor license which covers all bases or get a registration as a Home Improvement Contractor which covers flat glass work up to 30 square feet. Mr. Fusco noted that he has no problem approving Mr. Collins for the examination. The Board advised Mr. Collins to get the reference books for study and explained the general nature and format of the Contractor's Examination. *As such, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve Mr. Collins to sit for the FG-1 Contractor's Examination. (Von Dassel/Russel-Vanasse).* In response to questions from Mr. Collins, the disposition of monies already paid by him was explained, in detail, by Mr. Kuzmich.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

1. The Board discussed with Mr. Rosenberg the notable effort his company has made in getting new employees registered as Apprentices with the Department of Labor. The Board commended him for this work. This discussion lead into a general discussion of the Automotive Glass Work Examination and the workshop the Board participated in the past for purpose of developing new test questions.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM. (Russell-Vanasse/Von Dassel)

NEXT MEETING DATE; APRIL 25, 2008

**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