

## **MINUTES**

**FLORIDA BARBERS' BOARD**  
**Department of Business and Professional Regulation**  
**Renaissance Orlando Hotel – Airport**  
**5445 Forbes Place**  
**Orlando, Florida 32812**

**Legislative Workshop**  
**Sunday, July 31, 2005**

The Florida Barbers' Board legislative workshop was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m., by Mr. Dave Magda, Chair.

### **Board Members Present**

Dave Magda, Chair  
Herman White, Vice Chair  
Jeri Scott  
Char Feliciano  
Robert Collins

### **Board Members Absent**

None

### **Other Persons Present**

Robyn Barineau, Executive Director, Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR)  
Dan Biggins Assistant Attorney General, Department of Legal Affairs  
Charles Tunnick, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, DBPR  
Cameron Dougherty, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, DBPR  
Dana Ewaldt, Government Analyst, DBPR

### **Interested Parties Present**

Nancy Bradley, Commission for Independent Education (CIE)  
Kasongo Butler, CIE  
Luvenia McNair, Beannies Beauty & Barber School  
Tuan Vu, Pro-Nails and Beauty School  
Mau Nguyen, Pro-Nails and Beauty School  
Alan Livingston, House Business Regulation Committee  
Patty Galdamez, Brandenton Beauty and Barber Academy  
Jackie Lombardi, Florida Barber Academy

The legislative workshop opened with a roll call and a quorum was established. Chair Magda informed the attendees that the workshop would begin with the board members taking comments to each section of the proposed legislation draft.

### **Draft – Proposed Internship Legislation**

Ms. Nancy Bradley, CIE, offered her compliments to the author of the draft legislation. Ms. Bradley commented that in order for a program such as this to be a success, it is extremely important that an internship be supported by the schools and instructors. Participation is a key element for the success of this type of program. Ms. Bradley has concerns of how internship sponsors will be selected; she is seeking clear direction and specific rules for the selection process. The CIE is very much interested in this proposal and would like to be involved in the rulemaking. Ms. Bradley has offered her assistance for development of rules.

Ms. Kasongo Butler, CIE, reiterated Ms. Bradley's comments. The consistency and integrity of the program is a concern. The internship would be a voluntary program so it is essential that there are measures in place to ensure that the students are not taken advantage of by a sponsoring barbershop.

Ms. Patty Galdamez, Bradenton Beauty & Barber Academy, Inc., stated that her school has been in business since 1953 and she has been the owner for the past 3 years. Ms. Galdamez said that she too is concerned with the quality of an internship program and the sponsors. Ms. Galdamez asked at what point within the 1,200 hours will the actual internship become the main focus for the student. Her feeling is that the current 1,200 hour education requirement is not enough time to thoroughly teach all of the services and she does not want the hands-on internship to take the place of the necessary classroom setting. Ms. Galdamez wants a quality program that will allow for school involvement in monitoring the student's progress as well as monitoring the sponsor. Ms. Galdamez suggested allowing participation from the school at the start of the program enrollment. She is concerned that the program's integrity could be compromised by barbershop sponsors not being completely honest about a student's progression.

Mr. Jackie Lombardi, Florida Barber Academy, was complimentary of the draft proposal and commented that an internship program would be a breath of fresh air for the barbering profession. Mr. Lombardi agreed that the internship program could easily be abused [by a sponsoring barbershop] by exploiting the student's labor. Mr. Lombardi inquired if an intern student would be required to complete a greater amount of education hours. In his opinion, the program would need to have an increased hour requirement. The hands-on training should begin after completion of 1,200 classroom hours.

Chair Dave Magda ensured that the program would be voluntary both for the student as well as for a school. The board's intention was to develop options for the student to earn a salary while going to school and working toward licensure. Internship is not intended to replace the classroom education.

Mr. Lombardi suggested incorporating language giving the schools the ability to revoke a sponsorship's program privileges in the event of violation.

Mr. White asked Mr. Lombardi for his opinion of who he thought should be monitor of the program. Mr. Lombardi replied that the school should be responsible for monitoring the student's attendance and progression, the barbershop environment, and the sponsor. However the barbershop itself and the licensed barbers operating within the shop would continue to be inspected and regulated by DBPR.

Ms. Bradley reminded the group that an internship is an extension of an education program and not a substitution for the program. The schools will receive direction from the board on competency levels and the curriculum services but the schools fall under the authority of the Florida Department of Education or the Commission for Independent Education (CIE). The CIE would be supportive of the program and would educate and provide guidance to the institutions through educator workshops. Compliance by the school with the internship rules and regulations would be critical as the risk of jeopardizing accreditations and federal financial aid would be too great.

Chair Magda asked if the CIE would mandate attendance.

Ms. Kasongo Butler, CIE, commented that the CIE could not necessarily force mandatory attendance of the workshops, but items of criteria could be established. Therefore, if a school is going to adopt the internship program those established items of criteria would have to be met.

In section 476.114(2)(c)2, Florida Statutes, Ms. Jeri Scott would like to eliminate the 1,000 hour examination challenge for the intern student.

Ms. Galdamez said as an accredited school, she is not allowed to permit her students to challenge the examination at 1,000 hours.

Mr. Lombardi shares the opinion of eliminating the exam challenge for an intern student.

Ms. Bradley commented that the 1,000 hour challenge for an intern student may compromise the quality of education.

There was a group consensus for elimination of the 1,000 hour examination challenge for an intern student.

Ms. Scott asked if the existing 1,000 hour exam challenge could be removed from the statute.

Mr. Lombardi commented that too many students take advantage of the 1,000 hour challenge.

Ms. Luvenia McNair, Beannies Beauty and Barber School, said that it was her understanding the restricted barbers license was originally created to allow licensure options for those not interested in working with chemical services.

Chair Magda said that the restricted barbers' license was initially intended to present licensure options for barbers that have been in the profession for 50 plus years, that are moving to Florida, and are experiencing difficulty obtaining licensure through endorsement due to the chemical services requirement and possibly the endorsing state's record retention level.

Ms. Bradley hesitates to agree on the elimination of a licensure option but she recognized the practicality of the removal.

Mr. Dan Biggins, DLA, said that the 1,000 hour examination challenge can be deleted. If the deletion poses a problem with the Legislature, then it can be added back to the statute.

Ms. McNair commented that some of her students are reporting back that the restricted barber written examination does, in fact, include questions regarding chemical services.

Mr. Lombardi stated that he feels like the restricted barbers' license diminishes the integrity of the license and the restricted barbers license should also be eliminated. It is his desire for the quality of the industry to rise to the highest possible level.

Ms. McNair stated that Florida does have lower standards in comparison to other states.

Ms. Bradley asked for clarification that the schools will no longer be able to offer the restricted barber program.

Chair Magda replied in the affirmative. It is the desire of the board for barbering to be an honorable profession. Chair Magda noted that Florida's standards are within the top 20 states and Florida is one of the most regulated states in the union.

Ms. Galdamez asked how to pursue her school being utilized as an examination site for the Bradenton area.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:50 a.m.