

AUTO COLLISION REPAIR LICENSING ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES FOR MARCH 28, 2007

Members present:

David Reynolds, New Century Auto Inc
Jeanne McCarthy, DBR
Charles M. Nystedt, Metropolitan Property & Casualty Ins.
Richard Berstein, DBR
Gerald Galleshaw, Public
David Palmer, RI State Police

Others Present:

Randy Bottella, Reliable Collision Center
John Petrarca, Providence Auto Body
Patrick Quinlan, ABARI
Jack Condon, Progressive
Larry Alan, Nationwide
Rep. Bruce Long
Jon Palmquist, Nationwide
Ken Andrade, East Providence
Peter Olsen, Payless Auto Glass
Jeffrey Greer, DBR
Neena Sinha Savage, DBR

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 10:31 am

Reviewed February minutes Motion DR seconded RB Unanimous

NSS: Discussed the new format for Storage Regulations and moved section 7 of the advisory Board proposed regulations to the purpose section. This move ensures that the insurers comply with regulation 73 but that they are under the auspice of the Insurance Division

RB: The Department will make the minor changes the Board suggested concerning storage areas and schedule a public hearing

DR: Made a motion to accept changes as related by NSS seconded by RB unanimous

NSS: These regulations should be posted by next month

Certification of Technicians

DR: The information provided concerning Canada and their certification process does not seem to be workable for RI. The format assigns a group to be the one responsible for the certification of technician. There are liability issues involved.

KDA: This is a good idea but the timing is poor this will increase costs to the auto body businesses – questioned whether this could be put off to a later date

RB: Certification is a statute the Advisory Board must come up with requirements

CN: The law states the Advisory Board shall establish requirements

DR: Stated we should use as a starting point the listing of criteria created by Rbot and DG. Made motion DR to accept these criteria seconded by RB unanimous

The subcommittee was made up of: DG, Rbot, CN, JKP, GG

RB: Suggested that the Chairman send a letter to the legislature informing them that we are working diligently on establishing a certification criteria

DR: Discussion on windshields will be held at next months meeting. Robert Goldberg will present expert witnesses

PO: Questioned what type of rules they intend to discuss

DR: Basically the discussion will center around the bonding of windshields in relation to time and temperatures

PO: His shop uses adhesive that can bond up to 10 degrees but his company only installs up to 25 degrees.

DR: Asked him to bring information to the next meeting

Rbot: Asked if they used primer to prevent rusting and if this has a chemical reaction

PO: There are factors to affect cure times i.e. humidity. The effect could result in a shift of the windshield and the window could leak in the future. And that he is first to admit that installing a windshield outside on a rainy day is not in anyone's best interest

DR: If it doesn't bond it affects the integrity of the safety system

PO: That is right

CN: Questioned were the Board is going concerning windshields? Also are we preparing to establish technical standards? Questioned how can the Board create regulations when there is conflicting information supporting or accepting different methods.

DR: The Board is revisiting requirements for glass installers. These regulations have not been revisited since 1998. In the early 1990's the windshield was not an integral part of the safety system. Now with smart air bags the windshields have to be installed correctly.

PO: Stated he had fixed new vehicles that had their windshields broken during transport from the manufacturer. Some still had a bead of urethane wet in the core; because they use the least expensive adhesive.

CN: We should make sure that whatever we do is fair to auto body shops and licensed installers concerning the outside installation

JMC: The Board is responding to concerns of two glass installers that are questioning the mobile installers who install windshields during winter, rain etc.

RB: Do other States have regulations concerning temperature?

JMC: I have a copy of a bulletin from NY concerning temperature levels

PO: The board needs to distinguish between legitimate companies and those that are working will a van, cell phone and \$200 in tools. Safelite is the biggest and they have closed all their physical locations

CN: The General Assembly removed glass installations from requiring certification of technician statute

DR: That was a last minute amendment; the original intent was to include glass installation

CN: We don't want to force someone out of business

DR: Old business – Jack Condon asked about the procedures appraisers should use when confronted with an unlicensed shop. Jeanne requested information from Paula Pallozzi of the Insurance division she stated that you should submit a written request to Insurance. When you receive it please share with the board.

Adjourn: 11:50am