

Transcript of the Testimony of
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8819 Dawn Drive
Phone: (501) 261-1106
Email: idencr@aol.com

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

BOARD MEETING

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 26th day of
September, 2005, before the members of the Arkansas State Board
of Cosmetology, the following business and action came on for
hearing, to-wit:

A P P E A R A N C E S:

BOARD MEMBERS:

JANE POWELL - President
CLIFF KEENE - 1st Vice President
MITZIE McKINNEY - Treasurer
VEDA TRAYLOR - Secretary
PATRICIA TURMAN
NICK DOWNEY
BRENDA GRAY

ALSO PRESENT:

KATHY WITTUM - Director
ARNOLD M. JOCHUMS - Assistant Attorney General

1 P R O C E E D I N G S :

2 MS. POWELL: The meeting will come to order.

3 Madam Secretary, will give the roll?

4 MS. TRAYLOR: Everybody is present except
5 Sherron West and LaJoy Gordon.

6 MS. POWELL: Okay. The Board has been called
7 for a special meeting today to discuss our decision
8 last week to not grant student hours under the extra
9 curricular activity policy for the students attending
10 the State Beauty Supply Show in Tulsa, Oklahoma and
11 the Student Appreciation Day event in Hot Springs.
12 We have been requested by a Jonesboro Representative
13 Chris Byer to reconsider this decision.

14 I do want to mention the fact that the Board is
15 administering examinations today, so we will want to
16 be mindful of the time.

17 At this time, I'd like to open the discussion to
18 allow for comments from the audience. If you choose
19 to speak, please step forward to the table up here so
20 the reporter can hear you and state your name.

21 MS. LEE: Linda Lee, from a school of
22 cosmetology, but I'm here as AACE, which is the
23 Arkansas Alliance of Cosmetology Education. We feel
24 that education is important in any phase, any way you
25 can bring it to your students. We're in opposition

1 of giving hours for that because many of you have a
2 history of how those hours can be obtained and are
3 they really learning? And that's one of the things
4 that we need to make sure of is when our students are
5 getting hours and being given hours that they ought
6 to be able to get something out of it and make sure
7 that that's what it's there for and no other hidden
8 agenda. I am -- we are opposed to vendors being
9 there because our students are one of those types
10 that are there to learn. That's all that we need to
11 make sure is that that they're to learn and not to
12 spend money. We're not opposed to education. We're
13 not opposed to our students learning by any other
14 people other than our four walls and our instructors.
15 And I feel that when we -- me, as a school owner,
16 when we take our students to different shows and when
17 we bring them up here, they're not getting hours.
18 They are -- it's an understanding that it's on their
19 time. If they feel that they want to advance their
20 education then they can come and come here with us on
21 Monday and see you guys doing your job. We also
22 encourage them to go to hair shows on their time.
23 And that's one of the things that I think that if we
24 do not stress education and not have a payback
25 through hours or any other means, then we're setting

1 our standards lower than any other educational
2 endeavor. I think we need to encourage education.
3 We're not in opposition in any way, of our students
4 or your students or anybody else's students getting
5 education, but with the tacking on of the hours. And
6 again, the history of giving hours to students, some
7 of you have been first-hand involved with finding
8 those students. Where are they? They're supposed to
9 be in the audience. They're not there. There's no
10 way you can monitor a student. You would have to
11 have a one-on-one. And that's impossible. So for
12 someone to say they're going to monitor the students
13 to give them education and hours is really a --
14 something that we can't promise. Nobody could. No
15 one should have to. So I would like to go on record
16 in saying that we are in opposition of giving hours.
17 I feel that education is the most important thing I
18 do and I think that's what we should stress, not the
19 ability to get hours.

20 MR. KEENE: I have a question of Ms. Lee. You
21 said you're representing the AACE?

22 MS. LEE: Yes.

23 MR. KEENE: How many schools or how is your
24 organization composed?

25 MS. LEE: Our organization is composed of those

1 that are voluntarily wanting to be a member of our --
2 our membership. It's open to all schools and all
3 schools are automatically grandfathered in, so all
4 schools are members of AACE.

5 MR. KEENE: Do you know approximately how many
6 you would be representing today, since you're -- you
7 used the term, AACE, and that you're a representative
8 of it?

9 MS. LEE: I've heard from eight. And those that
10 I didn't hear from have sent me a fax, but verbally
11 I've heard from eight school owners.

12 MR. KEENE: Thank you.

13 MS. COTTON: Tamara Cotton, Arkansas Beauty
14 School of Conway. And I'm just here to say that I
15 also agree with what Ms. Lee is saying. I'm not a
16 member of her organization as yet, but that may come
17 to pass. But I think the most important thing here
18 is that the school owners support their Board's
19 decision. And it is the Board that makes the
20 decision that we follow the rules and regulations and
21 laws of how this came about. And I'm just really
22 here to support the Board. The hours have always
23 been secondary been with me. I have no opinion one
24 way or another whether students were allowed to get
25 them. The Board allowed, so we allowed. They take

1 it away, we don't allow it. It's that simple. It's
2 what -- our Board should have the power to do that,
3 not the school owners.

4 MS. POWELL: Thank you.

5 MR. KEENE: I'm Cliff Keene. I have another
6 question of Ms. Cotton. You said that you are not a
7 member of the AACE, but Ms. Lee said that you're an
8 automatic member of AACE. So I want you to
9 understand that you may not have filled anything out,
10 but according to what you're saying she is
11 automatically a member. And it's your -- are you one
12 of the eight that she spoke with?

13 MS. COTTON: No, sir. I --

14 MR. KEENE: Okay.

15 MS. COTTON: Just standing alone here.

16 MR. KEENE: Okay. Thank you.

17 MS. THOMAS: My name is Margaret Thomas and I,
18 too, support the decision of the Board. You are the
19 people who make the rules and regulations that the
20 school owners must follow. And I, too, am not a
21 member of Ms. Lee's association, however, I do agree
22 with the hours decision.

23 MS. POWELL: Thank you.

24 MS. WRAY: I'm Pat Wray of Arkansas Beauty
25 School of Little Rock. And I am just here to say

1 that I think the Board does a wonderful job. And
2 their decision should be final. And I never promised
3 my students hours to begin with because that's not
4 what it's about. It's about the education. So they
5 don't even know that they could have even gotten
6 hours and they still signed up to go. But we are
7 fully behind the Board.

8 MS. POWELL: Ms. Wray, did you -- were your
9 students participating in both extracurricular
10 activity events or just one?

11 MS. WRAY: Just the one.

12 MS. POWELL: Which one?

13 MS. WRAY: The Student Appreciation in Hot
14 Springs.

15 MS. POWELL: In Hot Springs?

16 MS. WRAY: And I never told them they were going
17 to get hours and they still signed up to go.

18 MS. POWELL: Okay. Thank you.

19 MR. KIRKPATRICK: I'm Charles Kirkpatrick. And
20 I come from both sides of the fence. I represent the
21 State -- Board. And I also own Arkadelphia Beauty
22 College. And we were real active in the School
23 Owners Association back when we voted for this and
24 the Board has done a good, too, all these years. And
25 there have been some difficulties from being from out

1 in the country to get to town all the time, but we've
2 always been able to do that. So we fully support the
3 Board and the contract is at a location that all
4 these students sign. And you're supposed to hold
5 school at the school house. That's an old theory,
6 but I think that can be shown to people that think
7 they can run off to Memphis or somewhere, Dallas,
8 Houston. And the agreement with the school and the
9 school owner -- I mean the school and the student is
10 the agreement for the school to be held right there.
11 And we're in full support of the Board from the
12 Beauty College. We're happy to be here today. Thank
13 you.

14 MS. POWELL: Thank you.

15 MS. TURMAN: I'd like to make a statement. It
16 clearly states in our rules and regulations that if
17 they're seeking other hours that it has to be by a
18 qualified instructor. And I understand why they want
19 the rules would be -- it's to be accredited. This
20 1500 hours in with a qualified instructor at a
21 clinical facility, so therefore I'd like to thank the
22 people who come here before us today. But I think
23 under our new director we're going in the right
24 direction -- direction with our Board. I very much
25 appreciate her. And I would at this time, I'd like

1 to make a motion that the action taken by the
2 Arkansas State Board of Cosmetology on September 19th
3 pertaining to extracurricular stands, at this point.

4 MS. MCKINNEY: I second that.

5 MS. POWELL: I have a motion and a second. Do
6 we have any discussion?

7 (No response.)

8 MS. POWELL: I have a motion to accept the
9 Board's ruling on September 19th to stand. All those
10 in favor, raise your right hand.

11 (Vote by show of hands.)

12 MS. POWELL: All those opposed?

13 (No hands raised.)

14 MR. KEENE: I'd also like to -- when you finish,
15 I'd like to make another motion.

16 MS. POWELL: Motion is carried. I would like to
17 go on record saying I appreciate the support that the
18 school owners here today have shown the Board. I
19 appreciate their support in speaking out. I know
20 that it sometimes becomes very difficult to single
21 yourselves out, but I do really appreciate your
22 attendance, even though the people that had asked for
23 this meeting are not present.

24 MS. COTTON: That's what I was going to ask.

25 You know, I'm just like, you know where are the ones

1 that ones that opposed the decision?

2 MS. POWELL: Well, if there is no further
3 discussion on that. Do I have a motion to adjourn?

4 MS. MCKINNEY: I so move.

5 MR. KEENE: I'll second.

6 MS. POWELL: Meeting is adjourned.

7 (Thereupon the proceedings were concluded.)

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