

**ARKANSAS  
STATE BOARD  
OF COSMETOLOGY**

**EQUIPMENT USE AND  
SCOPE OF PRACTICE  
COMMITTEE**

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MEETING REPORT

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SEPTEMBER 24, 2007

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**EQUIPMENT USE/SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE MEMBERS (PRESENT)**

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Cathy Caver-Blade, Chair

Kathy Wittum, Director

Erika Gee, Legal Counsel

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS (NOT PRESENT)**

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*Vacant Cosmetologist Position*

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**OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN ATTENDANCE**

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Scottie Burchett, Board Member

Patricia Anderson, Mellie's Beauty College

Cliff Keene, licensed Cosmetologist

Mahvash Kamran, licensed Aesthetician and Manicurist

Sara Rupp, licensed Aesthetician and Registered Nurse

## Meeting Report

The Equipment Use and Scope of Practice Committee met today to continue reviewing the Board's rules to make recommendations on revisions that are necessary for bringing the rules into compliance with recent law revisions. In addition, this Committee will recommend language to regulate equipment and chemical use within the cosmetology industry. The meeting was called to order at 12:45 p.m.

Ms. Gee commented on the difficulty in categorizing the equipment, although this is the direction the Committee discussed taking during previous meetings. Director Wittum stated the National Coalition of Esthetician and Related Associations (NCEA) recommends a two-tiered, 1200-hour aesthetics program that would provide advanced training for aestheticians wanting to learn to use equipment in the cosmetology industry. NCEA is also noted to recommend separating scopes of practice between hairstyling, aesthetics and nails, which would limit a cosmetologist to only providing hair services.

The following comments were made during the discussion between Committee members and the public in attendance:

- Not enough training is available or offered when purchasing equipment for use in the cosmetology industry.
- Lasers should not be used by persons in the cosmetology field unless under the direct supervision of a physician.
- The state of Colorado has a good policy in place on equipment and chemical use that the Board may want to review and/or model.
- Skin types must be thoroughly analyzed prior to selection of treatment and whether it encompasses light therapy and/or chemical use. In addition, the analysis should include an evaluation of whether the client has permanent cosmetics, moles, etc., as the degree of harm is subject to change depending on these things.
- Pam Hill, author and registered nurse in Colorado, has published books on this issue and could be a valuable resource. According to Patricia Anderson, Ms. Hill's opinion is that services entailing the dermal layer are medical and services entailing the epidermal are aesthetics.
- Clarification was given that cosmetologists and aestheticians can both work on the full body and perform waxing services.
- LED lights can be dangerous depending on operation and use.
- LED, Ultrasonic, etc. are machines that would fall under medical supervision based on Colorado's policy.
- This area of the cosmetology industry is ever-and rapidly-changing.

- Spas are doing many different services, such as botox injections, microdermabrasion, peels, permanent cosmetics, etc.
- Education is the key to performing services with the use of the equipment available today.
- NCEA's guidelines are so medical that the cosmetology industry will most likely not meet its standards.
- Some schools would be interested in offering an advanced training program to better educate persons wanting to operate these devices.

Ms. Gee stated she did not understand the position previously taken by the Board that an aesthetician working in a medical facility and having the option to either post or not post the aesthetics license. In her opinion, it is problematic for this to occur.

According to Ms. Anderson, most services performed in a medical day spa are chemicals and photo-facials. She stated these are not difficult treatments, as they are surgical, sterile procedures that are under the guidance of a physician who instructs what will be done, when, for how long, and what will happen when it is done.

Ms. Anderson stated she is scheduled to attend a conference that will have information on this subject and can report back to the Committee what she learns.

The issue of liability insurance was briefly discussed concerning who should be covered and what type coverage is required to protect the business, business owner and client. The discussion involved the existence of Regulation 22 of the Medical Board.

The issue of unlicensed nail salons was briefly discussed concerning the fact that they are not following the law and not adhering to the health and safety guidelines. Those in attendance agreed more inspectors are needed to address these issues. Discussion also included the need to better educate the public and industry on health and safety issues.

After no additional comments were forthcoming from participants, the meeting was concluded at 1:50 p.m.

\*\*\* End of Report \*\*\*

Report prepared by:

Kathy Wittum, Director