

**NC Locksmith Licensing Board
Raleigh, NC
11:00am December 11, 2019**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Jon Jeffries, Dennis Berwyn, Jennifer Richards (via conference call), Keith Throckmorton, Bobby Blackmon, Jim Storie, Steve Bright, Debbie Atkinson

Absent: Todd Going

Staff: Barden Culbreth, Reed Fountain

Public: Walt Kulla

Call to Order: Jon Jeffries called the meeting to order shortly after 11:00am.

Ethics Awareness Statement: Jon read the Ethics Awareness Statement and asked for any conflicts or appearances of conflicts. Hearing none, the meeting continued.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Steve Bright motioned to accept the previous meeting minutes. Keith seconded and the minutes were approved.

Financial Report: Dennis Berwyn motioned to approve the report. Jim seconded and the Financial Report was approved.

Education and Testing Committee: Steve provided a report of two recent testing administrations: one at the Board office and one in Winston-Salem on December 7th. Thirty-one people showed up for the most recent test. Highest score was a 90%.

Chair's Report:

Best Practices Forms: Jon presented several forms he would like the Board to consider to be posted on a "Best Practices" portion of the website. These forms were intended for use by locksmiths with their customers. Discussion followed.

NC Locksmith Association Trade Show: Jon asked if the Board wanted to have a booth at the upcoming trade show. Discussion followed. No vote head but Board generally agreed it was good to attend this event. Jennifer reported she would find out about booth registration and follow-up. The Trade Show is February 8th in Hickory.

Public Safety Announcements: Jon reported that a marked vehicle had been stolen from Guilford Locksmith earlier in the week (but later recovered). He asked that the Board agree that incidences such as these should be posted on the Board's social media channels. The Board agreed this was good practice.

Complaints of Unlicensed Activity: Jon reported on continued complaints of Roy Abudram working without a license in the Triad area. Reed asked that evidence be emailed to him or the Board office so it can be presented in Court.

Board Office Update:

Barden provided information about Complaint he received regarding a Key Me franchise in Burlington area. Jennifer provided additional information from the NC Locksmith Association perspective as they had also communicated with the franchisee. Discussion followed. Jon stated they were probably exempt from the licensing requirements. Debbie described similar outsourcing at her business. Discussion followed. Reed cited anti-trust issues the Board should consider.

Board Counsel Update:

Reed provided an update on activities at the NC Legislature.

He then provided an update on injunctions moving through the courts.

Reed then reported that the Ethics Committee would be reviewing a complaint of licensed persons imitating the businesses of other licensed locksmiths.

Old Business: Keith asked if the Board had received a response from Todd Going. Barden reported that he had received an email and Todd would be providing update to the Board soon.

New Business: Board members Dennis Berwyn and Keith Throckmorton were recognized for their service to the Board. Both are appointees from the Governor's office and their terms expire at the end of the year, or until replacements are appointed.

Schedule Meeting: January 22nd In Person Meeting (with possibility of moving to afternoon conference call if minimal business)