

1 COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

2

3 DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION

4

5 BOARD FOR BARBERS AND COSMETOLOGY

6

7 PUBIC HEARING

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9

10 SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE CENTER

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9960 MAYLAND DRIVE

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HENRICO, VIRGINIA 23233

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AUGUST 28, 2023

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9:00 A.M.

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1 APPEARANCES:

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3 PRESENT:

4 Heather Garnett, Administrative Coordinator
5 Wendy Duncan, Licensing Operations Administrator
6 Tamika Rodriguez, Regulatory Operations Administrator
7 Matthew Roberts, Board Chair

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1 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Good Morning, Ladies and
2 Gentlemen. The hearing is starting at 9:07 A.M. I am
3 Tamika Rodriguez. I am a staff member with the Virginia
4 Board for Barbers and Cosmetology. With me is Matthew
5 Roberts. He's the Board Chair for the Virginia Board for
6 Barbers and Cosmetology.

7 This is a public hearing held at the
8 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation,
9 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia.

10 This hearing is being held pursuant to
11 Section 2.2-4007.01 of the Administrative Process Act of
12 the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of receiving
13 public comment on the Board's revised proposed
14 regulations published in Virginia Register on July 17,
15 2023.

16 The list of interested parties and
17 organizations, which were notified of this process and
18 invited to come to this opportune request. The staff of
19 the Department of Professional and Occupational
20 Regulation will prepare a report of all public comments
21 received, which will be presented to the Board for
22 consideration of any revisions to the revised proposed
23 regulations.

24 Now, I would like to present the rules for
25 this public hearing. Comments will be received from any

1 member of the public. The initial comments will be
2 limited to a maximum of five minutes depending on the
3 number of individuals who wish to speak. If you have not
4 signed up to speak and you wish to speak today, please
5 sign your name on the sign-up sheet at this time. Staff
6 members may ask speakers questions to clarify
7 statements. However, this is not the proper forum for
8 questions to the Board. If you have a question for the
9 Board, please forward them in writing to the Board. Any
10 speaker who wishes to provide a written statement in
11 addition to oral public comment or in lieu of oral
12 public comment may do so until September 15, 2023.

13 The first public member that wants to give a
14 public comment is Valerie Sampson.

15 MS. SAMPSON: I'm laughing, because I came
16 here to observe like everybody else.

17 MR. ROBERTS: Now you get to sit in the hot
18 seat.

19 MS. SAMPSON: Oh, wow. I was not expecting
20 any of this, but that's okay. So, there is a drop in
21 hours?

22 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. In cosmetology hours.

23 MS. SAMPSON: I, actually, have a small
24 academy in Harrisonburg. I was under the impression,
25 like months ago, that we were still at 1,000 hours. Our

1 TV station in Harrisonburg came to interview me to get
2 my reaction on it. I had not heard anything. But, my
3 only concern is if we do the 1,500 hours, are we going
4 to eliminate any of the chapters? Or, are we just going
5 to try to cram it all in the 1,000 mark?

6 MS. RODRIGUEZ: So, the Board decided to
7 change the curriculum for schools. It's a minimum of
8 1,000 hours. So, some schools may decide to keep the
9 1,500-hour program. And within the curriculum, they
10 decided to give hours per topic, including nails, hair,
11 skin. The scope of practice of cosmetology. The
12 services that they perform is not changing. That will
13 remain the same.

14 MS. SAMPSON: Okay. My main concern was just
15 making sure that I got everything in the 1,000 hour time
16 period.

17 MS. RODRIGUEZ: So, at this current time,
18 it's not approved yet. It needs to go through the
19 different regulatory stages. We are at the proposed
20 stage, which is the second stage. Then, we have a final
21 stage. The Board will also send out correspondence
22 advising you when the final regulations are going to be
23 effective. Of course, there will be some sort of
24 timeframe in order for you to send in any new curriculum
25 within the requirements.

1 MS. SAMPSON: Okay. That sounds good. I'm
2 not too upset about that. This is not really pertaining
3 to the 1,500 hours. It's just, like, across the board
4 with our industry. You know, the students feel like
5 everything is online. They learn everything online. I
6 know so many people in my area that are doing hair and
7 they're not licensed. I mean, they are out there
8 saying, I'm a stylist. This is my venue. These are the
9 services I offer. But, they don't feel like they need to
10 go to cosmetology school. And it's, like, irritating to
11 me. I mean, I don't know if I can do anything about it.
12 It doesn't seem like it. But, as a stylist for
13 30 years, it's frustrating as I don't know what. But,
14 what do we do?

15 MS. RODRIGUEZ: The public can send in
16 complaints to our complaints and resolutions section.
17 If you know of any unlicensed activity, you can file a
18 complaint. And we will investigate it. DPOR is
19 compliant driven. It's an issue that a lot of people are
20 having at this time. It's, actually, reaching out to
21 our complaint section and filing a complaint in order to
22 have investigators to look for unlicensed activity. If
23 we receive a complaint, we will research it.

24 MS. SAMPSON: All right. Thank you.

25 MS. RODRIGUEZ: I have a list of names here

1 and it looks as if no one checked that they wish to
2 speak to the Board. Anyone else interested in making
3 public comment?

4 MR. ROBERTS: Can I say something?

5 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Sure.

6 MR. ROBERTS: I just wanted to add that we
7 do encourage the public to definitely file a complaint
8 if they discover there is unlicensed activity. So, if
9 that's something that if you weren't sure that you could
10 or should do that, we definitely encourage you to do
11 that if you know of such activity going on.

12 MS. SAMPSON: I know I had a stylist one
13 time that called and she said, they told her to go to
14 the salon and collect business cards and send those
15 names. She was, like, I'm not going to do that.

16 MR. ROBERTS: The more people that know that
17 they can file the complaints, the better off.

18 MS. SAMPSON: Okay.

19 MS. RODRIGUEZ: So, we usually allow some
20 additional time to see if someone else arrives to
21 provide public comment. So, we will stay here for
22 probably another 30 minutes or so.

23 (BRIEF RECESS)

24 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Okay, everyone, we waited 30
25 minutes. Thank you for your comments today. The record

1 of the public hearing will be kept until September 15,
2 2023. And written comments will be accepted until 5:00
3 P.M on that day.

4 The hearing is now adjourned at 9:46 A.M.

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CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

I, Stephanie C. Martin, hereby certify that I was the Court Reporter at the Public Hearing held in Henrico County, Virginia on August 28, 2023, at the time of the hearing herein.

I further certify that the foregoing transcript is, to the best of my ability, a true and accurate record of the testimony and incidents of the hearing herein.

Given under my hand this 6th day of September 2023.

Stephanie C. Martin
STEPHANIE C. MARTIN
Notary Registration No. 7984503

My Commission expires:
April 30, 2026



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