

Meeting Summary
Dealer Practices Committee
Monday January 27, 2025

Full Board Vice-Chair Chris Maher called the Dealer Practices Committee meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. This meeting was conducted at the Department of Motor Vehicles, 2300 W. Broad Street, Executive Conference Room 702, Richmond, Virginia. Roll call confirmed the following Committee members being present: Alexis Barker-Taplett, M'Lissa Dunn, Chip Lindsay, Tim Pohanka and Donald Sullivan. Those absent included Tom Barton, Nick Rush and Andrew Wiley. Other Board members present: Jeff Ballard, Tom Bates, Edward Maulbeck. Interim Executive Director Melanie Lester, Lisa Mack-Nelson, Ann Majors and Micah Bailey represented the Dealer Board. Christian Parrish represented the Attorney General's office.

The November 18, 2024 meeting summary was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was no public comment.

OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – No old business from the floor.

NEW BUSINESS

Review and Action: Informal Fact-Finding Conferences:

Auto Buying Service and Usman Nasim #49298. On September 25, 2024, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Sections 46.2-1529, 46.2-1550(2), 46.2-1575(2) and 46.2-1575(6). Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended assessing a civil penalty of \$18,250.00 (\$17,250 for violations of 45.2-1529 - \$50 for each missing 345 record and \$1,000 for violations of 46.2-1552 - 131 missing transport records) and a satisfactory inspection within 90 days.

Quais "James" Sadiqi, Dealer Operator for Auto Buying Service and Partner was present and spoke on behalf of Usman Nasim.

Don Sullivan moved to accept the Hearing Officer's recommendation. There was no second; therefore, the motion died.

M'Lissa Dunn moved to assess a civil penalty of \$50,000, satisfactory inspection conducted by Janet Garrett, suspension for 60 days for VA Code Section 46.2-1575 (6). Alexis Barker-Taplett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

KMJ Auto Sales & Service Park, LLC and Keith M. Jones #54329. On October 3, 2024, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Section(s) 46.2-1533 and 46.2-1575 (2). Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended assessing a civil penalty of \$750.00 (\$500.00 for 46.2-1533 and \$250.00 46.2-1575 (2)), satisfactory inspection.

M'Lissa Dunn moved to accept the hearing officer's recommendation of assessing a \$750.00 civil penalty and a satisfactory inspection. Don Sullivan seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Joy Auto Sales, LLC and Eric V. Stamper #57531. On October 17, 2024, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Sections 46.2-1533 and 46.2-1575 (1). Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended assessing a civil penalty of \$750.00 (\$500.00 for violations of 46.2-1533 and \$250.00 for violations of 46.2-1575 (2)) and a satisfactory inspection, if unsatisfactory, suspension until the dealer does have a satisfactory inspection.

Mr. Stamper was present and spoke on his own behalf.

M'Lissa Dunn moved to suspend the civil penalty and have a satisfactory inspection. Don Sullivan seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – No new business from the floor.

NEXT MEETING – During the Full Board, they agreed to have the meeting March 10, 2025.

The Dealer Practices committee meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Meeting Summary
Dealer Licensing Committee
Monday, January 27, 2025

Committee Vice-Chair Jeff Ballard called the Dealer Licensing Committee meeting to order at 10:25 a.m. This meeting was conducted at the Department of Motor Vehicles, 2300 W. Broad Street, Executive Conference Room 702, Richmond, Virginia. Roll call confirmed the following Committee members being present: Alexis Barker-Taplett, Tom Bates, M'Lissa Dunn, Ed Maulbeck and Tim Pohanka. Those absent included Kevin Reynolds and Andrew Wiley. Other Board members present: Chip Lindsay, Chris Maher and Don Sullivan. Interim Executive Director Melanie Lester, Lisa Mack-Nelson, Ann Majors and Micah Bailey represented the Dealer Board. Christian Parrish represented the Attorney General's office.

The November 18, 2024 meeting summary was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.

OLD BUSINESS – No old business.

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – No old business from the floor.

NEW BUSINESS – No new business.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – No new business from the floor.

NEXT MEETING – March 10, 2025.

The Licensing Committee meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Meeting Summary
Advertising Committee
Monday, January 27, 2025

Committee Chair Tim Pohanka called the Advertising Committee meeting to order at 10:27 a.m. This meeting was conducted at the Department of Motor Vehicles, 2300 W. Broad Street, Executive Conference Room 702, Richmond, Virginia. Roll call confirmed the following Committee members being present: Jeff Ballard, Alexis Barker-Taplett, Tom Bates, Mlissa Dunn, Edward Maulbeck and Chris Maher. Those absent included Kevin Reynolds and Nick Rush. Other Board members present: M'Lissa Dunn and Chip Lindsay. Interim Executive Director Melanie Lester, Lisa Mack-Nelson, Ann Majors and Micah Bailey represented the Dealer Board. Christian Parrish represented the Attorney General's office.

The November 18, 2024 meeting summary was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.

OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – No old business from the floor.

NEW BUSINESS

Review and Action: Informal Fact-Finding Conference:

Ronald Blaydes Harris, Former Salesperson of Northern Neck Chevrolet #5615. On October 1, 2024, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Section(s) 46.2-1537, 46.2-1538, 46.2-1575 (6), 46.2-1575 (7), 46.2-1581 (4), 24 VAC22-30-30 D (1) and 34 VAC22-30-30-D (5). Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended assessing a civil penalty of \$250 for violations of VA Code Section 46.2-1575 (6) and a written warning for violations of VA Code Section 46.2-1575 (7). Due to the severity of Mr. Harris' violations, it was the consensus of the Committee to raise the civil penalty from \$250 to \$1,000.00.

Don Sullivan moved to assess a \$1,000.00 civil penalty. Chris Maher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – No new business from the floor.

NEXT MEETING – March 10, 2025

The Advertising committee meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Meeting Summary
Transaction Recovery Fund Committee
Monday, January 27, 2025

Committee Chair Chris Maher called the Transaction Recovery Fund Committee meeting to order at 10:54 a.m. This meeting was conducted at the Department of Motor Vehicles, 2300 W. Broad Street, Executive Conference Room 702, Richmond, Virginia. Roll call confirmed the following Committee members being present: Jeff Ballard, Tom Bates, M'Lissa Dunn, Chip Lindsay, Ed Maulbeck and Don Sullivan. Those absent included Tom Barton, Nick Rush and Andrew Wiley. Other Board members present: Alexis Barker-Taplett and Timothy Pohanka. Executive Director William Childress, Lisa Mack-Nelson and Ann Majors represented the Dealer Board. Christian Parrish represented the Attorney General's office.

The November 18, 2024 meeting summary was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

OLD BUSINESS – No old business.

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – No old business from the floor.

NEW BUSINESS – No new business.

Review and Action: Informal Fact-Finding Conferences:

Melanie Phillips vs Nobel Motors and Abdul Hamidi #52485. On December 31, 2024, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Sections 46.2-1527.3 against Nobel Motors and Anbdul Hamidi. Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended deliberation on the amount of \$6,989.02 from the Recovery Fund because the supporting documentation standard for a Fund claim is incomplete.

Don Sullivan moved to approve the \$6,989.02 from the Fund payable to Ms. Phillips. M'Lissa Dunn seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – No new business from the floor.

NEXT MEETING – March 10, 2025

The Transaction Recovery Fund committee meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Meeting Summary
Motor Vehicle Dealer Board
Monday, January 27, 2025

Board Chair Gerald Lackey called the Dealer Board meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. This meeting was conducted at the Department of Motor Vehicles, 2300 W. Broad Street, Executive Conference Room 702, Richmond, Virginia. Roll call confirmed the following members being present: Jeff Ballard, Alexis Barker-Taplett, Tom Bates, M'Lissa Dunn, Chip Lindsay, Chris Maher, Ed Maulbeck, Timothy Pohanka and Don Sullivan. Those absent included Tom Barton, Dennis Ellmer, Kevin Reynolds, Nick Rush and Andrew Wiley. Interim Executive Director Melanie Lester, Lisa Mack-Nelson, Ann Majors and Micah Bailey represented the Dealer Board. Christian Parrish represented the Attorney General's Office. Alice Weedon was the recording secretary.

Chairman Gerald Lackey introduced Dick Myers, future board member and Mr. Myers explained where he's from and he hopes to be a help and a benefit to the Dealer Board.

The November 18, 2024 meeting summary was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.

STATUTORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dealer Practices Committee

Full Board Committee Vice-Chair Chris Maher summarized discussions held and actions taken during the Committee Meeting.

Don Sullivan, Jr. introduced M'Lissa Dunn as the Independent Quality Dealer of the Year. He spoke very highly of Ms. Dunn and indicated that she was a fine example of who an independent dealer should be. She's active in her community, she's heavily involved in the dealership association and a great dealer, she runs a great dealership and makes her customers very happy. She received a sold gold ring as being chosen the Independent Quality Dealer of the Year.

Review and Action: Informal Fact-Finding Conferences:

Auto Buying Service and Usman Nasim #49298. Full Board Committee Vice-Chair Maher made the following motion: The Board has reviewed and considered the facts and evidence and the report of an informal fact-finding conference as prepared by the hearing officer concerning Auto Buying Service and Usman Nasim for alleged violations of Virginia Code Sections 46.2-1529, 46.2-1550 (2), 46.2-1575 (2) and 46.2-1575 (6). Based on due consideration, the Board believes that the following actions should be taken against Auto Buying Service and Usman Nasim: Assessed a civil penalty of \$50,000.00; and suspend all licenses and certificates issued by the Board to Usman Nasim for 30 days, Auto Buying Service shall be inspected by a Motor Vehicle Dealer Board field representative and Usman Nasim and Quais Sidiqi shall successfully complete the 2-day dealer-operator course within 90 days. The Board mandates that Usman Nasim hereby be assessed a civil penalty of \$50,000.00; and the Board has suspended all licenses and certificates issued to Usman Nasim for 30

days, and Auto Buying Service shall be inspected by a Motor Vehicle Dealer Board field representative (Specifically Janet Garrett) on or before February 25, 2025, and Usman Nasim and Quais Sidiqi shall successfully complete the 2-day dealer-operator course on or before April 28, 2025. Failure to comply with the Board's mandates by the required dates will result in the suspension of all licenses and certificates issued by the Board until such time the Auto Buying Service dealership, Usman Nasim and Quais Sidiqi successfully complies with the Board's mandates.

Quais Sadiqi spoke on behalf of Usman Nasim and Auto Buying Service.

Tom Bates seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

NOTE: During the Dealer Practices Committee Meeting, the original motion included a 60-day suspension and during Full Board, it was reduced to a 30-day suspension.

KMJ Auto Sales and Keith M. Jones #56329. Full Board Committee Vice-Chair Maher made the following motion: The Board has reviewed and considered the facts and evidence and the report of an informal fact-finding conference as prepared by the hearing officer concerning KMJ Auto Sales & Service Park, LLC and Keith M. Jones for alleged violations of Virginia Code Sections 46.2-1533 and 46.2-1575(2). Based on due consideration, the Board believes that the following actions should be taken against KMJ Auto Sales & Service Park, LLC and Keith M. Jones: Assessed a civil penalty of \$750.00. The Board mandates that Keith M. Jones hereby be assessed a civil penalty of \$750.00.

Jeff Ballard seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Joy Auto Sales and Eric V. Stamper #57531. Full Board Committee Vice-Chair Maher made the following motion: The Board has reviewed and considered the facts and evidence and the report of an informal fact-finding conference as prepared by the hearing officer concerning Joy Auto Sales, LLC and Eric V. Stamper for alleged violations of Virginia Code Sections 46.2-1533 and 46.2-1575 (2). Based on due consideration, the Board believes that the following actions should be taken against Joy Auto Sales, LLC and Eric V. Stamper: Joy Auto Sales, LLC shall be inspected by a Motor Vehicle Dealer Board field representative within 60 days, and that inspection shall be satisfactory, and if unsatisfactory, suspension until the dealer does have a satisfactory inspection. The Board mandates that Joy Auto Sales, LLC shall satisfactorily pass an inspection conducted by a Motor Vehicle Dealer Board field representative on or before March 27, 2025, and if unsatisfactory, suspension of all licenses and certificates issued by the Board to Eric V. Stamper. Failure to comply with the Board's mandates by the required dates will result in the suspension of all licenses and certificates issued by the Board until such time the Joy Auto Sales, LLC dealership and Eric V. Stamper successfully complies with the Board's mandates.

Alexis Barker-Taplett seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Licensing Committee

Vice Committee Chair Jeff Ballard reported quorum in place; however, no discussions or actions were on the agenda for the committee to consider.

Advertising Committee

Committee Chair Tim Pohanka summarized discussions held and actions taken during the Committee Meeting.

Review and Action: Informal Fact-Finding Conferences:

Ronald Blaydes Harris, Former Salesperson of Northern Neck Chevrolet #5615.

Committee Chair Pohanka made the following motion: The Board has reviewed and considered the facts and evidence and the report of an informal fact-finding conference as prepared by the hearing officer concerning Ronald Blaydes Harris for alleged violations of Virginia Code Sections 46.2-1537, 46.2-1538, 46.2-1575 (6), 46.2-1575 (7), 46.2-1581 (4), 24 VAC22-30-30 D (1) and 24 VAC22-30-30-D (5). Based on due consideration, the Board believes the following actions shall be taken against Ronald Blaydes Harris: Assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000; and issued a written warning for violations of Virginia Code Section 46.2-1575 (7). The Board mandates that Ronald Blaydes Harris is hereby assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000.00 and issued a written warning for violations of Va. Code section 46.2-1575 (7). Failure to comply with the Board's mandates by the required dates will result in the suspension of the salesperson license issued by the Board until such time Ronald Blaydes Harris successfully complies with the Board's mandates.

M'Lissa Dunn seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Transaction Recovery Fund Committee

Committee Chair Chris Maher summarized discussions held and actions taken during the Committee Meeting.

Review and Action: Informal Fact-Finding Conferences:

Melanie Phillips vs Nobel Motors, LLC and Abdul Aziz Hamidi #52485. Committee Chair Chris Maher made the following motion: Pursuant to Section §46.2-1527.1 et seq. of the Code of Virginia, which is known as the Motor Vehicle Transaction Recovery Fund (Fund), the Board has reviewed and considered a claim for payment from the Fund; and Whereas, based on due consideration, the Board approves and acknowledges that the applicant's claim should be payable from the fund. The Board hereby approves and reaffirms the following claim and up to payment amount subject to compliance by the claimant with statutory requirements:

Claimant Judgment Amount Fund Payment: Melanie Phillips \$6,989.02

Jeff Ballard seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE: Dealer Portal Update.

Legislative Updates – VADA and VIADA

VADA: Anne Gambardella indicated that they have nothing to report at this time.

VIADA: Alvin Melendez indicated that they have nothing to report at this time.

Background Checks: Gerald Lackey indicated that we've gone from 9 vendors in 2021 to 13 vendors in 2025, that process background checks. Staff would like to put in a motion that would consolidate into 3 to 5.

Chris Maher moved that the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board staff to conduct a study on background checks vendors to reduce this amount to 3 to 5 vendors and have the Board come back and come back on a recommendation. Tom Bates seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Inspections for Powersports and Trailers: Melanie Lester indicated that inspections for powersports and trailers, as of current, is the same 15-point check list that all dealers have today. It will be determined if anything else specific to powersports and trailers should be added.

12:45 p.m. Chris Maher read the following: "I hereby move, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3712, for this committee to go into closed session to discuss matters exempt under 2.2-3711(A)(29), specifically to discuss the award of a public contract which involves the expenditure of public funds, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, as it relates to the Boards CSS system and replacing it with a new system." Tim Pohanka seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Alice Weedon captured a roll call from all the members, and they all voted yes.

1:20 p.m. Gerald Lackey read the following: "I hereby Certify under Va Code §2.2-3712(D) to the best of our knowledge (i) only public matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements under this Chapter, and (ii) only such business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting." Alice Weedon captured a roll call from all the members, and they all voted yes.

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – There was no old business from the floor.

NEW BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – There was no new business from the floor.

Board Chairman Lackey announced that the next Board meeting will take place on March 10, 2025.

INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Melanie Lester indicated that there was nothing to report.

There being no further business to come before the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board, Board Chairman Lackey adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.