

Stylist Article -- November 2014

Salons aren't just about barbering and cosmetology services anymore.

While the Board doesn't maintain statistics regarding salons that offer services other than hair, nails and skin care, and electrology, the Board's inspectors come across shops that offer other services that are not regulated by the Board on a daily basis.

It is important for shops that offer additional services to remember that the Board's inspectors have the right to inspect the entire establishment, not just the areas dedicated to traditional barbering and cosmetology services.

Section 7313 of the California Business and Professions Code states, in part:

“To ensure compliance with the laws and regulations of this chapter, the board's executive officer and authorized representatives shall... have access to, and shall inspect, any establishment or mobile unit during business hours or at any time in which barbering, cosmetology, or electrolysis are being performed.”

This means that Board inspectors have the right to inspect all areas of an establishment. If your shop has a massage room or a room where permanent makeup is applied, the inspector has the right to inspect that room. The only limitation would be if a client was receiving services at the time of the inspection.

While the service itself is not regulated, the Board's inspector will examine the facilities for compliance with health and safety regulations. Towels in a massage room, for instance: are they kept in a covered container? Are the various oils that are used properly labeled? Often times, the masseuse or permanent makeup technician will share a room with an esthetician. Are the products related to skin care properly labeled and stored?

Another area where confusion can occur is access to work stations. Inspectors have the right to inspect all stations, as well as any drawers and cabinets in that station, regardless of whether the person who works there is present. Nor does it matter if that person is an employee of the shop, a booth renter, or an independent contractor. Moreover, the establishment must have keys on hand to unlock any cabinets or drawers, regardless of whether the owner is present. Failure to have the keys can mean a citation by the Board.

Remember that you, the shop owner, are responsible for the activities in your shop, so make sure that the people who work for you or on the premises are informed about these rules.