

# **TEXAS LOCKSMITH'S ADVISOR**

**April 2007**

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# President's Message

Dear Fellow Members,

Here we are starting a New TLA year. The Convention was great and any one not enjoying the classes, education or fellowship is missing out on a great time. I want to thank everyone that attended and all who helped put this show on. I especially want to thank my Board. It was their hard work that got everything done.

At the membership meeting I made mention of a report I received from the DPS. In this report was the number of licensed business as well as the number of registered locksmiths in the state. As of the first of January there was 816 business and 1064 registered locksmiths. Is this a high number or a low number in your mind? I know I thought it was low.

Roy Yetter - President

**Subscribe to TLA's eMailing List** to receive this publication [Texas Locksmiths Advisor] by email/download instead of regular mail. Go to [www.texaslocksmiths.org/advisor](http://www.texaslocksmiths.org/advisor) and Subscribe to the eMailing List for User Name / Password to Members Area . Or, send an email to [tla\\_advisor@texaslocksmiths.org](mailto:tla_advisor@texaslocksmiths.org) with SUBSCRIBE in the Subject line. You must supply your Last Name, First Name, TLA Member # and send from a valid email address. Note: AOL has a bulk email blocking system; Please use an alternate email account/address.

*I encourage you to Subscribe to TLA's eMailing List to receive important announcements and the most up-to-date information as it is posted. By subscribing, you will also save the Association printing and mailing costs.*

**TEXAS LEGISLATIVE FUND**

The Texas Locksmiths Association monitors legislation, licensing, and regulation to look after the interests of locksmiths in Texas. A portion of the membership dues helps maintain this program, but additional contributions are needed. Those wishing to support this effort with a donation or donate items for auction, please contact a member of the board or call 1-877-TLA-INFO.

**UP COMING EVENTS**

| APRIL         | MAY           |
|---------------|---------------|
| 9 ALNT MEETS  | 8 GHLA MEETS  |
| 10 GHLA MEETS | 10 LASA MEETS |
| 12 LASA MEETS | 14 ALNT MEETS |
| 16 GDLA MEETS | 21 GDLA MEETS |

**Visit TLA's Website at [www.texaslocksmiths.org](http://www.texaslocksmiths.org)**



TLA IS AN AFFILIATE MEMBER OF ALOA  
[www.aloa.org](http://www.aloa.org)

## **MEMBERSHIP**

The following persons have applied for membership in the Texas Locksmiths Association.

Applicants will be listed in the Advisor for a period of 30 days to allow members the opportunity to identify any applicant that may be deemed "not suitable" for membership and allow proper notification of the Membership Director, Glenn Koons at 512-346-2326 or email [membership@texaslocksmiths.org](mailto:membership@texaslocksmiths.org), of such applicant.

*Due to the recent bylaw change requiring posing for 30 days, all previous applicants have been published and were approved by the Board.*

*NONE CURRENTLY PENDING*

# ***ALOA 2007***

## ***Charlotte, NC***

### ***July 22-29***

#### **Classes**

#### **Security Expo**

#### **Demonstrations**

#### **Banquet**

# PSB Rules Update

## **Rules Adopted at December 14, 2006 PSB Board Meeting**

### **§35.36 Consumer Information and Vehicle Signage**

(a) A licensee shall, either orally or in writing, notify all consumers or recipients of services of the license number and the name, address, and telephone number of the Private Security Bureau for the purpose of directing complaints.

(b) If a licensee chooses to provide the notice required by subsection (a) in written form, the notification shall contain their license number, the name, mailing address and telephone number of the Bureau, in a type-face of the same size as that which appears in the document as a whole, but in no case less than 10 point type.

(c) The company license number must be displayed on any vehicle on which the company name is displayed, and must be in letters and numbers at least one inch high and permanently affixed or magnetically attached to each side of the vehicle in a color contrasting with the background color.

(d) Vehicles operated by private investigators or personal protection officers are exempt and vehicles operated for administrative purposes are exempt

*Note:*

*This change is intended to clarify the scope of the recently adopted rule regarding vehicle signage. The new rule has been interpreted by some members of the industry as requiring the display of the license number on otherwise unmarked vehicles.*

The proposed change to (c) addresses this by limiting the requirement to those vehicles on which the company name is displayed. This change renders subsection (d) unnecessary, as the exemption was intended to apply to those vehicles that did not display the company name.

# AAA Rule Suggestion

## **What is the Texas Key Code Legislation?**

**A:** A growing percentage of the cars, and the vast majority of those built since 2000, have "smart key" technology. Manufacturers use computers to code the key. When someone tries to start the car, the ignition system reads the key and will not start if the codes don't match. The key code legislation will require vehicle manufacturers to give state licensed and registered locksmiths the key codes specific to the individual to the locksmith to unlock and start the owner's car. The code to the individual's vehicle would be made accessible for the production of replacement keys 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## **Why is it needed?**

**A:** The legislation is needed because consumers are finding it more difficult to get replacement keys that require special computer chip codes and other information from vehicle manufacturers. Generally, only dealers have the information and the dealers are not available 24/7. Dealers are generally available only during regular business hours. Motorists' costs often include a tow to a dealer and a rental car. In addition to the extra time and costs, safety can be threatened, especially if the motorist is alone after business hours or in a remote location.

This is a growing problem because complex new vehicle key, entry, and ignition systems are becoming more common and vehicle manufacturers restrict access to information needed for vehicle owners to obtain replacement keys. Some dealers can only obtain the information from the manufacturer and that can take anywhere from a few hours to several days.

## **3. How will the law work?**

**A:** The legislation allows flexibility for manufacturers to develop a method of compliance that gives motorists better access to necessary information, while at the same time protecting the security of that information.

The legislation includes language that establishes security verification procedures for locksmiths, vehicle owners, and auto manufacturers to prevent fraud or abuse.

In addition, manufacturers will need to comply by 2008 with a similar California law. **Con't on P.7**

Update 2/2007

## ***LASA Education***

Currently scheduled in San Antonio (location of CEU class to be announced)

(tentative) **April 12 @ 7 pm clinic – Ethics 2007** (1-hr CEU)

(tentative) **April 28 @ 8 am-6 pm (8-hr CEU) Life Safety Code**

\*classes are **tentative** until at least 10 people sign-up

Contact Education Committee Chairman: **Wanda Robbins Clark** for more information at [wandajrobbins@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wandajrobbins@sbcglobal.net) or 210-923-4381 (office)

**Visit TLA's Website at  
[www.texaslocksmiths.org](http://www.texaslocksmiths.org)**

### **SUBMISSIONS TO TEXAS LOCKSMITHS ADVISOR**

**Send your Comments, Questions, Suggestions, Articles, Letters, Tips & Tricks, News & Class/Event Information to the Editor by:**

**Email to: [Editor@texaslocksmiths.org](mailto:Editor@texaslocksmiths.org)**

**Regular Mail to:**

**Bill Winfrey**

**431 Lake By Acres**

**Kemp, TX 75143**

***Submissions for inclusion in this publication must be received by the 10th of the month prior to the publication date. E.g., Submissions for the April issue must be received by March 10.***

*AAA from P.5*

**4. How will the security verification process work?**

**A:** When a registered locksmith is requested by the motor vehicle's registered owner to reproduce a replacement key, the locksmith would be required to verify the identity of the individual making the request and that person's ownership of the vehicle according to requirements of existing law. Only upon satisfactory verification of all these requirements, would the locksmith be permitted to access the needed information from the vehicle manufacturer on the behalf of the registered owner. Upon completing its services, the locksmith would give any key code information to the registered owner and would be required to then destroy all information accessed from the automaker in its possession.

**5. Why is AAA pursuing this legislation?**

AAA Texas represents the motoring public. AAA Texas promotes public policies and programs that best serve and benefit our members; working to improve mobility and traffic safety throughout the state. AAA believes that when a motorist purchases a vehicle, he or she buys everything that makes up the vehicle – including all of the information necessary to operate, service, and repair it. Without access to such information, motorists are forced to use a facility of the manufacturer's choosing, not the motorist's, leading to less convenience, competition, and potentially higher repair costs.

**Most common reasons for opposition**

**1. Legislation will increase vehicle theft?**

**A:** Not true. The legislation is designed to safeguard vehicle and consumer information. Several safeguards are built into the bill to address including (1) allows only state licensed and state registered locksmiths to obtain an individual's key code information from the manufacturer; (2) the licensed locksmith would have to secure written authorization on a state approved form from the individual that provides ownership rights to the vehicle; (3) the locksmith then must provide identification and licensing authorization number to the manufacturer for verification of state licensure; (4) the manufacturer's database is not available for access by the licensed locksmith; (5) the licensed locksmith is only provided the key code for the individual's vehicle. (6) The manufacturers are now developing a registry model to enable licensed locksmiths to access the key code information

**Cont. on P.8**

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as a result of the California law. Although, the Texas law will be somewhat different, the manufacturers' requirements and qualifications for participation in the registry by California licensed locksmiths will provide safeguards to protect the code information. The expectation is that since Texas also has licensed locksmiths, Texas motorists will have the same choice and access as the California motoring public.

**Costs to the manufacturer will increase**

The cost to the manufacturer will be minimal. The State of California, with over 22 million registered vehicles, has already passed this legislation. There will be little if any additional costs for manufacturers to make the same changes in their processes available to licensed locksmiths in Texas for the benefit of Texans.

**Costs to consumers will increase**

**A:** Some of these costs may be passed onto consumers. However, any costs passed to consumers, will likely be spread across all vehicle buyers and will therefore be very small. If costs are only applied to consumers who need to replace a key, it would likely be less than the amount many motorists are currently paying for these services to replace the key.

**Will law enforcement support the bill?**

**A:** At this time, no organizations including law enforcement agencies have taken a position on the bill. We are certain that we will secure the support of law enforcement officials, agencies, and associations to support the legislation and give voice to the personal safety issues involved when motorists are locked out of their vehicles, especially after business hours or in remote locations. The support of law enforcement was instrumental in the passage of a similar law in California.

**5. Giving locksmith's access to all manufacturer's databases will create an open window to security breach of all key codes and other personal and private information.**

**A:** The state licensed locksmiths will only have authorization to obtain the key code for the vehicle that the owner has provided authorization to gain entry to. The licensed locksmith will not have access to the manufacturer's database of information.

# LockPAC Pledge Card

## *One for One*

*(One service call fee for One year)*

The Texas Locksmith Association needs your help! The future of OUR industry is in our hands. If you want the laws of this state to reflect your wishes, and be passed into law in a way that benefits all locksmiths of our great state, then TLA is asking for two things of you.

1. Would you pledge one service call fee a month for one year?
2. Would you make an honest attempt to sign up a non –member. The leaders of our state must see that the TLA represents the majority.

**If each one of the companies currently a member of TLA pledge the above, we would double our membership to about 1000 in a year! And provide OUR lobbyist the tools to work on our behalf. Invest in your future. The license laws are new, and will change! Let's make sure they change in our favor! Please sign up today!**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ will pledge one service call fee per month for one year to support our lobbyist efforts, and I will contact one non-member and ask him to join TLA.

It's that simple! You my mail in your pledge monthly, quarterly, or yearly. Thank you in advance for being responsible with our future, together.

*TLA Board of Directors.....*

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

TLA Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Complete and Mail to Secretary  
Or email information to [sec@texaslocksmiths.org](mailto:sec@texaslocksmiths.org)

**OLD:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ FOLD HERE \_\_\_\_\_

**PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE**

**RETURN TO TLA SECRETARY:**

**COLLEEN McADOO  
5023 Addicks Satsuma Rd. Ste. E  
Houston, TX 77084**