

Louisiana Cosmetologists File Petition Against Licensing Board Over Jury Trial Rights Violation

Cosmetologists challenge the Louisiana State Board of Cosmetology for denying their constitutional right to a jury trial in fines and license revocations.

New Orleans, Louisiana Jan 31, 2025 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - A group of licensed cosmetologists and manicurists, led by Amy Cao, Hien Hoang, Jan Thoa Nguyen, Linda Ho, and Bich Doan Vo, has submitted an [administrative petition](#) against the Louisiana Cosmetology Board, accusing the agency of violating their constitutional right to a jury trial.

The petition claims the Louisiana State Board of Cosmetology (LSBC) imposes fines and revokes licenses without due process, specifically denying the right to a jury trial, which is guaranteed by the Seventh Amendment. The petitioners argue that the board's actions put professionals in financial jeopardy, undermining their livelihoods.

Throughout the July 2023 to June 2024 period, LA State Board of Cosmetology enforcement actions resulted in fines without being linked to complaints or public health threats. This has raised concerns about the Louisiana Licensing Board, with critics suggesting that the Board's focus on fines might prioritize revenue generation over ensuring fairness and justice.

Legal representation for the petitioners comes from the [Pelican Institute](#), the Pacific Legal Foundation, and the Cao Law Firm. The petition seeks to ensure that when the state imposes fines or revokes licenses, those affected can have their day in court with a jury of their peers.

Joseph Cao, Attorney at Cao Law Firm, said, "As a proud member of the Vietnamese American community, I stand firm in challenging the unjust practices that threaten our livelihoods. This fight is deeply personal—not just for me, but for every hardworking individual in our community striving for the American Dream. We are determined to ensure that justice prevails and that the rights of our people are protected against excessive and unfair regulations."

James Baehr, Special Counsel at [Pelican Institute Center for Justice](#), emphasized, "This legal challenge is a pivotal stand for the constitutional rights of all Louisianans. By addressing the overreach of the Louisiana State Board of Cosmetology, we aim to establish a fair system where occupational licensing serves the interests of the people, not bureaucratic power."

Adi Dynar, Attorney at Pacific Legal Foundation, stressed, "The Seventh Amendment to the Constitution guarantees the right to a jury trial in civil cases. There shouldn't be an exception for cosmetologists and manicurists in the state of Louisiana. The courts must fully apply the Seventh Amendment to ensure that the rights of all Americans are protected."

The petition stands for protecting the constitutional rights of licensed professionals and promoting a regulatory system where justice prevails over bureaucratic overreach.

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