

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
LOG OF MEETING**

12/16/06
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RULEMAKING
COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Upholstered furniture fabrics

DATE OF MEETING: May 30, 2006

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Pamela L. Weller

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: June 22, 2006

LOCATION: CPSC Headquarters, room 725

**CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Michael Gougisha and Pamela L. Weller, Counselors to
Commissioner Thomas H. Moore**

**NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Hardy Poole, National Textile Association; Roger
Berkely, Weave Corporation; Carey Kravet, Kravet Fabrics; David Ryan, Craftex
Mills; Richard Taffet, Bingham McCutchen LLP; Phillip Wakelyn, National Cotton
Council; Ray Sweeney, National Association of State Fire Marshals; Dick Osman,
Western Nonwovens**

**SUMMARY OF MEETING: Mr. Taffet stated that the Decorative Fabrics
Association wants a national flammability standard for upholstered furniture.
They support a cigarette ignition component but they are not so sure about the
small open flame component. Mr. Ryan added that smoldering fires are the real
issue, not small open flame fires.**

Mr. Berkely indicated that his company couldn't afford to do the testing that would be required. He said when they got fabric orders they often didn't know what the fabric was going to be used for. His company does very short runs of higher end fabrics.

Mr. Taffet said that one problem was that the barrier that would be needed to meet the small open flame test did not exist.

Mr. Kravets indicated his company sold to designers and that the homes that used designers were not the homes where the fires were occurring.

Mr. Poole suggested that the agency move forward with a UFAC-like smolder test and keep exploring the small open flame issue. Ms. Weller and Mr. Gougisha pointed out that it might not be possible to do a small open flame standard separately as it might not meet the cost/benefit requirements of the statute.

Mr. Taffet ended by noting that the variability of the test foam was still a major issue, as was the variability of the test fabric.