

# S TATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

### ARCHITECTURAL LICENSING BOARD Tel. No. (860) 713-6145

December 28, 2009

State of Connecticut
Department of Consumer Protection
Occupational & Professional Licensing Division
165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

The six hundred and ninetieth meeting of the Architectural Licensing Board, held on November 20, 2009, was called to order by Chairman Mr. S. Edward Jeter at 8:35 AM in Room No. 121 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Board MembersDavid H. BarkinBoard MemberPresent:Carole W. BriggsBoard MemberRobert B. HurdBoard Member

S. Edward Jeter Chairman/Board Member

Lucille Trzcinski Board Member

**Board Members** 

**Not Present:** None

Others Present: Nelson Leon Department of Consumer

Protection

Linda Roberts Department of Consumer

Protection

Steven J. Schwane Administrative Hearings

Attorney/Department of

**Consumer Protection** 

Diane Harp Jones AIA/CT Bruce Spiewak AIA/CT

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions, and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information, contact Richard M. Hurlburt, Director, at (860) 713-6135 or Fax (860)-706-1255.

Agency Website: <u>www.ct.gov/dcp</u>

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#### 1. Old Business

1A. Submission of the minutes of the September 18, 2009; for review and approval. The Board tabled this item until their January 20, 2010. The September 18, 2009 Meeting Minutes were not available at this time.

1B. Continuation of discussion regarding of the Term "Architect" and Similar Terms by Out-of-State Architects not licensed in Connecticut. Mr. Barkin cited examples of this topic that recently occurred in his office concerning two employees and whether or not they can be identified on their business cards as architects because they are licensed as such out of State. This situation as it applies to attorneys was briefly discussed. It was noted that identifying the individual architects by the State(s) in which they are licensed would be more acceptable. Misrepresentation is the issue at the heart of this discussion and the main concern of the Board.

Ms. Trzcinski raised the question of individual business cards with out of State addresses for the individual(s) noted on them and how the public would perceive this. She noted that she believes this is a very "gray" and unclear area. Mr. Hurd noted that this area becomes less gray when the offering of business cards becomes the offering of services. Simply offering someone a business card in a social situation does not constitute the offering of services. Mr. Schwane agrees with Mr. Hurd.

Ms. Briggs believes that an individual business card without a specific title and a Connecticut address can be implying that the individual on the card is licensed in this State to practice the service stated on the card such as architecture. Mr. Barkin believes that this Board, as a public service, should make a clear statement, perhaps in the minutes of a meeting, to clarify for practitioners in this State the appropriate use of these terms. Ms. Jones also believes that this is an issue especially with non-professionals not in the field of architecture. Ms. Briggs referenced the recent letter the Board issued regarding use of the term architect and is currently on the AIA/CT website. Ms. Briggs also noted that if an individual has a specific issue, then come before the Board to address it and it will be evaluated based upon its circumstances. She does not wish to issue statements in the abstract on hypothetical situations for which she does not know the facts.

In summary, Mr. Jeter believes the Board has addressed Mr. Barkin's original question to them reiterating that an individual licensed as an architect out-of State needs to be identified as such on their business card.

1C. E-Mail Response from Ms. Erica Brown from the NCARB, dated September 21, 2009, regarding *Architect Registration Examination* Communication Procedures; for discussion by the Board. Ms. Briggs stated that NCARB's response was very clear and beneficial. Mr. Jeter noted, as an aside, that there may be an examination candidate sitting for an examination out of Connecticut whose intent is to get licensed here and it is not clear whether NCARB would be aware of that or not.

1D. Continuation of discussion concerning Regulation changes regarding Electronic Seals and Signatures. Mr. Schwane noted that the Professional Engineer's Board met this past Tuesday and Mr. Schwane distributed to the Board a rough draft of what the Engineer's Board wants to proceed with although it is not yet in a legal format. This draft makes a specific reference to the U.S. Digital Signature Standard. Mr. Schwane elaborated somewhat on the specifics of the content of this draft.

It was suggested by Mr. Barkin that perhaps it would be wise to discuss this topic with the Department of Public Works and get their policies and procedures since they presently require electronic seals on their projects. Mr. Jeter's concern has always been the protection of the Architect's signature and the potential for misuse of the same by unauthorized alterations to the document(s) by others.

Ms. Jones suggested that the Board consider inviting Mr. Kevin Kopetz with the Department of Public Works to a future meeting to continue this discussion since he authors the contracts requiring electronic signatures. It was also suggested that Mr. Bruce Bockstael be in attendance also. The Board requested that Mr. Bockstael and Mr. Kopetz be invited to their January 15, 2009 Regular Board Meeting. At the suggestion of Mr. Schwane for assistance from the Board, Ms. Briggs volunteered to assist in the preparation of a draft of proposed regulation changes (from this Board) regarding electronic seals and signatures.

#### 2. New Business

2A. The following candidates have passed the *Architect Registration Examination* and are recommended by the Department of Consumer Protection for licensing as Architects in the State of Connecticut; the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the following individuals for licensing as architects in Connecticut. (Hurd/Briggs)

- 1. Lisa G. Boettger
- 2. William B. McDaniel

<u>2B. Applications for licensing by waiver of examination</u>; the following individuals are recommended by the Department of Consumer Protection for licensing as architects in the State of Connecticut on the basis of waiver of examination with an NCARB Certificate Record or by Direct Endorsement; *the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the following individuals for licensing as architects in the State of Connecticut.* (*Briggs/Hurd*)

1.	Bartle, Andrew B.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 44504)
2.	Bollack, Francoise	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
3.	Catsimatides, Anthony	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 41719)
4.	Crawford, Randall T.	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
5.	Debolt, Margaret W.	Waiver of Examination; Virginia	(NCARB File No. 32841)
6.	Feather, Vernon L.	Waiver of Examination; Mississippi	(NCARB File No. 97284)
7.	Fisher, Ricki B.	Waiver of Examination; Texas	(NCARB File No. 34356)
8.	Graham, Gary L.	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 20979)
9.	Gribbin, Steven F.	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 78115)
10.	Hergan, Elise A.	Waiver of Examination; Wisconsin	(NCARB File No. 97675)
11.	Himmelstein, Peter	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
12.	Holmes, Jeffrey	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 99249)
13.	Keller, Peter C.	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
14.	Li, Roz	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 21811)
15.	Naprawa, Jeffrey	Waiver of Examination; California	Direct
16.	Necciai, Terry A.	Waiver of Examination; Pennsylvania	Direct
17.	Park, Ung-Jib	Waiver of Examination; Wisconsin	(NCARB File No. 98000)
18.	Parnass, Jordan	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
19.	Pilla, Dominick R.	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
20.	Potts, Stephan K.	Waiver of Examination; Pennsylvania	(NCARB File No. 90348)
21.	Sandren, John F.	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
22.	Schofield, Donald W.	Waiver of Examination; Virginia	(NCARB File No. 25421)
23.	Schroeder, Mark S.	Waiver of Examination; Indiana	(NCARB File No. 64194)
24.	Surman, Robert E.	Waiver of Examination; Illinois	(NCARB File No. 229133)
25.	Tolman, Brian T.	Waiver of Examination; New York	(NCARB File No. 113846)
26.	Torres, Richard J.	Waiver of Examination; New York	Direct
27.	Walter, Donald M.	Waiver of Examination; Massachusetts	(NCARB File No. 63542)
28.	Walton, Craig H.	Waiver of Examination; Pennsylvania	(NCARB File No. 46922)
29.	Yelos San Martin, Miguel	Waiver of Examination; Montana	(NCARB File No. 59671)

<u>2C. Update from the Trade Practices Division regarding Complaints</u>; Department Investigator Robert Nakano is scheduled to address the Board.

2D. Update from Mr. Steven Schwane from the Consumer Protection's Legal Division regarding any Board issues.

1. Mr. Schwane gave the Board an update on the State Library Regulations. Another draft is being circulated which will incorporate a separate definitions for maps and plans noting that maps are land surveys done by licensed land surveyors and plans are prepared by architects, engineers, and landscape architects. Mr. Hurd noted that current statutes regarding filing which give the Town Clerks guidance on what they

have to get when a map gets filed only speak to surveys. Planning and Zoning commissions want other drawings to be filed.

Mr. Schwane expects the final version to be done at any time at which time it will be resubmitted in accordance with the procedures consistent with how the original submission was rejected.

2. It was noted that Ms. Linda Roberts is back with the Department as the Commissioner's Liaison for Boards and Commissions.

## 2E. Any correspondence and/or business received in the interim.

- 1. Ms. Harp Jones noted that the Department's website is still under construction and is very challenging for consumers to determine who is licensed as an architect in the State of Connecticut.
- 2. Ms. Harp Jones stated that the Office of Policy and Management was asked for an OLR Research Report. She does not know the original request date but the reply date was November 6, 2009. She had copies of this report for review by any interested parties. The Report consists of a summary of professional license fees in selected jurisdictions and compares the license fees of fifteen (15) professionals in nineteen (19) selected States. Ms. Jones noted that Connecticut has the second highest fees of those noted in the report.
- 3. Ms. Roberts noted that Mr. Nakano from the Trade Practices Division will not be able to attend today's meeting due to recent illness but will try to be at the Board's January 2010 Regular Meeting. Ms. Briggs had inquired as to the status of the spreadsheet chart relative to complaints that was being given to this Board. Ms. Briggs noted that the chart was very helpful to the Board and perhaps may stand in substitution for a Department Representative having to attend meetings. Ms. Roberts will follow up on this matter.
- 4. Mr. Bruce Spiewak requested an update on the status of the Design-Build issue and also brought to the Boards attention and advertisement he came across for an entity collecting fees for promoting architects which he believes is in violation of State Statutes. He contacted this person and advised her to contact Mr. Robert Kuzmich at the Department of Consumer Protection for further clarification.

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 AM. (Briggs/Hurd) The next regular meeting of the Architectural Licensing Board is scheduled for Friday, January 15, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.; State Office Building; Room 121; 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A. Board Administrator