

**Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners
Complaint Review Committee
September 29, 2017
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Knox Tumlin, Chair
J. David Brinson
Richard J. LeBlanc
Paul H. Spaht, Board Attorney
Katherine E. Hillegas, Executive Director

The meeting was called to order by Tumlin who reviewed the agenda.

Motion: Brinson/Tumlin: To hold the meeting in executive session since it involved investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct and/or the character and professional competence of persons. **Passed: 2-0** (Brinson and Tumlin voting in favor).

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed.

Motion: Brinson/Tumlin: To approve the June 16, 2017 minutes. **Passed. 2-0.**

Complaints

2017-05: Gerald Billes

Spaht updated the Committee on the sworn affidavit received which alleged questionable and unethical conduct by the respondent. He indicated that notice of the complaint had been shared with the Respondent and that there was no response back to the Board of that notice. It was agreed that any allegations of misconduct related to the criminal charges should not be addressed until such time as the criminal case is closed

Motion: Brinson/Tumlin: To have Staff contact Penn State University to determine if such a request as outlined in the sworn affidavit was made. **Passed. 2-0.**

2017-06: James R. Aultman – An Architectural Corporation

Hillegas reported that a Consent Order had been issued to James R. Aultman – An Architectural Corporation following receipt of an application for reinstatement of their Professional Architectural Corporation license and that the established penalty and administrative fees had been paid.

2017-07: Kimberly Finney

Spaht provided the Committee with an overview of the case indicating that the Sworn Affidavit received implied that Ms. Finney had stamped drawings prepared by another architect. Members of the Committee were unable to clearly read the drawings provided by the complainant or by Ms. Finney and requested that staff reach out to both parties in order to get full-size reproductions of the original drawings for comparison.

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2017-08: re:design Architectural Studios

Spaht provided the Committee with information related to two e-mail complaints received expressing concern that neither the firm nor the firm owners were registered to practice architecture in Louisiana. Following receipt, a letter was sent to the firm owner advising of the potential of a case being opened up for unlicensed practice. The owner responded indicating concern over the source of the complaints, and the staff followed up citing further examples of the violation of the use of the title.

Motion: Brinson/Tumlin: To recommend that staff send a cease and desist letter with a deadline and further, if no response is received to that deadline, to instruct staff/legal counsel to file an injunction in court. **Passed. 2-0.**

2017-09: Brad Evans

Hillegas reported on an e-mail received which contained a copy of an article published in a local newspaper in July in which Mr. Evans was referenced as an architect, and the complainant expressed concern because he/she believed that Mr. Evans was not licensed to practice. Upon review, it was determined that Mr. Evans was not a licensed architect. Hillegas contacted Mr. Evans and learned that he did not hold himself out as an architect on the project in question in the news article. She reminded him that in order to call oneself an architect in Louisiana, one must hold a valid license.

The Committee agreed that this case required no further action.

2017-10: Edward Bolzan

Hillegas informed the Committee that she had received a Public Records Request from the New York State Department of Education for Mr. Bolzan and in reviewing his file, noticed that he had indicated prior disciplinary action on his reciprocal application and that his file had not been reviewed by the CRC or the Board. She indicated that she had contacted Mr. Bolzan's office in order to obtain supporting information for his disciplinary action and that such information would be presented to the Committee at the next meeting.

Conditional Firm Renewal Indicating Disciplinary or Investigative Action

Hillegas presented an application for renewal of a PAC which included disciplinary action for consideration. She noted that she had issued a conditional renewal pending final review and determination by the Board.

Motion: Brinson/Tumlin: To recommend that the Board renew the Certificate of Authority for Cannon Design with the stipulation that Cannon Design provide documentation to the board on an annual basis until such time as the fine imposed by the United States Attorney General's office has been paid in full. **Passed. 2-0.**

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Firm Certificates of Authority Indicating Disciplinary or Investigative Actions Issued by Staff

Delinquent Firm Renewal

Hillegas presented a delinquent firm renewal by Rees Masilionis Turley Architecture, LLC which indicated that such firm had practiced architecture in Louisiana without proper licensure on two projects in Shreveport. A conditional license had been issued to this applicant.

Motion: Brinson/Tumlin: To attempt to dispose of this matter by a Consent Order with a \$1,000 fine and \$125 administrative fee.

Passed: 2-0.

Hillegas presented a series of firm renewal applications which included disciplinary action and which had been processed by staff. In all cases, the disciplinary actions were either specific to the jurisdiction's requirements or resolution of the disciplinary action had been achieved in the occurring state, and there appeared to be no infraction of the Architect Licensing Law in Louisiana.

After review of each application and the documentation surrounding the disciplinary actions,

Motion: Brinson/Tumlin: To recommend that the Board ratify the issuance of the following applications for renewal of a Certificate of Authority and to have the Board consider the application of Coleman Partners Architects, LLC:

- Sterling Barnett Little, Inc.
- Christopher Kidd & Associates, LLC
- Landry Architecture, LLC
- PRDG, LLC
- Robson Forensic, Inc.
- Galloway & Company, Inc.
- Thomas Hamilton & Associates, P.C.
- HCO, Inc.
- Novus Architecture
- Ruard Veltman Architecture, Inc.
- Polkinghorn Group Architects, Inc.

Passed. 2-0.

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Reinstatement Application for Individual License

Hillegas presented an application for reinstatement of an individual license for Henry A. Boudreaux, Jr. which included information related to a lawsuit against Mr. Boudreaux, Jr. for fraud and gross misconduct. The Committee agreed that because the lawsuit is still active,

Motion: Brinson/Tumlin: To recommend that the Board approve the application for reinstatement of license for Mr. Henry A. Boudreaux Jr., following receipt of documentation of 24 hours of HSW Continuing Education hours in the past two years and further, with the stipulation that Mr. Boudreaux provide the Board with status updates on court activity related to the lawsuit as they occur. **Passed. 2-0.**

Reciprocal Application with Disciplinary Action

Hillegas presented the Committee with a reciprocal application for licensure which included disciplinary action that had been issued by staff and required ratification by the Board. She noted that resolution of the disciplinary action had been achieved in the occurring state and there appeared to be no infraction of the Architect Licensing Law in Louisiana.

Motion: Brinson/Tumlin: To recommend that the Board ratify the issuance of the license for Eric Styer. **Passed. 2-0.**

Recent complaint

Hillegas presented a very recent complaint received from Beau Raines against Newman Marchive Carlisle, Inc. The nature of the complaint is unclear, and Hillegas will obtain more information.

Motion: Brinson/Tumlin: To end the executive session. **Passed: 2-0.**

Motion: Brinson/Tumlin: To adjourn. **Passed: 2-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Knox Tumlin, Chair
Complaint Review Committee