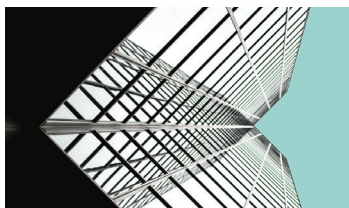




MERRY CHRISTMAS & Happy New Year from LSBAE



LSBAE Laws & Rules QUIZ

Earn one (1) HSW continuing education hour by scoring 80% or higher on the [Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz](#). The board provides this quiz to licensees at no cost. It may be applied toward your continuing education requirements **once** each calendar year.

Renew your architect license now!

It is time to renew your license to practice architecture. A reminder notice was e-mailed to your address on file in early November, and again earlier this month. An architect who does not renew his/her license may not practice after the expiration of the license. An architect who continues to practice using an expired license will be subject to disciplinary action as the board deems appropriate. If you still need to do so, please take a moment [to renew your license](#).

Once your renewal application has been approved, you will receive an e-mail indicating your license has been renewed. The e-mail will also contain a PDF of your updated license and a wallet card. Please be sure to print this for your records.

Reminder: All architects (both in-state and out-of-state) are required to complete 12 Continuing Education Hours (CEH) of Health, Safety, and Welfare (HSW) subjects in the calendar year before renewing their individual Louisiana licenses. This means that you must have completed 12 CEH in HSW in the calendar year 2023.

Notices regarding licensure status are sent only as a courtesy of the board. The ultimate responsibility for licensure renewal rests with the licensed professional. All renewals, including payment, must be received in the board office by midnight CST on December 31 or postmarked by that date.

Architect licenses run on the calendar year (January 1 through December 31), and Firm certificates run on the mid-year (July 1 through June 30).

IN THIS ISSUE

Ron Blich parting thoughts and gratitude	Page 2	New licensees	Page 7
Executive Director's report	Page 3	OSFM: Submittals, energy code, foam insulation	Page 7
LSBAE needs your help	Page 4	Disciplinary & enforcement actions	Page 9
Board Attorney report	Page 5	NCARB News Notes.....	Page 12



CHAIR'S REPORT

By Ron Blicht - FAIA, FACHA, Hon. FCARM

Parting thoughts and gratitude

This is the final year of my final term with the LSBAE, and I am so grateful for the opportunity I have had to serve the architects of Louisiana for the past 25 years.

I was appointed by Governor Edwards in 1993 to the Board after an experience I had with a case before the Board that I felt was treated too mildly, with a “slap on the wrist” rather than true disciplinary action per our laws. I decided that the best way to strengthen the Board was to be part of it, so I applied and was appointed.

Teeny Simmons was the Executive Director at that time, and she took great care to orient me to the ways of the State and the Board. She suggested that I get involved with NCARB committees to understand Louisiana’s role within our national organization of all 55 jurisdictions. I started with work on the ARE and grading of the last versions of the “Paper and Pencil” ARE exam that was administered until 1997, when the computerized exam debuted.



Ron Blicht at NCARB 2023 ABM Conference

Grading the 40,000 exams given nationally with 200 other graders was a great experience, and after 25 years of volunteering with AIA nationally and AIA Louisiana (then the Louisiana Architects Association), I felt

like I was helping advance the profession in a small way, by determining – with the other graders, whether a candidate was ready to pass this part of the path to licensure.

I then joined the ARE committee of NCARB and was appointed to the Construction Documents and Services writing group – a fascinating process of writing, refining, pre-testing, and analyzing test results of questions in this division of the exam. It takes 3 years for a question to go through this process and make it onto the exam. Great friendships were made with other writers as this is a very intense and dedicated effort to support the ARE’s development.

I eventually became Assistant Chair of this committee, then Chair, and then Chair of the overall Examination Committee of the ARE. During all this time, there were LSBAE meetings every few months, NCARB meetings, and other activities (as well as AIA service on other committees and boards).

In 2009, when the national financial crisis affected NCARB’s finances, the budget of the ARE was slashed, and the ARE was in danger of not producing enough “items” for the exam

due to decisions by the NCARB board to drastically cut back the ARE’s development. When I realized that this decision was made without the Exam Committee’s input and that the Board could do such a thing unilaterally, I decided to run for the Board for the position of second VP and be part of the decision-making process. My platform was not to run “against” my opponent but to run “for the ARE.” The election for 2nd VP was a tie, but I won in the runoff.

I served on the NCARB Board as 2nd VP, 1st VP-Prez Elect, and then as President in 2012/2013. I truly enjoyed every minute of the time on the “Big Board.”

I had the honor of representing NCARB at the UIA (Union of International Architects) meeting in Tokyo in 2011 and was part of the NCARB delegation to Guadalajara, Mexico, in 2012 at the Tri-National Agreement signing for reciprocity with Mexican and Canadian architects.

I also have served on numerous other committees with NCARB, NAAB, and LSBAE. If all that sounds exhausting – it is! But it’s also very fulfilling and something I have benefited from tremendously, as I truly feel that giving back to one’s profession is important.

My father, J. Buchanan Blicht Sr. FAIA, founded our architectural firm, and I’m the only one of 7 children who went into architecture and worked with him until his retirement in 1988. He died in 1998 and missed my elevation to Fellowship in 1999 – one of only 2 father/son combinations of Fellows in Louisiana history and the only father/son team to both receive AIA Louisiana’s Medal of Honor.

My father had me working on old carousel projectors at AIA Louisiana events when I was still in high school. Following his lead and volunteering for anything I could seemed normal, as he was a great role model.

I may be leaving the LSBAE, but I’ll be busy heading the AIA College of Fellows as Chancellor in 2024. And I will participate in NCARB annual meetings as a past president each year.

My greatest satisfaction with the LSBAE has been watching our Board advance to the top tier of NCARB’s 55 jurisdictions. Our Board has always been at the forefront of national boards, with our entry into continuing education, strategic planning, IDP forums, the AERF fund, continued board involvement in NCARB committees, and the continued passion of all of our board members to serve the architects of Louisiana.

The Board is in great hands with Tyson, Justin, and our leadership team. Thank you all for your support over these years.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Tyson J. Ducote, Executive Director

Busy year for staff and board, new report on profession out

LSBAE Staff

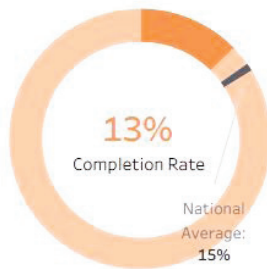
2023 has found the LSBAE staff busy as usual. We opened our new Louisiana laws and rules quiz, which grants one HSW hour to licensees who earn 80% on the 25-question exam. If you need one more HSW, you can find the quiz here. We welcomed Lindsay

Stewart into her role as the board's new licensing advisor. As a licensing advisor, she answers questions and assists individuals on the path to licensure. The staff was also involved in testing during the roll-out of our partnership with CE Broker. This agreement grants licensees a free basic account that they can use to track required HSW hours.

AXP

287
Licensure
Candidates
Reporting Hours

37
Completions

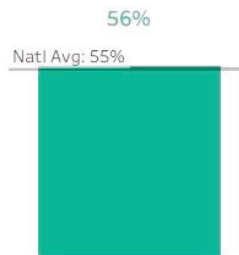


ARE

165
Active Testers

367
Divisions Taken

40
Completions



Board Members

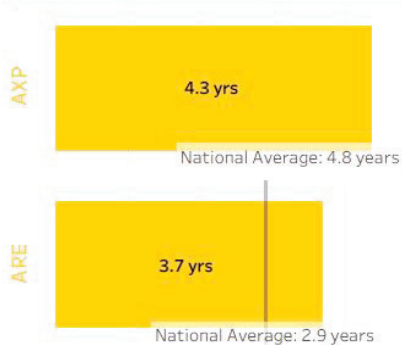
A board committee began tackling the laborious task of updating our laws and rules, which included housekeeping and modernizing the language in both documents. Keep an eye on the website and newsletter for future document updates. The board also began digging into its strategic plan and discussing how to implement the goals listed in that document.

NCARB by the Numbers

Earlier this year, NCARB released the 2023 NCARB By the Numbers document, which offers an inside look at the 2022 data behind the architecture profession, including the timeline to licensure, demographics of architects and licensure candidates, and more. The chart below shows Louisiana's licensure candidates and how they compare to the national average in completing the AXP and ARE. It also shows the balance between reciprocal and residential licenses. As in 2022, the charts show that Louisiana is close to the national average on most of these metrics. If you'd like to indulge your inner data nerd, more charts, graphs, and demographics can be found in the full [NCARB BY THE NUMBERS – 2023 EDITION](#).

I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season. Enjoy time with family and friends, reflect on this year's accomplishments, and make plans for the new year. As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please feel free to contact me.

COMPLETION TIMELINE



LICENSURE

62%
Reciprocal
Licenses

38%
Resident
Licenses



National
Averages:
Reciprocal |
Resident
55% |
45%

GOALS

Laws and Rules

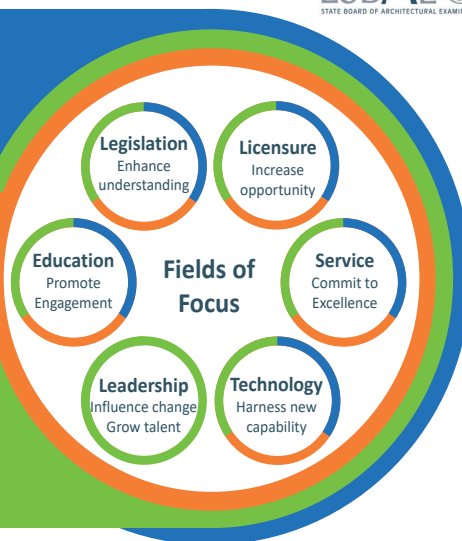
Reorganize and streamline Louisiana laws and rules to improve understanding and remove impediments to licensure while maintaining public safety

Communication

Proactive outreach to schools, students, licensees, legislators, and industry organizations to facilitate licensure and nurture diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.

NCARB

Actively foster strong relationships at the national level to be at the forefront of changes in the regulation of architects



Strategic Plan

Licensees & Points of Contact

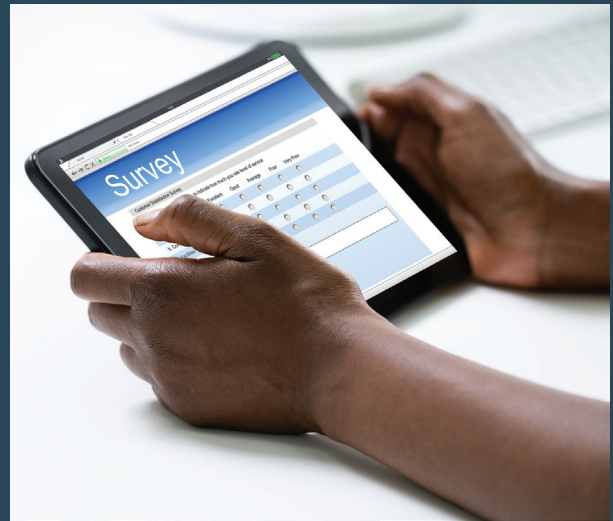
Licensees may identify a Point of Contact (POC) who can act as their agent to receive communications regarding their registration and to conduct business with the board on their behalf. To establish a POC, an architect must do the following:

- Log in to the [Licensing Portal](#)
- On the left side navigation of the screen, select “Point of Contact.”
- On the “Point of Contact” card, Select the “Assign Point of Contact” button.
- Identify your POC by providing a name, e-mail address, and phone number.

A message will then be delivered to your designated POC. They will then have to do the following after receiving an e-mail notifying them that access has been granted to the architect’s record:

- The POC will create an account on the [Licensing Portal](#). Their User ID will be the e-mail address they received the e-mail notice. If they already have an existing POC account, they will use their same e-mail and password to log in.
- Once the POC has authorized and confirmed the account, they can log in to access the architect’s account via the “Architect” tab at the top of their profile page and complete the renewal application.

It is important to note that while you are granting authority to another individual to conduct business (i.e., renew your license) with the board, you will continue to receive communications from the board. It remains your responsibility to ensure that all information provided to the board is complete and accurate.

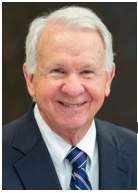


LSBAE needs your help!

In February 2024, LSBAE will send out its 2024 Licensee Satisfaction Survey. This biennial survey allows the board to gather feedback directly from you, our licensees. As in the past, we anticipate this survey will take approximately 5 minutes to complete and will allow you to give us feedback on the board’s operations as experienced by you.

Your feedback is important to us, and we would greatly appreciate your participation in the upcoming survey.





BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT

By Paul H. Spaht, LSBAE Board Attorney

LSBAE audits of CEH hours, considers penalty on firms without license

upon the length of time of such practice.

Completing 12 CEH in HSW each CY – The licensing law and board rules require that all architectural licensees, unless exempt, complete a minimum of twelve continuing education hours (CEH) in health, safety and welfare (HSW) each calendar year (January 1 – December 31) as a condition for renewing their licenses. The renewal application requires that the applicant certify that the continuing education requirements of the board have been completed. The board rules provide that “[a]ny untrue or false statement or the use thereof with respect to course attendance or any other aspect of continuing educational activity is fraud or misrepresentation and will subject the architect and/or program sponsor to license revocation or other disciplinary activity.”

Each year the board randomly audits the continuing education activities of a small percentage of renewing architects. Architects selected for audit are asked to provide evidence of their continuing education activities. Normally, the audits proceed without incident.

During 2023, the board issued orders disciplining two architects who had been randomly selected for audits. These architects had certified in their renewal applications that they had completed the CEH required by the board rules. Despite repeated requests by emails, phone calls, and letters, and requests personally served, these two architects failed to provide any evidence of their continuing education activities during the CY being audited.

As a final step, the board filed administrative complaints against these architects and noticed the matters for board hearings. The architects failed to appear at the hearings, which proceeded in their absences. Evidence was introduced and testimony taken. The disciplines imposed included revocation of these architects’ registrations in Louisiana and their Louisiana licenses.

Discipline for firms practicing without obtaining proper licensure – The disciplines for various violations of the licensing law and board rules are set forth in General Disciplinary Guidelines found in Board Rule §1907. The existing guidelines provide that firms will be fined for practicing without obtaining proper licensure, and the amount of the fine varies depending

The board has begun rule-making which will reduce the amount of the fine imposed upon an architectural firm found by the board to have practiced architecture with an expired certificate of authority. The proposed rule amendment will reduce the amount of the fine to one-half the amount of the fine currently imposed.

Presently, the fines imposed upon an individual and a firm for practicing with an expired license are the same. The amendment in progress is set forth in the Notice of Intent posted and available for review on the board’s website. [See NOI for the amendment of Rule §1907\(E\).](#)

Accommodating persons with disabilities – Act No. 393 of the 2023 regular legislative session mandates that state agencies adopt rules for public participation and member participation for those with a disability recognized by the Americans with Disability Act. The board has long had a policy of allowing participation in its meetings by persons with disabilities, but it had no specific rule so providing. As mandated, the board has begun the process of amending its rules to accommodate participation on an individual basis via electronic means by members of the public with a disability, designated caregivers of such persons, and participant board members with a disability who request accommodation.



Senior Affordable Housing, Morgan City
Rome Office



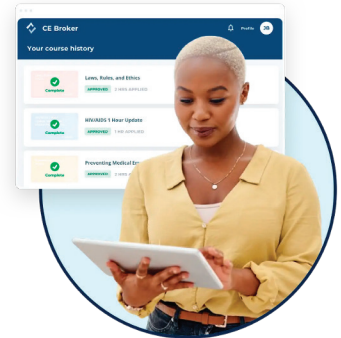
Sign up for CE Broker today!

CE Broker is the official CE tracking system of the Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners. You will never have to pay for a CE Broker Basic Account. However, licensees do have the option to subscribe to an upgraded account, which offers additional CE tracking tools.

How to activate your free CE Broker account

- 1 | Visit cebroker.com/la/account/basic/
- 2 | Enter your license number
- 3 | Start tracking your continuing education today!

* If you already have a CE Broker account, follow these [simple steps](#) to add your Louisiana license.



Comprehensive course search

The CE Broker **Course Search** helps you find every course you need to complete your license renewal. Any courses with the “Take it Here” tag will be instantly reported to your account and appear in your Course History. To find courses, visit <https://courses.cebroker.com/search/la> and select your profession.

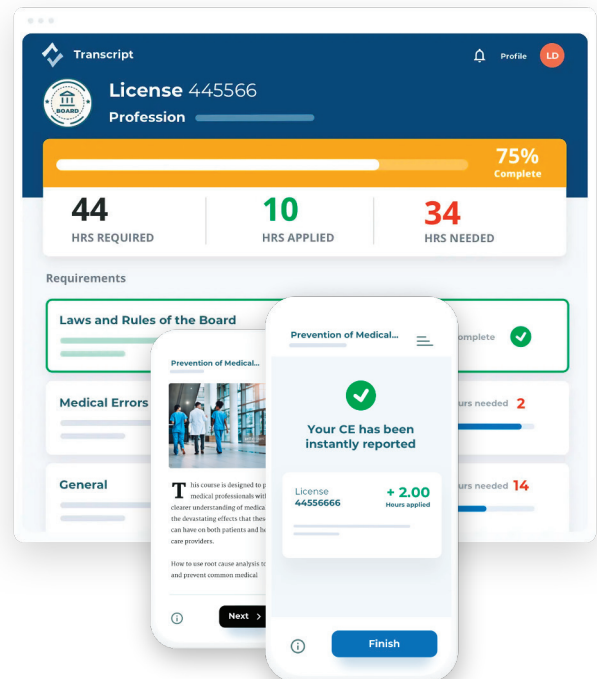
Helpful support center

CE Broker provides dedicated support 8AM-8PM ET Monday-Friday with a team of experts trained on the rules and regulations of the Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners. You can reach them by phone at 877-434-6323 or via [email and live chat](#).

Benefits of using CE Broker

- Track and know precisely how many hours you’ve completed and how many hours are remaining;
- Available convenience features like a personalized transcript and a personal account manager;
- Bring CE compliance wherever you go with the CE Broker mobile app.

Available on iPhone and Android from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).





OSFM PLAN REVIEW CORNER

By: Joe Delaune, Chief Architect

Our plan submittal rate continues to remain at a high level. Between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023, we received 19,399 plan submittals - an all-time high for a fiscal year, and we're matching that step-for-step so far this year. We have received 7,819 submittals since July 1st, with an estimated construction cost of just over \$7 billion. This compares to last year's 7,817 with an estimated construction cost of just under \$4 billion during this same 4-month time period. A few high-dollar large development projects received this year have skewed our cost estimates a bit for comparison. It is great to see our construction industry flourishing!

Our office is set up to effectively manage between 17,500 and 18,000 plan submittals annually. Fluctuations are expected to occur throughout the year, and occasional spikes can quickly be overcome. This steady influx requires some ingenuity and persistence in order to compensate. We continuously implement additional efficiencies to help speed up our process, and overtime hours have been the norm lately. We've recently filled vacant positions, which will allow us to spread the workload and address the projects sooner.

ELEVATORS

Legislation was enacted during the 2018 Regular Session as Act 598 and modified during the 2021 Regular Session as Act 339 to

Submittals at all-time high, new legislation, and gate concerns

address "conveyance devices" (AKA elevators). Key provisions of these Acts will become effective on July 1, 2024, which will require this office to enforce compliance with the law and with the provisions of ASME A17.1 or ASTM A17.3 as applicable. This law, LRS 40:1646 et seq., recognizes conveyance devices as life safety systems in a building similar to sprinklers, fire alarms, special locking, and suppression systems. This law does not currently provide for a separate plan submittal for the elevator systems (stay tuned). For specific information about the law, see [RS 40:1646](#).

PEDESTRIAN and VEHICULAR GATES

Electronically activated gate systems that control access or egress to a structure or to an area are included in the definition of a "Special Locking System," therefore, installers of these systems are licensed and regulated by this office. Electronic gates outside a "structure" and do not block egress from the building are not currently included in our plan review. However, concerns are being raised by the industry that many of these systems are not being installed by qualified licensed installers and that they do not comply with the requirements of ASTM F2200 or UL 325. Discussions regarding the possible plan review for these specific systems are ongoing. In the meantime, please remember to

(continued on page 8)



New licensees banquet

Shown at the Awards Dinner during the AIA Louisiana Conference on Sept. 29 are, from left, Tyson Ducote, LSBAE Executive Director; Ron Blitch, LSBAE Chairman; Lou Tonore, Katherine Patin, Tan Nguyen, Blake Kidder, Kade Brandon, Giulia Irwin, Lindsay Stewart, LSBAE Licensing Advisor; and Fritz Embaugh, 2023 President, AIA

Congratulations to our new licensees by examination

The LSBAE is pleased to announce that the following individuals were licensed by examination between June 3, 2023 and December 6, 2023.

NAME	CITY	NAME	CITY
Mr. Page Comeaux	New Orleans LA	Mrs. Mia Kaplan	Lacombe LA
Mr. Favio Diaz	New Orleans LA	Mr. Matthew Jacob Landry	Prairieville LA
Mr. Joel Edwards	Madisonville LA	Mrs. Marie Sophie Lapping	Kansas City MO
Mr. Ephraim Harrison Fields	Bowie MD	Mr. Tan Nguyen	New Orleans LA
Mr. Eli Nathaniel Fisher	New Orleans LA	Mr. Lance Casey Orillion	Lafayette LA
Mr. Kerry Frey	Lafayette LA	Mrs. Katherine G. Patin	Baton Rouge LA
Ms. Emily Kinloch Heausler	Bay St. Louis MS	Mr. Carson Montgomery Piontek	New Orleans LA
Mr. Kaleb David Hebert	Lafayette LA	Mrs. Katie Layne Shay	Lavalette WV

OSFM PLAN REVIEW CORNER

Submittals at all-time high, new legislation, and gate concerns

(continued from page 7)

specify that the installers must be licensed by this office and that the installations shall comply with the provisions of ASTM F2200 and UL 325 (per IBC 3110).

MODIFIED CONTACT INFORMATION

Our online system uses the contact information provided to LSBAE and to LAPELS that is associated with your professional license number. This is to prevent fraud and erroneous information from being entered on applications submitted to this office that identify you as the professional of record. It was our intent to allow you to update this information during the plan review application process; however, this can (and often does) invite fraud by applicants other than yourselves. As such, requested changes to your contact information that conflict with the information provided to the licensing boards are heavily scrutinized. It is unfortunate that this simple convenience has been hijacked by a few dishonest applicants. Therefore, until further notice, please upload a signed letter on your letterhead to request these changes along with your application. We will remove this online feature with our next update until the licensing boards can collect alternate contact information. Please note that updated data is occasionally received from the Boards that may overwrite any changes made since the previous update. Please also note that requested changes to redirect contact to a contractor, building owner, or to anyone other than yourself or your firm will continue to be rejected.

Has your firm certificate expired?

Following the 2023 firm renewal cycle, which ended June 30, 2023, it was noted that 29 firms had failed to renew their Certificates of Authority. The break-down is as follows:

In-State:

Architectural Firms – 9

Professional Architectural Corporations – 2

Out-of-State:

Architectural-Engineering Corporations – 3

Architectural Firms – 10

Professional Architectural Corporations – 5

Please verify the status of your firm's certificate with the LSBAE by using the Find a Firm search function. La. R.S. 37:153(A)(3) and La. R.S. 37:154(A) prohibit the practice and/or offering to practice architecture in Louisiana with an expired certificate. **A firm practicing architecture with an expired certificate is subject to discipline by the board.**

By the numbers... as of December 7, 2023

Total Architects	3,583	Total Firms	1,227
Residents	1,303	Residents	459
Non-Resident	2,280	Non-resident	768





ENFORCEMENT REPORT

By Justin Owens, Deputy Director

LSBAE disciplinary and enforcement actions taken by the Board

One important function of the Board is to investigate alleged violations of the statutes and rules which regulate the practice of architecture in Louisiana. Substantiated violations result in disciplinary or enforcement action being taken either through a Consent Order or by Board Order following a formal hearing. The following are summaries of the disciplinary actions taken by the Board since the previous issue of our newsletter.

Multiple Laws/Rules Violations

Steven J. Girouard (hereinafter 'Respondent'), an architect (license #6845), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for affixing his seal and stamp to drawings which was not prepared by him or under his responsible supervision in violation of La. R.S. 152(B), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(2), and La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6), to wit LAC Title 46:1§1313(A)(1) and (2). In 2022 Respondent signed, sealed and issued a set of architectural design plans for Pedro's Tacos & Tequila Bar in Lake Charles and El Paso Restaurant in Alexandria, Louisiana which had been prepared by an unlicensed person (Zulay Babineaux d/b/a "Designs by Zulay") who was not employed by him. Respondent did not exercise responsible supervision over the preparation of the plans by Zulay Babineaux, and the plans for both projects were submitted to the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office on "Designs by Zulay" title block only; neither set contained Respondent's title block. Respondent has entered into a Consent Order with the Board wherein he admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws and agreed to the suspension of his Louisiana architect license for a period of six (6) months



LSBAE 2022 Enforcement Stats

- Number of issues investigated - 81
- Number of cases opened - 81
- Number of cases closed - 73
- Average number of days to close - 67
- Number of cases that ended in a Consent Order - 10
- Fines collected (Forwarded to LA Treasury) - \$11,750
- Costs recouped - \$9,032.68

beginning on the date the Board accepted the Consent Order; his Louisiana architect license being placed on probation for a period of twelve (12) months beginning immediately upon the end of the suspension period; pay a fine of \$3,000.00; pay administrative costs of \$836.04; submit to the Board on a quarterly basis during the Probation Period a complete and detailed list (name, type, and square footage) of current projects on which he is providing architectural services and projects on which he provided architectural services during the preceding quarter; submit to the Board during the Probation Period, via email, a PDF file containing the architectural documents of every project submitted by Respondent to the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office for review; submit to the Board, within five (5) business days of a Board request, his complete job file for any project on any of said current or quarterly lists of projects; to the automatic and immediate suspension of his Louisiana architect license during the Probation Period if he fails to comply with any of the terms of the Consent Order, which suspension shall remain in effect until all terms of this Consent Order are satisfied; to the publication of this Consent Order on the Board's website; to the printing of a summary of this matter in the official newsletter of the Board, Louisiana Architect, identifying Respondent by name, and to the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards ("NCARB") Disciplinary Database, identifying Respondent by name.

Border Architects, Inc., Professional Corporation (hereinafter 'Respondent'), a professional architectural corporation (license #AC0159), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for practicing architecture in Louisiana with an expired certificate of authority in violation of La. R.S. 37:152(B), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(3), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(7), and La. R.S. 37:154(A). On June 30, 2020, Respondent's certificate of authority to practice architecture expired. On June 11,

(continued on page 10)

Moiré Noir, New Orleans
Nathan Fell Architecture

LSBAE disciplinary and enforcement actions

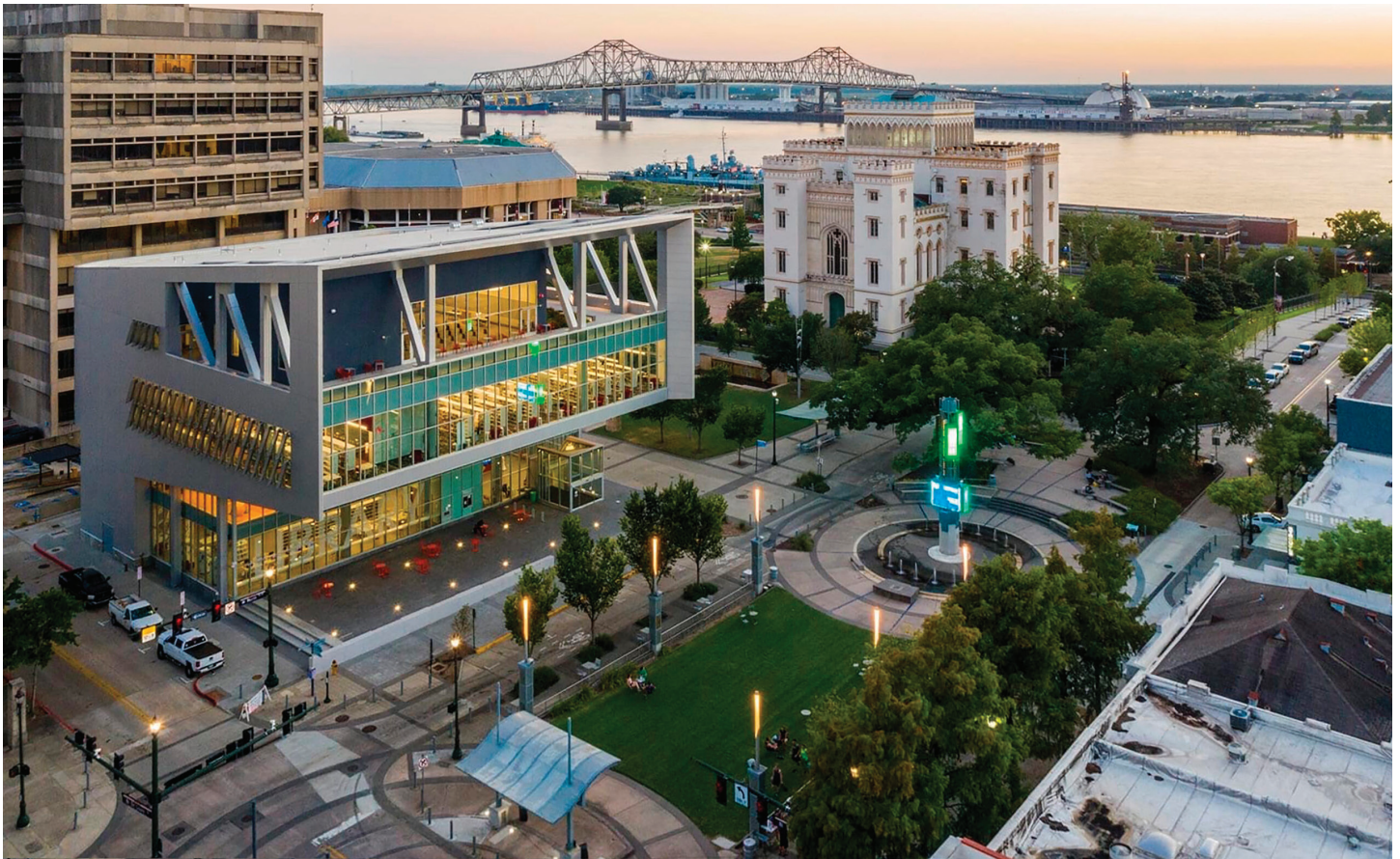
(continued from page 9)

2021, Respondent submitted to the Board an application for reinstatement of its certificate of authority to practice architecture, certifying thereon that it had not practiced architecture in Louisiana without a current license during the last five years. Information received from the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office, however, indicated that Respondent had submitted six (6) projects for review between July 13, 2020 and June 11, 2021. Respondent has entered into a Consent Order with the Board wherein it admitted to the referenced violation of the above laws and agreed to pay a fine of \$1,500; to pay administrative costs of \$471.84; to the publication of this Consent Order on the Board's website; to the printing of a summary of this matter in the official newsletter of the Board, Louisiana Architect, identifying Respondent by name, and to the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards ("NCARB") Disciplinary Database, identifying Respondent by name.

Raymond C. Bergeron, Jr. (hereinafter 'Respondent'), an architect (license #1036), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for violations of La. R.S. 37:144, to wit LAC Title 46:I §1305(A), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6), and La. R.S. 37:154(A). Respondent submitted to the City of New Orleans a set of drawings for a medical clinic. The electrical drawings submitted bore the stamp of an electrical engineer who had not been

involved in the project and who in fact was totally unaware of it. An employee in Respondent's firm affixed the unauthorized stamp. Respondent has entered into a Consent Order with the Board wherein he admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws and agreed to pay a fine of \$5,000, remitted in ten (10) equal payments of five hundred and no/100 (\$500.00) dollars each over ten (10) consecutive months, to be postmarked no later than the first business day of each month; to pay administrative costs of \$906.78, due upon the signing of this Consent Order; to the automatic and immediate suspension of Respondent's license if a scheduled payment is not made as per the terms in item "(a)" above, with said suspension continuing until all payments have been made; to successfully complete, with a minimum score of 80% and with no continuing education credit awarded, the Board's Laws & Rules Quiz, which may be accessed on the Board's website and which is due upon the signing of this Consent Order; to the publication of this Consent Order on the Board's website; to the printing of a summary of this matter in the official newsletter of the Board, Louisiana Architect, identifying Respondent by name, and to the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards ("NCARB") Disciplinary Database, identifying Respondent by name.

(continued on page 11)



River Center Branch Library, Baton Rouge
WHLC Architecture | Schwartz Silver

LSBAE disciplinary and enforcement actions

(continued from page 10)

Joseph S. Partain, Architect, LLC (hereinafter “Respondent”), an architectural firm (license number #AF0199), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for practicing architecture in Louisiana with an expired certificate of authority in violation of La. R.S. 37:153(A)(3), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(7), and La. R.S. 37:154(A). On September 30, 2020, Respondent’s certificate of authority to practice architecture expired. On June 14, 2021, Respondent submitted to the Board an application for reinstatement of its certificate of authority to practice architecture, certifying thereon that it had not practiced architecture in Louisiana without a current license during the last five years. Information received from the Louisiana State Fire Marshal’s Office, however, indicated that Respondent had submitted sixteen (16) projects for review during the expiration period. Respondent has entered into a Consent Order with the Board wherein it admitted to the referenced violation of the above laws and agreed to pay a fine of \$1,500, remitted in three equal payments of \$500 over three consecutive months, to be postmarked no later than the first business day of each month; to pay administrative costs of \$756.04 due in full upon the signing of this Consent Order; to the automatic and immediate suspension of Respondent’s license if a scheduled payment is not made as per the terms in item “a” above, which will continue until all payments have been made; to the publication of this Consent Order on the Board’s website; to the printing of a summary of this matter in the official newsletter of the Board, Louisiana Architect, identifying Respondent by name, and to the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (“NCARB”) Disciplinary Database, identifying Respondent by name.

Unlicensed Practice

Smith Ard Group, LLC (hereinafter ‘Respondent’), an architectural firm (license #AF0962), was subject

to disciplinary action by the Board for practicing architecture in Louisiana prior to receiving a certificate of authority in violation of La. R.S. 37:145(A), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6), and La. R.S. 37:154(A). Respondent was registered by the Louisiana Secretary of State in 2016 as an LLC. From 2016 until June 23, 2023 when Respondent received its certificate of authority from the Board, Respondent practiced architecture in Louisiana without obtaining a certificate of authority from the Board, submitting at least eleven (11) projects to the Louisiana State Fire Marshal’s Office for review and permitting from 2019 until June 23, 2023. Respondent has entered into a Consent Order with the Board wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws and agreed to pay a fine of \$1,500; to pay administrative costs of \$316.62; to the publication of this Consent Order on the Board’s website; to the printing of a summary of this matter in the official newsletter of the Board, Louisiana Architect, identifying Respondent by name, and to the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (“NCARB”) Disciplinary Database, identifying Respondent by name.

Disclaimer: Every effort has been taken to ensure that the aforementioned information is correct; however, it should not be relied upon without verification from the Board office. Please note that the names of companies and individuals listed may be similar to other parties who have not had disciplinary or enforcement actions taken against them.



The Bruce Museum in Greenwich, CT
Eskew+Dumez+Ripple



Ascent Corporate Office, Monroe
TBA Studio Architecture

NCARB NEWS NOTES

Analysis of Practice Findings

NCARB has been releasing key findings from the [2022 Analysis of Practice](#), including highlights related to roles and responsibilities and the value of licensure.

Sanctions Issued for ARE® Candidate Misconduct

NCARB announced in July 2023 that six candidates were sanctioned for violating the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) Candidate Agreement, ranging from copying and sharing exam questions to, in some cases, attempting to sell exam questions online. Further, all the sanctioned parties utilized the exposed questions before taking at least one division of the ARE. Sanctions included a public reprimand, invalidation of exam scores, testing authorization suspensions, a requirement to complete ethics education, and, for some candidates, denial of the NCARB Certificate for a period of time. [Read the full article](#). Information on NCARB's exam security measures is available [here](#).

“Such a building could never be built today.”



LPB explores the story of Huey P. Long's efforts to erect the tallest capitol building in the United States right here in Louisiana. From the architects that designed the soaring tower, to the commissioned artists who provided the sculptures, reliefs, and other adornments, the documentary will show you the building in a way that you have likely never seen before.

Premieres Monday, December 4 at 7PM **LPB** **PBS**
Stream at www.lpb.org/atallorder beginning Dec. 4.



LSU Barnes Ogden Art & Design Complex, Baton Rouge
 Holly & Smith Architects



Pine Residence, New Orleans
 Colectivo of New Orleans



Vermillion Lofts, Lafayette
 SO Studio of Lafayette

Ron B. Blitch - District 2
FAIA, FACHA, NCARB
Board President
Covington, LA

Kevin Singh - Architect Educator
AIA, LEED AP BD+C, NCARB
Board Secretary
Ruston, LA

Kristine A. Kobila - District 1
AIA, LEED AP BD+C, NCARB
New Orleans, LA

Michael F. Holly, District 3
AIA, REFP, NCARB
Hammond, LA

David K. Brossett - District 4
AIA, LEED AP, NCARB
Lake Charles, LA

Chris R. Elberson - District 5
AIA, NCARB
Shreveport, LA

John E. Cardone Jr.
Public Member
Lake Charles, LA

Tyson J. Ducote
Executive Director

9625 Fenway Avenue, Suite B
 Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1592
 Phone: (225) 925-4802
 Fax: (225) 925-4804

Office hours are 7:30 am to 4:00 pm
 Monday – Friday
www.lsbae.com