

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
9625 FENWAY AVENUE, SUITE B
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1592
(225) 925-4802

IN THE MATTER OF:) CASE NO. 2022-33
)
ZULAY BABINEAUX,)
)
RESPONDENT)
)
)
)
_____)

CONSENT ORDER

The Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners [hereinafter the "Board"], by and through its Executive Director, pursuant to authorization by the Board, and Zulay Babineaux, [hereinafter "Respondent"], hereby agree to the following:

Respondent is not now, nor has she ever been, licensed in the State of Louisiana as an architect.

An investigation was opened based upon the Board's receipt of information which suggested that Respondent had engaged in the unlicensed practice of architecture in Louisiana in connection with the preparation of architectural drawings for *Pedro's Tacos & Tequila Bar* in Lake Charles, Louisiana. The results of the investigation indicated that Respondent had produced completed architectural drawings for the referenced project which were submitted to the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office ("SFMO") for permitting.

La. R.S. 37:145(A) and La. R.S. 37:154(A) prohibit the practice of architecture in Louisiana without proper licensure. La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6) authorizes the Board to take disciplinary action against persons who violate La. R.S. 37:145(A) and La. R.S. 37:154(A) upon a finding of guilt following notice and hearing and a majority vote of its entire membership authorized to participate in the proceeding. La. R.S. 37:145(A), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6), and La. R.S. 37:154(A) were in effect at all times material hereto.

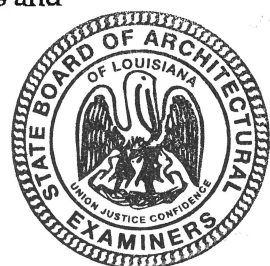
It is undisputed that (a) Respondent is not now, nor has she ever been, licensed as an architect in Louisiana, and (b) in 2021, Respondent prepared architectural drawings for a restaurant located in Louisiana.



By letter dated August 8, 2023, the Board gave notice to Respondent that it was considering the preferral of charges against her on the grounds that she may have violated La. R.S. 37:145(A) and La. R.S. 37:154(A) relative to the practicing of architecture in Louisiana without proper licensure.

Wishing to dispense with the need for further disciplinary action and to conclude the instant proceeding without further delay and expense, and for the purpose of this proceeding only, Respondent and the Board do hereby enter into this Consent Order, in which Respondent of her own free will consents to the issuance of a Consent Order by the Board, wherein Respondent agrees to (a) pay a fine of one thousand five hundred and no/100 (\$1,500.00) dollars, (b) pay administrative costs of seven hundred twenty-two and 82/100 dollars (\$722.82), (c) publication of this Consent Order on the Board's website and a summary of this matter in the Board's official newsletter, *Louisiana Architect*, to read, "*Zulay Babineaux (hereinafter 'Respondent')* was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for engaging in the practice of architecture in Louisiana without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:145(A), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6), and La. R.S. 37:154(A). In 2021, Respondent prepared architectural drawings for Pedro's Tacos & Tequila Bar in Lake Charles, Louisiana. Respondent has entered into a Consent Order with the Board wherein she admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws and agreed to pay a fine of \$1,500; to pay administrative costs of \$722.82; 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."; and (f) to the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards ("NCARB") Disciplinary Database, identifying Respondent by name.

Respondent admits that her conduct as set forth above constitutes violations of the above-referenced laws as stated herein. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order constitutes a disciplinary action by the Board against her. Respondent also acknowledges awareness of said laws and/or rules and states that she will comply with all applicable laws and rules henceforth. Respondent has been advised of her right to be represented by counsel before the Board and/or to appear at any hearing personally or by counsel and present witnesses and



evidence on her own behalf; she hereby waives these rights and her right to appeal, and she states affirmatively that she has been afforded all administrative remedies due her under the law. Respondent further acknowledges awareness of the fact that the signed original of this Consent Order will remain in the custody of the Board as a public record and will be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

Therefore, in consideration of the foregoing and by signing this Consent Order, Respondent does hereby waive her right to a hearing before the Board, to the presenting of evidence and witnesses on its behalf, to Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this case, and to judicial review of this Consent Order.

Respondent hereby represents that (a) she fully understands the meaning and intent of this Consent Order, including but not limited to its final and binding effect, (b) she has voluntarily entered into this Consent Order, and that no other promise or agreement of any kind has been made to or with her by any person whatsoever to cause the execution of this instrument, and (c) the sanctions set forth in this Consent Order do not prevent the Board from taking further disciplinary or enforcement action against Respondent on matters not specifically addressed in this Consent Order.

WHEREFORE, the Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners and Respondent agree that:

1. Respondent shall pay a fine of one thousand five hundred and no/100 (\$1,500.00) dollars, which shall be tendered to the Board by certified check payable to the Treasurer, State of Louisiana, due upon the signing of this Consent Order; and

2. Respondent shall pay administrative costs of seven-hundred twenty-two and 82/100 dollars (\$722.82), which shall be tendered to the Board by certified check payable to the Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners, due upon the signing of this Consent Order; and

3. This Consent Order shall be published on the Board's website, and a summary of this matter shall be printed in the official newsletter of the Board, *Louisiana Architect*, and reported to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards ("NCARB") Disciplinary Database, all identifying Respondent by name; and



4. This Consent Order shall not become effective unless and until it is accepted and signed by and on behalf of the Board. Should the Board not accept and sign this Consent Order, it is agreed that presentation of this matter to the Board shall not prejudice the Board or any of its members, staff, attorneys, or representatives from further participation, consideration, or resolution of any further proceedings herein.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF
ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS**

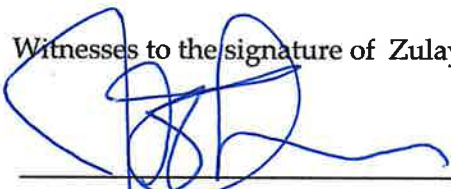
DATE: 5-31-2024

BY: 
TYSON J. DUCOTE, Executive Director

DATE: 05/02/2024

BY: 
Zulay M. Babineaux

Witnesses to the signature of Zulay M. Babineaux:



Printed Name: JUSTIN OWENS



Printed Name: F MICHAEL BABINEAUX

