

## NOTICE OF INTENT

### Office of the Governor Board of Architectural Examiners

#### Chapter 15. Titles, Firm Names, And Assumed Names

Misleading and Confusing Names Prohibited (LAC 46:I.1501), Architect's Responsibility (LAC 46:I.1503), Use of Term "Architect," "Architecture," or "Architectural" (LAC 46:I.1505), Use of the Plural Term "Architects" (LAC 46:I.1507), Firm Name Which Includes Names of Licensed Architect or Architects Only (LAC 46:I.1509), Use of "AIA" (LAC 46:I.1511), Use of the Term "Associate" (LAC 46:I.1513), Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Group, Association, or Limited Liability Company (LAC 46:I.1515), Professional Architectural Corporations (LAC 46:I.1517), Architectural-Engineering Corporation (LAC 46:I.1519), Fictitious Name (LAC 46:I.1521), Practicing in a Firm with Other Professionals (LAC 46:I.1523), Deceased or Retired Member Predecessor Firms (LAC 46:I.1525), Unlicensed Persons (LAC 46:I.1527), Intern Architect (LAC 46:I.1529), Business Cards (LAC 46:I.1531), Limited Liability Company (LAC 46:I.1533), Non-Resident Firms (LAC 46:I.1535), Exemptions (LAC 46:I.1537), and Architect Emeritus (LAC 46:I.1539)

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Architectural Examiners, in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 49:950 et seq., and through the authority granted in R.S. 37:144(C), proposes to amend virtually all of the Sections in LAC 46:I.Chapter 15 pertaining to the titles, firm names, and assumed names of architects and architectural firms. More specifically, the board gives notice that it proposes to amend LAC 46:I.1501 pertaining to the prohibition against misleading and confusing names; consolidate LAC 46:I.1503 (Architect's Responsibility) into LAC 46:I.1501; repeal LAC 46:I.1505 (Use of Term "Architect," "Architecture," or "Architectural"); repeal LAC 46:I.1507 (Use of the Plural Term "Architects"); repeal LAC 46:I.1509 (Firm Name Which Includes Names of Licensed Architect or Architects Only); repeal LAC 46:I.1511 (Use of "AIA"); repeal LAC 46:I.1513 (Use of the Term "Associate"); repeal LAC 46:I.1515 (Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Group, Association, or Limited Liability Company); amend LAC 46:I.1517 (Professional Architectural Corporations); amend LAC 46:I.1519 (Architectural-Engineering Corporations); amend LAC 46:I.1521 (Fictitious Names); amend LAC 46:I.1523 (Practicing in a Firm with Other Professionals); maintain without change LAC 46:I.1525 (Deceased or Retired Member Predecessor Firms); amend LAC 46:I.1527 (Unlicensed Persons); amend LAC 46:I.1529 (Intern Architect); amend LAC 46:I.1531 (Business Cards); amend LAC 46:I.1533 (Limited Liability Company); amend LAC 46:I.1535 (Non-Resident Firms); maintain without change LAC 46:I.1537 (Exemptions); and amend LAC 46:I.1539 (Architect Emeritus).

Act 192 of 2024 mandated that all state agencies which make rules systematically review in accordance with stated criteria a sufficient number of rules each year so that all rules have been reviewed within a five-year period. Executive Order JML 25-038 issued April 1, 2025, mandated that by December 31, 2025, state agencies review at least 50% of the rules listed in the order or a

minimum of 100 rules, whichever is greater. Each rule should be evaluated to determine if it is necessary, consistent with the law, aligned with the agency's mission, and otherwise complies with the legislation described therein.

Applying the criteria required by Act 192 and EO JML 25-035, the board reviewed Chapter 15 of its rules (LAC 46:I.Chapter 15). It determined that virtually all of the rules therein should be simplified, modernized, and clarified, and that others were outdated, unnecessary, and should be repealed in their entirety. The amendments proposed herein consolidate for simplification the rules prohibiting misleading or confusing names (LAC 46:I.1501 and LAC 46:I.1503) and clarify the prohibition. The board is proposing the repealing as unnecessary and obsolete LAC 46:I.1505 (Use of Term "Architect," "Architecture," or "Architectural"), LAC 46:I.1507 (Use of the Plural Term "Architects"), LAC 46:I.1509 (Firm Name Which Includes Names of Licensed Architect or Architects Only), LAC 46:I.1511 (Use of "AIA"), LAC 46:I.1513 (Use of the Term "Associate"), and LAC 46:I.1515 (Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Group, Association, or Limited Liability Company).

The board is proposing the simplification, clarification, and amendment of LAC 46:I.1517 (Professional Architectural Corporations), LAC 46:I.1519 (Architectural-Engineering Corporations), LAC 46:I.1521 (Fictitious Names), LAC 46:I.1523 (Practicing in a Firm with Other Professionals), LAC 46:I.1527 (Unlicensed Persons), LAC 46:I.1529 (Intern Architect), LAC 46:I.1531 (Business Cards), LAC 46:I.1533 (Limited Liability Company), LAC 46:I.1535 (Non-Resident Firms), and LAC 46:I.1539 (Architect Emeritus). The "Allowed" and "Not Allowed" charts contained in many of the rules in this Chapter have been confusing to some architects, and all such charts are being deleted in the proposed rules.

The board is proposing that LAC 46:I.1525 (Deceased or Retired Member Predecessor Firms) and LAC 46:I.1537 (Exemptions) be maintained without change.

**Title 46**  
**PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS**  
**Part I. Architects**

**Chapter 15. Titles, Firm Names, and Assumed Names**

**§1501. Misleading and Confusing Names Prohibited**

A. The statutory authorization for architects and firms to practice architecture and render architectural services is not an authorization to hold out to the public any person who is not registered and licensed by the board as an architect. An architect or firm shall not practice architecture under an assumed, fictitious or corporate name that is misleading as to the identity, responsibility, or status of those practicing thereunder or is otherwise false, fraudulent, or confusing.

B. As a licensed professional, it is the responsibility of the architect to select and use a name which is neither misleading nor confusing. In case of doubt, an architect should first consult the board.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural

Examiners, LR 29:568 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2402 (August 2011), amended LR:

**§1503. Architect's Responsibility**

Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:568 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2402 (August 2011), repealed LR:

**§1505. Use of Term “Architect,” “Architecture,” or “Architectural”**

Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:568 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2402 (August 2011), repealed LR:

**§1507. Use of the Plural Term “Architects”**

Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:568 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2402 (August 2011), repealed LR:

**§1509. Firm Name Which Includes Names of Licensed Architect or Architects Only**

Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:568 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2402 (August 2011), repealed LR:

**§1511. Use of “AIA”**

Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:568 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2402 (August 2011), repealed LR:

**§1513. Use of the Term “Associate”**

Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:568 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2402 (August 2011), repealed LR:

**§1515. Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Group, Association, or Limited Liability Company**

Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:568 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2402 (August 2011), repealed LR:

### **§1517. Professional Architectural Corporations**

A. The corporate name of a professional architectural corporation registered with this board must comply with R.S. 12:1088.

B. The corporate name of a professional architectural corporation may include an acronym such as "PAC," "APAC," or "APC" as an acceptable substitute for one of the suffixes listed in R.S. 12:1088.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:569 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2403 (August 2011), amended LR:

### **§1519. Architectural-Engineering Corporation**

A. The corporate name of an architectural-engineering corporation registered with this board must comply with R.S. 12:1172.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:570 (April 2003), amended LR:

### **§1521 Fictitious Name**

A. For the purpose of these rules, a fictitious name is any name other than the real name or names of an individual. Any individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, group, or association may practice architecture under a fictitious name provided the name complies with all of the rules of this Chapter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:570 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2403 (August 2011), amended LR:

### **§1523. Practicing in a Firm with Other Professionals**

A. An architect who practices in a firm with one or more engineers, land surveyors, landscape architects, interior designers, or other professionals in an allied profession is permitted to use in the firm title a phrase describing the professions involved such as "architect and engineer," "architects, engineers, and surveyors," etc. provided:

1. the title does not hold out to the public as an architect any person who is not registered and licensed by the board;

2. the name of any allied professional in the firm title is practicing in accordance with the applicable statutes and regulations that govern the practice of that allied profession; and

3. the title complies with all the rules of this Chapter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:570 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2403 (August 2011), amended LR:

### **§1525. Deceased or Retired Member Predecessor Firms**

A. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:570 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2404 (August 2011), amended LR 48:2735 (November 2022).

### **§1527. Unlicensed Persons**

Unlicensed persons cannot use the term *architect*, *architectural*, *architecture* or anything confusingly similar to indicate that such person practices or offers to practice architecture, or is rendering architectural services. Except as set forth in Rule §1529, a person who has obtained a degree in architecture may not use the title *architect*, *graduate architect*, or any other title with the word *architect*, *architectural*, or *architecture* therein.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:570 (April 2003), amended LR:

### **§1529. Intern Architect**

A.1. A person who:

- a. has completed an approved educational program;
- b. is participating in or who has successfully completed an approved experience program; and
- c. is employed by a firm which is lawfully engaged in the practice of architecture in this state may use the title "intern architect" but only in connection with that person's employment with such firm.

2. The title may not be used to advertise or offer to the public that such person is performing or offering to perform architectural services, and accordingly such person may not include himself in any listing of architects or in any listing of persons performing architectural services. Such person may use a business card identifying themselves as an "intern architect," provided such business card also includes the name of the architectural firm employing such person.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:570 (April 2003), amended LR:

### **§1531. Business Cards**

A. The business card of an architect should comply with all the rules of this Chapter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:571 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2404 (August 2011), amended LR:

### **§1533. Limited Liability Company**

A. The name of a limited liability company registered with the board must comply with R.S.12:1306 and include the words "limited liability company" or "professional limited liability company," or the abbreviation "L.L.C."; "P.L.L.C.," or "L.C.".

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:571 (April 2003), amended LR 37:2404 (August 2011), amended LR:

### **§1535. Non-Resident Firms**

A. A non-resident corporation, limited liability company, partnership or other entity legally engaged in the practice of architecture in the jurisdiction of its origin shall have the

right to retain its non-resident identity upon registration with and obtaining a firm license from the board for practicing architecture in Louisiana, provided its identity is in full compliance with the jurisdiction of its origin and the entity is in full compliance with all of the requirements for practicing architecture in Louisiana.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 37:2404 (August 2011), amended LR:

### **§1537. Exemptions**

A - B. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 37:2404 (August 2011).

### **§1539. Architect Emeritus**

A. An architect who has received emeritus status from the board should use the title "Architect Emeritus."

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 39:2737 (October 2013), amended LR:

#### **Family Impact Statement**

In accordance with R.S. 49:961(A)(2)(h)(i) and 972, the following Family Impact Statement is submitted with the Notice of Intent for publication in the *Louisiana Register*. The proposed Rule has no known impact on family formation, stability, or autonomy.

#### **Poverty Impact Statement**

In accordance with R.S. 49:961(A)(2)(h)(ii) and 973, the following Poverty Impact Statement is submitted with the Notice of Intent for publication in the *Louisiana Register*. The proposed Rule has no known impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973.

#### **Small Business Analysis**

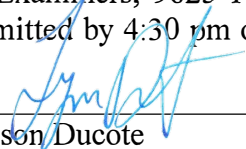
The impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act has been considered. It is estimated that the proposed action is not expected to have a significant adverse impact on small businesses. The agency, consistent with health, safety, environmental and economic welfare factors, has considered and, where possible, utilized regulatory methods in the drafting of the proposed Rule that will accomplish the objectives of applicable statutes while minimizing the adverse impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses.

#### **Provider Impact Statement**

In accordance with HCR 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session, the following Provider Impact Statement is submitted with the Notice of Intent for publication in the *Louisiana Register*. The proposed Rule has no known effect on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, the cost to the provider to provide such services, or the ability of the provider to provide the same level of service.

**Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed Rules to Tyson Ducote, Executive Director, Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners, 9625 Fenway Avenue, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. All comments must be submitted by 4:30 pm on February 13, 2026.



---

Tyson Ducote  
Executive Director