

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. 2023-27
)
RAYMOND C. BERGERON, JR.)
)
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 Raymond C. Bergeron, Jr. [hereinafter “Respondent”], hereby agree to the following:

At all times material hereto, Respondent was licensed in the State of Louisiana as an architect, license number 1036.

An investigation was opened based upon the Board’s receipt of a formal affidavit of complaint from a licensed professional electrical engineer (“Complainant”) which alleged that Respondent had inserted a PDF image of that engineer’s stamp on electrical drawings for a project in New Orleans, Louisiana without the Complainant’s knowledge or permission. Complainant advised that he had not been involved in that project. Respondent advised that, when he reviewed the drawings prior to submittal to the City of New Orleans, he had failed to notice that one of his firm’s employees had erroneously inserted the PDF image of Complainant’s stamp on the electrical drawings instead of having the electrical engineer who had prepared the drawings stamp same.

La. R.S. 37:144, *to wit* LAC Title 46:I §1305(A), (i) prohibits architects from affixing their stamp or seal to drawings not prepared under their responsible supervision, and (ii) requires drawings prepared by a consulting engineer to be stamped only by the consulting engineer who prepared those drawings. La. R.S.



37:154(A) prohibits any person from violating any part of the Architect Licensing Law. La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6) authorizes the Board to take disciplinary action against any person who violates any provision of the architect licensing law or or any lawful rule or regulation, *to wit* LAC Title 46:I §1305(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. 37:144, *to wit* LAC Title 46:I §1305(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 Respondent submitted to the City of New Orleans a set of drawings for a medical clinic. The electrical drawings submitted contained the unauthorized stamp of an electrical engineer who had not been involved in the project and who had not prepared the electrical drawings. The unauthorized stamp was affixed by an employee of Respondent's firm.

By letter dated October 11, 2023, the Board's Complaint Review Committee gave notice to Respondent that it was considering the preferral of charges against him on the grounds that he may have violated 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) relative to his submitting to the City of New Orleans electrical drawings containing the stamp of an electrical engineer who had not been involved in the project and who had not prepared the improperly stamped electrical drawings.

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 his own free will consents to the issuance of a Consent Order by the Board, wherein Respondent agrees to **(a)** pay a fine of five thousand and no/100 (\$5,000.00) dollars, 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, the first payment due upon the signing of this



Consent Order; **(b)** pay administrative costs of nine-hundred six and 78/100 (\$906.78) dollars, due upon the signing of this Consent Order; **(c)** 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; **(d)** 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; **(e)** 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, "*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, with the first payment due upon the signing of this Consent Order; 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."; and **(e)** to the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards ("NCARB") Disciplinary Database, identifying Respondent by name.

Respondent admits that his conduct as set forth above constitutes violations of the above-referenced laws and/or rules as stated herein. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order constitutes a disciplinary action by the Board against him and his Louisiana license to practice architecture. Respondent also acknowledges awareness of said laws and/or rules and states that he will comply with all applicable laws and rules henceforth. Respondent has been advised of his 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 his own behalf; he hereby waives these rights and his right to appeal, and he states affirmatively that he has been afforded all administrative remedies due him 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 his right to a hearing before the Board, to the presenting of evidence and witnesses on his 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)** he fully understands the meaning and intent of this Consent Order, including but not limited to its final and binding effect, **(b)** he has voluntarily entered into this Consent Order, and that no other promise or agreement of any kind has been made to or with him 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 five thousand and no/100 (\$5,000.00) dollars, 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, which shall be tendered to the Board by certified checks payable to the Treasurer, State of Louisiana, the first payment due upon the signing of this Consent Order; and
2. Respondent shall pay administrative costs of nine-hundred six and 78/100 (\$906.78) dollars, 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. Respondent's Louisiana architect license, #1036, shall be automatically and immediately suspended if Respondent fails to make a payment as per the terms of item "1" above, with said suspension continuing until all payments have been made; and
4. Respondent shall 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; and
5. 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
6. 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



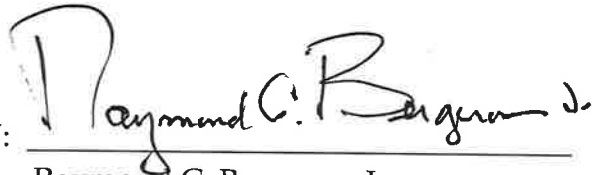
sign this Consent Order, it is agreed that presentation of this matter to the Board shall not prejudice the Board or any of its members, staff, attorneys, or representatives from further participation, consideration, or resolution of any further proceedings herein.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS

DATE: 12/1/2023

BY: 
Tyson J. Ducote, Executive Director

DATE: 11/2/23

BY: 
Raymond C. Bergeron, Jr.

Witnesses to the signature of Raymond C. Bergeron, Jr.:



Printed Name: Sean C. Turner



Printed Name: Anuson Samierko

