

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF:</b>	)	<b>CASE NO. 2021-01</b>
	)	
<b>KIMBERLY K. FINNEY</b>	)	
	)	
<b>RESPONDENT</b>	)	
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**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 Kimberly K. Finney [hereinafter “Respondent”], hereby agree to the following:

At all times material hereto, Respondent was licensed in the State of Louisiana as an architect, number 6111.

An investigation was opened based upon the Board’s receipt of information which suggested that Respondent may have violated the Board’s requirements for continuing education [hereinafter “CE”]. The investigation disclosed that on or about January 1, 2020, Respondent submitted to the Board her Louisiana architect license renewal application for CY2020, certifying thereon that she had completed twelve (12) continuing education hours [hereinafter “CEH”] in Health, Safety and Welfare [hereinafter “HSW”] subjects during CY2019, such CEH required for renewal of her license for the period of January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020.

In September 2020, the Continuing Education Committee of the Board audited Respondent’s CE records. In responding to the CE audit, Respondent admitted that she had failed to obtain the required twelve (12) HSW CEHs for the renewal period of January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020.

La. R.S. 37:145(B), *to wit* LAC Title 46: I §1315(D)(2) and (3) require architect licensees to obtain a minimum of twelve (12) CEH in HSW subjects each calendar year. La. R.S. 37:153(A)(7) prohibits licensees from practicing any fraud, deceit, material misstatement, or perjury in applying for any renewal certificate. La. R.S. 37:153 authorizes the Board to take disciplinary action against persons who violate La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6), *to wit* LAC Title 46: I §1315(D)(2) and (3), and La. R.S. 37:153(A)(7), upon 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(B), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6) and (7), and LAC Title 46: I §1315(D)(2) and (3) were in effect at all times material hereto.

It is undisputed that on or about January 1, 2020, Respondent submitted to the Board her Louisiana architect license renewal application for 2020, which certified that she had completed the Board's CE requirements for CY2019, such CE required for the 2020 renewal period, and Respondent failed to earn (and falsely stated that she had earned) the required CEH for the annual licensure renewal period of January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020.

By letter dated January 21, 2021, the Continuing Education Committee of the Board gave notice to Respondent that it was considering the preferral of charges against Respondent on the grounds that she may have violated La. R.S. 37:145(B), *to wit* LAC Title 46: I §1315(D)(2) and (3), relative to the Board's CEH requirements, and (c) La. R.S. 37:153(A)(7) relative to fraud, deceit, material misstatement, or perjury in applying for a renewal certificate with the Board.

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 three hundred seventeen and 03/100 (\$317.03) dollars, (c) within sixty (60) days of the ratification of this Consent Order by the Board, earn 12 CEH in HSW and forward proof of earning such to the Board; and (d) publication of this Consent Order on the Board's website and a summary of this matter in the Board's official newsletter, *Louisiana Architect*, and the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), identifying Respondent by name.

Respondent admits that her conduct as set forth above constitutes violations of the above-referenced laws and/or rules as stated herein. Respondent 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 in her own behalf, she hereby waives this right 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 in her 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 three hundred seventeen and 03/100 (\$317.03) 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 shall, within sixty (60) days of the ratification of this Consent Order by the Board, earn twelve (12) HSW CEHs and forward proof of earning such to the Board; and
4. 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), all identifying Respondent by name; and
5. 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: 2/26/2021

BY: KE Hellegas  
KATHERINE E. HELLEGAS, Executive Director

DATE: 2/23/2021

BY: Kimberly K. Finney  
KIMBERLY K. FINNEY, Respondent

Witnesses to the signature of  
Kimberly K. Finney

[Signature]  
Print Name: KRISTIN MCALLISTER

[Signature]  
Print Name: FRANCES M. KESSLER