

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

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|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| IN THE MATTER OF: |) | CASE NO. 2018-08 |
| |) | |
| SPECTRUM DESIGNS, LLC |) | |
| |) | |
| RESPONDENT |) | |
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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 Spectrum Designs, LLC [hereinafter “Respondent”], by and through its duly authorized undersigned representative, hereby agree to the following:

At all times material hereto, Respondent was not licensed in the State of Louisiana as an architectural firm and, therefore, was not authorized to practice and/or offer to practice architecture in the State of Louisiana or use the title “architect,” or any term derived therefrom, or display or use any title, sign, advertisement, or any other device to indicate that it practiced or offered to practice architecture, or rendered architectural services, in Louisiana.

An investigation was opened based upon the Board’s receipt of information and documents which suggested that Respondent may have engaged in the unlicensed practice of and/or offering to practice architecture and/or or used the title “architect,” or any term derived therefrom, or displayed or used any title, sign, advertisement, or any other device to indicate that it practiced or offered to practice architecture, or rendered architectural services, in Louisiana.

The investigation disclosed that (a) between June 2017 and July 2018 Respondent represented on its *Facebook* page that is an “Architect in Harvey, Louisiana” and that it “...is a New Orleans based architectural, Interiors, and planning firm that specializes in the development of Churches, Commercial and Residential properties.”; (b) since August 29, 2007, Respondent has been registered with the Louisiana Secretary of State’s office as a Louisiana limited liability company with its domicile address listed in Harvey, Louisiana; (c) since at least July 2015, Respondent has used letterhead which stated that the firm specialized in “Spiritual Architecture,”

and (d) in a contract dated July 24, 2017, the Respondent would provide “architectural services for the project.”

La. R.S. 37:145(A) provides that no person shall practice architecture in this state or use the title “architect,” or any term derived therefrom, or display or use any title, sign, advertisement, or other device to indicate that such person practices or offers to practice architecture, or renders architectural services, or is an architect, unless such person shall have secured from the board a certificate of registration and license. La. R.S. 37:154(A) prohibits any person from practicing, or offering to practice, architecture in Louisiana without being certified. La. R.S. 37:154(A) *to wit* LAC Title 46: I§1527 prohibits using the terms “architect,” “architectural,” “architecture,” or anything confusingly similar to indicate that such person practices or offers to practice architecture without proper licensure. La. R.S. 37:154(A) authorizes the Board to take disciplinary action against persons who violate La. R.S. 37:154(A) and LAC Title 46: I§1527, 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. 37:154(A) and LAC Title 46: I§1527 were in effect at all times material hereto.

It is undisputed that (a) Respondent has never been licensed to practice architecture in Louisiana, and (b) between July 2015 and July 2018, Respondent practiced and offered to practice architecture and used the terms “architect,” “architectural,” and “architecture” to describe its services in Louisiana without proper licensure.

By letter dated September 10, 2018, the Board gave notice to Respondent that it was considering the preferral of charges against Respondent on the grounds that it may have violated La. R.S. 37:145, La. R.S. 37:154(A), and LAC Title 46: I §1527, relative to the practicing of and/or offering to practice architecture and using the terms “architect,” “architectural,” “architecture,” or anything confusingly similar to indicate that it practiced or offered to practice 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 its 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 five hundred one and 53/100 (\$501.53) dollars, and **(c)** immediately cease and desist from practicing and/or offering to practice architecture and from using the terms “architect,” “architectural,” “architecture,” or anything confusingly similar in referring itself, or in describing or promoting its business or activities in Louisiana, until such time as it is duly licensed by the Board, and **(d)** the 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), all identifying Respondent by name.

Respondent admits that its conduct as set forth above constitutes violations of the above-referenced laws and/or rule as stated herein. Respondent acknowledges awareness of said laws and/or rule and states that it will comply with all applicable laws and rules henceforth. Respondent has been advised of its 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 its own behalf, it hereby waives this right and its right to appeal, and it states affirmatively that it has been afforded all administrative remedies due it 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 its 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)** it fully understands the meaning and intent of this Consent Order, including but not limited to its final and binding effect, **(b)** it has voluntarily entered into this Consent Order and that no other promise or agreement of any kind has been made to or with it 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 five hundred one and 53/100 (\$501.53), 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 immediately cease and desist from practicing and/or offering to practice architecture and from using the terms "architect", "architectural", "architecture," or anything confusingly similar in referring to itself, or in describing or promoting its business or activities in Louisiana, until such time as it is duly licensed by 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: 12/7/18

BY: K. E. Hilligas
KATHERINE E. HILLEGAS, Executive Director

SPECTRUM DESIGNS, LLC, Respondent

DATE: 9/25/18

BY: Lynette W. Gordon
Lynette White-Gordon, Manager

Witnesses to the signature of
Spectrum Designs, LLC

Brian D. Davis
Print Name: Brian D. Davis

Darcelin Turner
Print Name: DARCELIN TURNER

Approved by:

Jonathan L. Schultis
Jonathan L. Schultis
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