

STATE BOARD  
FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

v.

STEPHEN W. LARUE

\* BEFORE THE STATE BOARD  
\* FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS  
\* CASE NO.: 18-PE-52  
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**RECEIVED**  
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PROFESSIONAL  
LICENSING BOARDS

CONSENT ORDER

This matter comes before the State Board for Professional Engineers ("the Board") as the result of the renewal application of Stephen W. Larue ("Respondent"), with License No. 05-19374. Based on an audit performed by the Board of the Respondent's continuing education hours in connection with this application for renewal, the Board initiated this complaint. As a means of resolving the matter, the Board and the Respondent have agreed to enter into this Consent Order, and agree and stipulate to the following:

1. The Respondent applied to renew his professional engineer's license on September 12, 2017. The original expiration date for the license was September 20, 2017. At the time of the application, the Respondent certified that he had completed the hours required for renewal. Based on the certification, the Board approved the renewal application.

2. At the time of the application for renewal, the Respondent was notified of an audit of his continuing education hours or professional development hours ("PDHS"). As part of the audit, the Respondent was asked to provide documentation of the 24 PDHs required for the renewal of his license.

3. In response to the audit, the Respondent provided documentation that he had obtained 11 of the 24 PDHs required prior to renewing the license.

4. In order to comply with the continuing education requirements of the Maryland Professional Engineers Act, Sections 14-101 *et seq.*, Business Occupations and Professions Article, Maryland Annotated Code (the "Act") and the Board's regulations contained in the Code of Maryland Regulations ("COMAR") at 09.23.06.03A, the Respondent must obtain an additional 13 PDHs, including one hour in professional ethics for a total of 24 PDHs.

5. In order to resolve this matter with the Board, the Respondent acknowledges a violation of the continuing education requirements of the Board and agrees to pay a civil penalty in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) in connection with the violation. The penalty will be paid in two equal installments, with the first installment of Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00) to be paid at the time the Respondent executes this Consent Order and the second installment to be paid within thirty (30) days thereafter.

6. The Respondent agrees to obtain the additional 13 PDHs within thirty (30) days of the date that he signs this Consent Order and provide documentation of his completion of the required PDHs to the Board within forty-five (45) days of the date he signs this Order.

7. The Respondent waives the right to have charges issued against him by the Board in this matter and an administrative hearing on the charges and potential sanctions and at which time the Respondent would have the opportunity to present a defense to the charges of a violation of the Act and the Board's regulations at COMAR 09.23.06.03A.

8. The Respondent enters into this Consent Order freely, voluntarily, and having had the opportunity to consult with counsel.

9. The Respondent agrees that if he fails to comply with the terms of this Consent Order, his professional engineer's license will immediately be suspended by the

Board, without a hearing prior to the imposition of the suspension, and that the suspension will continue until the Board determines that the Respondent has evidenced compliance with the terms of the Consent Order.

10. The Respondent and the Board understand that this Consent Order will serve as the final resolution of this matter.

11. This Consent Order will be part of the Respondent's licensing record maintained by the Board.

WHEREFORE, based on these stipulations and agreements, it is hereby this 5th day of February, 2018, ORDERED by the State Board for Professional Engineers:

I. That the Respondent will abide by the Act in his future practice;

II. That the Respondent violated the provisions of COMAR 09.23.06.03A;

III. That the Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) in connection with the violation, and that the penalty will be paid in two equal installments, with the first installment of \$750.00 to be paid upon the execution of this Consent Order by the Respondent and the second installment to be paid within thirty (30) days thereafter;

IV. That, within thirty (30) days of the date he signs this Consent Order, the Respondent will complete the additional 13 PDHs required for the renewal of his license and within 45 days of the date he signs the Order, he will provide documentation of his completion of the hours to the Board.

V. That in the event the terms and conditions of this Consent Order are not met by the Respondent, upon written notice by the Board, the Respondent's license will be immediately suspended and remain suspended until such time as the Respondent evidences to the Board that he has complied with the terms of the Order; and

VI. That the records of the Board shall reflect this matter was resolved by the terms of this Consent Order.

Signature on file

Signature on file

Stephen W. Larue  
Respondent

Chairman  
State Board for Professional  
Engineers