LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD 9643 BROOKLINE AVENUE, SUITE 121 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1443 (225) 925-6291

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IN THE MATTER OF: STEPHEN E. WRIGHT, P.E. RESPONDENT CASE NO. 2021-95

Received MAY 252022

By LAPELS Enforcement

CONSENT ORDER

The Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board [hereinafter the "Board"], by and through its Executive Director, pursuant to authorization by the Board, and Stephen E. Wright, P.E. (La. P.E. License No. PE-45751) [hereinafter "Respondent"] hereby agree to the following:

At all times material hereto, Respondent was licensed in the State of Louisiana as a professional engineer, number PE-45751. At all times material hereto, U.P. Engineers and Architects, Inc. [hereinafter "UPEA"] was not licensed in the State of Louisiana as a professional engineering firm and, therefore, was not authorized to practice and/or offer to practice engineering in the State of Louisiana. UPEA filed an Application for Engineering Firm (EF) Licensure with the Board on or about July 7, 2021. The application was signed by and attested to by Stephen Wright, Respondent, the supervising professional engineering firm, number EF-7226, effective January 3, 2021. At all times material hereto, Respondent was an employee and representative of UPEA. Respondent has been the supervising professional of UPEA since January 3, 2021.

An investigation was opened based upon the Board's receipt of information and/or documents which suggested that Respondent may have committed violations of the Board's laws and/or rules. The investigation disclosed that in May of 2012 the Ohio State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors [hereinafter "Ohio Board"] took disciplinary action against UPEA for offering and/or providing engineering services in Ohio at a time when UPEA did not possess an active Certificate of Authorization to offer or provide By letter dated May 4, 2022, the Board gave notice to Respondent that it was considering the preferral of charges against Respondent on the grounds that Respondent may have violated La. R.S. 37:698(A)(1), relative to fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a license with the Board, and may have violated La. R.S. 37:698(A)(12) relative to aiding and abetting another person in violating the provisions of this Chapter or any other rules or regulations promulgated by the board.

Wishing to dispense with the need for further disciplinary action and to conclude the instant proceeding without further delay and expense, 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 One Thousand and No/100 (\$1,000.00) Dollars, (b) pay administrative costs of Five Hundred Five and 93/100 (\$505.93) Dollars, (c) successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz, (d) successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz, and (e) the publication of this Consent Order on the Board's website and a summary of this matter in the Board's official journal, the *Louisiana Engineer and Surveyor Journal*, and the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), 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 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 an informal conference, to be represented by counsel before the Board, his right to the filing of formal charges and an administrative hearing and/or to appear at any hearing personally or by counsel and present witnesses and evidence in his own behalf, he hereby waives these rights, including his right to informal conference, to an administrative hearing 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.

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.

Submitted to the Board for Approval by:

LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD

DATE: 7/25/2022

BY: DONNA D. SENTELL, Executive Director

DATE:

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Agreed to By:

STEPHEN E. WRIGHT, P.E., Respondent

Witnesses to the signature of Stephen E. Wright, P.E. Print Name: 210 1 Name: