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

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	<b>CASE NO. 2024-21</b>
JOHN O. HEBERT, III, P.L.S.	)	
RESPONDENT	)	Received NOV 07 2024
	)	By LAPELS Entorcement

## **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 John O. Hebert, III, P.L.S. [hereinafter "Respondent"] hereby agree to the following:

At all times material hereto, Respondent was licensed in the State of Louisiana as a professional land surveyor, number PLS-4584. At all times material hereto, Hebert Professional Services, Inc. [hereinafter "HPS"] was licensed in the State of Louisiana as a professional land surveying firm, number VF-787. At all times material hereto, Respondent was an owner, officer, employee, representative and the supervising professional of HPS.

An investigation was opened based upon the Board's receipt of information and/or documents which suggested that Respondent may have violated the Board's laws and/or rules. The investigation disclosed that on or about July 1, 2019 Respondent performed a property boundary survey and prepared, signed, sealed and issued a survey plat for a tract of land located in Beauregard Parish, Louisiana which failed to label monuments as "found" or "set" and failed to show the telephone number and mailing address of Respondent and the name, telephone number and mailing address of Respondent's firm.

The investigation also disclosed that on or about November 25, 2020 Respondent performed a property boundary survey and prepared, signed, sealed and issued a survey plat for a tract of land located in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana which failed to label monuments as "found" or "set", failed to show a vicinity map and failed to show the telephone number and mailing address of Respondent and the name, telephone number and mailing address of Respondent's firm.

La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6), *to wit* LAC Title 46:LXI§2907(G)(4), require that property boundary survey plats or maps label monuments as "found" or "set" with a sufficient description of the monument. La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6), *to wit* LAC Title 46:LXI§2907(G)(14)(d), require that property boundary survey plats or maps show a vicinity map. La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6), *to wit* LAC Title 46:LXI§2907(G)(14)(f), require that property boundary survey plats or maps show the name, telephone number, mailing address and license number of the professional land surveyor and, if applicable, the firm who employs the professional land surveyor. La. R.S. 37:698(H) permits the Board to take disciplinary action against persons who violate La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6), *to wit* LAC Title 46:LXI§2907(G)(4), (G)(14)(d) and (G)(14)(f), upon a finding of guilt following the preferral of charges, notice and hearing and a majority vote of its entire membership authorized to participate in the proceeding. La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6), La. R.S. 37:698(H) and LAC Title 46:LXI§2907(G)(4), (G)(14)(d) and (G)(14)(f) were in effect at all times material hereto.

It is undisputed that **(a)** at all times material hereto Respondent was licensed in Louisiana as a professional land surveyor and **(b)** on or about July 1, 2019 and November 25, 2020 Respondent performed property boundary surveys and prepared, signed, sealed and issued survey plats for tracts of land located in Louisiana which failed to meet the Board's standards of practice for boundary surveys.

By letter dated October 7, 2024, 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)(6), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2907(G)(4), (G)(14)(d) and (G)(14)(f), relative to failing to meet the Board's standards of practice for boundary surveys.

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 Five Hundred and No/ 100 (\$1,500.00) Dollars, (b) pay administrative costs of Two Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Two and 55/100 (\$2,262.55) Dollars, (c) successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Standards of Practice for Boundary Surveys Quiz, (d) successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz, (e) successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz, (f) correct the above-described standards of

practice violations on revised survey plats, provide the revised survey plats to the Board for review, properly file the revised survey plats into the public record following Board review and approval, and provide copies of the filed revised survey plats to the clients and the Board, (g) submit to the Board all property boundary survey plats or maps of property located in Louisiana which have been prepared and issued by Respondent since January 1, 2020, (h) the immediate suspension of his Louisiana professional land surveyor license if he fails to comply with any portion of this Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until he so complies and (i) 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 and/or to appear at any hearing personally or by counsel and present witnesses and evidence in his own behalf, he hereby waives this right 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 an informal conference, to a hearing before the Board, to the presenting of evidence and witnesses in 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 Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board and Respondent agree that:

- 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 Board, due upon the signing of this Consent Order; and
- 2. Respondent shall pay administrative costs of Two Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Two and 55/100 (\$2,262.55) Dollars, which shall be tendered to the Board by certified check payable to the Board, due upon the signing of this Consent Order; and
- 3. Respondent shall successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Standards of Practice for Boundary Surveys Quiz with a score of 90% or higher and return it to the Board within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Consent Order; and
- 4. Respondent shall successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz with a score of 90% or higher and return it to the Board within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Consent Order; and
- 5. Respondent shall successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz with a score of 90% or higher and return it to the Board within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Consent Order; and
- 6. Respondent shall correct the above-described standards of practice violations on revised survey plats, provide the revised survey plats to the Board for review, properly file the revised survey plats into the public record following Board review and approval, and provide copies of the filed revised survey plats to the clients and the Board within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Consent Order; and
- 7. Respondent shall submit to the Board within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Consent Order copies of all property boundary survey plats or maps of property located in Louisiana which have been prepared and issued by Respondent since January 1, 2020; and
- 8. Respondent's Louisiana professional land surveyor license, number PLS-4584, shall be immediately suspended if he fails to comply with any portion of this Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until he so complies; and
- 9. This Consent Order shall be published on the Board's website and a summary of this matter shall be printed in the official journal of the Board, the Louisiana Engineer and Surveyor

Journal, and reported to the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), identifying Respondent by name; and

10. 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 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD

DATE: 4 Feb 2025

BY: DONNA D. SENTELL, Executive Director

DATE: 11/6/2024

JOHN Ø. HEBERT, III, P.L.S., Respondent

Witnesses to the signature of John O. Hebert, III, P.L.S.

Print Name: Marik

ie: Markyn Heber

Print Name: RESECCA