WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN

BEFORE THE ENGINEER SECTION OF THE EXAMINING BOARD OF ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, DESIGNERS, AND LAND SURVEYORS

IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

CHARLES J. LAHTI,

RESPONDENT.

ORDER 0001344

Division of Enforcement Case Number 10 ENG 014

The parties to this action for the purpose of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Charles J. Lahti 320 Viking Drive Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750

Engineer Section of the Wisconsin Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, and Land Surveyors P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Division of Enforcement Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 8935 Madison, WI 53708-8935

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Engineer Section of the Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers and Land Surveyors (Section). The Section has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Section in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Charles J. Lahti (dob 09/04/1946) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a Professional Engineer, having license number 6-33546, first issued on 07/07/1999 and current through 07/31/2012. Mr. Lahti's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services ("Department") is 320 Viking Drive, Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750.

- 2. On or about December 30, 2010, the Kansas State Board of Technical Professions provided the Department with information regarding disciplinary action against Charles J. Lahti. A case was subsequently opened for investigation.
- 3. The Department's investigation revealed that on or about June 9, 2010, the Kansas State Board of Technical Professions found that Mr. Lahti held himself out as an engineer and offered engineering services at a time when he was not licensed as an engineer in Kansas. (See attached Exhibit A.) Mr. Lahti was assessed a fine of \$500 and attorney fees and costs of \$4000.
- 4. Mr. Lahti failed to notify the Department of the Kansas discipline within 48 hours of the discipline.
- 5. Mr. Lahti does not admit to any of the violations alleged in the complaint filed in Case No. 10 ENG 014, but he does not wish to contest them.
- 6. In resolution of this matter, Respondent Charles J. Lahti consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Engineer Section of the Wisconsin Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers and Land Surveyors has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 443.11, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
- 2. By the conduct described in paragraph 4 of the Findings of Fact, Respondent Charles J. Lahti has violated Wis. Admin. Code § A-E 8.08(4) by failing to notify the Department of the Kansas discipline within 48 hours of the discipline.
- 3. As a result of the violations noted in the Conclusions of Law, Respondent Charles J. Lahti is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 443.11(1)(d) and (e).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. The VOLUNTARY SURRENDER of the professional engineer license of Charles J. Lahti (license number 6-33546) is hereby ACCEPTED.
- 2. Respondent shall not seek to reinstate or apply for any engineer license with the State of Wisconsin for at least three (3) years from the date of the Order.
- 3. If Respondent ever seeks to renew or reinstate his license or applies for any other credential regulated by the Department, then he shall pay the costs of investigating and prosecuting this matter, in the amount of TWO HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE DOLLARS

(\$245.00), before any such application may be considered. Payment of the costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and sent to:

Department Monitor
Division of Enforcement
Department of Safety and Professional Services
P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935
Telephone (608) 267-3817, Fax (608) 266-2264

- 4. In the event that Respondent seeks to renew or reinstate his license or applies for any engineer license, he shall submit a new application for licensure and meet all requirements for licensure then existing at the time of his request.
- 5. Should Respondent seek to renew or reinstate his license or apply for any other engineer license, the Engineer Section may in its sole discretion determine whether, and under what circumstances, a license may be issued.
- 6. Respondent shall not practice as a professional engineer in Wisconsin without being licensed in Wisconsin.
- 7. Violation of any terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare. In its discretion the Section or Department may, in the alternative, impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

8. This Order is effective on the date of its signing

ENGINEER SECTION OF THE WISCONSIN EXAMINING BOARD OF ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, PROPESSIONAL ENGINEERS, DESIGNERS, AND LAND SURVEYORS

By

A Member of the Section

Date