

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

BC ENGINEERS, INC.  
ERIK B. KNUDSEN,  
DARIN T. SEIDEL,  
RESPONDENTS.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

**ORDER 00084 12**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 ENG 020

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

BC Engineers, Inc.  
Shawnee, KS 66023

Erik B. Knudsen  
Shawnee, KS 66023

Darin T. Seidel  
Olathe, KS 66062

Professional Engineer Section of the Wisconsin Examining Board of Architects,  
Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, Professional Land Surveyors,  
and Registered Interior Designers  
P.O. Box 8366  
Madison, WI 53708-8366

Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison, WI 53707-7190

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 Professional Engineer Section of the Wisconsin Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, Professional Land Surveyors, and Registered Interior Designers (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 BC Engineers, Inc. is registered with the State of Wisconsin as an Engineering Corporation – Certificate of Authorization, having registration number 4779-11, first issued April 20, 2020 and current through January 31, 2024. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Shawnee, Kansas 66203.

2. Respondent Erik Knudsen is registered with the State of Wisconsin as a professional engineer, having registration number 43898-6, first issued on November 17, 2014 and current through July 31, 2024. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Department is in Shawnee, Kansas 66203.

3. Respondent Darin Seidel is registered with the State of Wisconsin as a professional engineer, having registration number 45243-6, first issued on November 28, 2016 and current through July 31, 2024. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Department is in Olathe, Kansas 66062.

4. According to Department records, Respondents Knudsen and Seidel are responsible licenses for BC Engineers, Inc.

5. On January 11, 2021, the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board (Louisiana Board) disciplined Respondent BC Engineers, Inc. for operating without an engineering firm certificate of authorization (COA) in that state.

6. On January 11, 2021, the Louisiana Board disciplined Respondents Seidel and Knudsen, responsible licensees of BC Engineers, Inc., for assisting BC Engineers, Inc. in unlicensed engineering practice in that state.

7. On February 5, 2021, the Department received an email from Respondent Knudsen informing the Department of these disciplinary actions. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) subsequently opened Case Number 21 ENG 020 for investigation.

8. On April 4, 2022, DLSC emailed Respondent Knudsen to inquire as to whether BC Engineers, Inc. had a valid COA in Wisconsin, and asked for a list of projects that BC Engineers, Inc. had completed in Wisconsin.

9. On April 18, 2022, Respondent Knudsen replied stating that BC Engineers, Inc. has had a valid COA in Wisconsin since April 2020. He explained that the previous owner did not obtain a COA, but that the employees who purchased the firm obtained a COA at that time. He stated that the firm had completed seventy eight (78) projects in Wisconsin between 2002 and 2020.

10. According to their LinkedIn pages, both Respondents Knudsen and Seidel were employed at BC Engineers, Inc. during the time of its unlicensed practice in Wisconsin.

11. In resolution of this matter, Respondents consent to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Professional Engineer Section of the Wisconsin Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, Professional Land Surveyors, and Registered Interior Designers 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 the Findings of Fact, Respondent BC Engineers, Inc. violated Wis. Stat. § 443.08(5)(b) by practicing as an engineering firm in this state without a COA.
3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondents Knudsen and Seidel violated Wis. Admin. Code § A-E 8.07(2) by aiding and abetting BC Engineers, Inc. in the unlicensed practice of professional engineering.
4. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondents Knudsen and Seidel each violated Wis. Admin. Code § A-E 8.08(4) by failing to notify the Department in writing within 48 hours that Respondents had been disciplined in another state for unprofessional conduct related to the practice of a professional engineer.
5. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondents BC Engineers, Inc., Knudsen, and Seidel each violated Wis. Admin. Code § A-E 8.09(1) by failing to comply with all other federal, state and local codes which relate to the practice of professional engineering when they were disciplined by the Louisiana Board for unlicensed practice, or assisting unlicensed practice, in that state.
6. As a result of the above violations, Respondents are subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 443.11(1)(c) and (e).

### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
2. Respondent BC Engineers, Inc. is REPRIMANDED.
3. Respondent Erik Knudsen is REPRIMANDED.
4. Respondent Darin Seidel is REPRIMANDED.
5. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent BC Engineers, Inc. shall pay one third (1/3) of the COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$194.
6. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent Erik Knudsen shall pay one third (1/3) of the COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$194.
7. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent Darin Seidel shall pay one third (1/3) of the COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$194.

8. Payment of costs (made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services) shall be sent by Respondents to the Department Monitor at the address below:


Department Monitor  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190  
Telephone (608) 266-2112; Fax (608) 266-2264  
DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

You may also submit this information online via DSPS' Monitoring Case Management System at: <https://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov/>

9. In the event a Respondent violates any term of this Order, that Respondent's certificate of authorization (4779-11), professional engineer registration (43898-6 and/or 45243-6), or right to renew those credentials may, in the discretion of the Section or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of the Order. The Section may, in addition and/or in the alternative, refer any violation of this Order to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further investigation and action.

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

WISCONSIN PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER SECTION OF THE WISCONSIN EXAMINING BOARD OF ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, DESIGNERS, PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS, AND REGISTERED INTERIOR DESIGNERS

by:   
A Member of the Section

2/16/2023  
Date

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

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

BC ENGINEERS, INC.  
ERIK B. KNUDSEN,  
DARIN T. SEIDEL,  
RESPONDENTS.

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STIPULATION

**ORDER 0008412**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 21 ENG 020

Respondents BC Engineers, Inc., Erik B. Knudsen, Darin T. Seidel, and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services stipulate as follows:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondents consent to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.

2. Respondents understand that by signing this Stipulation, Respondents voluntarily and knowingly waive the following rights:

- the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondents, at which time the State has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
- the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against Respondents;
- the right to call witnesses on Respondents' behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
- the right to testify on Respondents' own behalf;
- the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision;
- the right to petition for rehearing; and
- all other applicable rights afforded to Respondents under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Respondents are aware of Respondents' right to seek legal representation and have been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation.

4. Respondents agree to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Professional Engineer Section of the Wisconsin Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, Professional Land Surveyors, and Registered Interior Designers (Section). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties.


Respondents waive all rights to any appeal of the Section's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Section, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Section, the parties agree not to contend that the Section has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

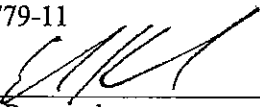
6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Section ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Section in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondents, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Section may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Section should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

7. Respondents are informed that should the Section adopt this Stipulation, the Section's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

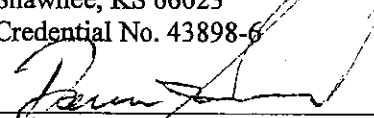
8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondents in recommending the Section adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

  
BC Engineers, Inc., Respondent  
By: Erik B. Knudsen or Darin T. Seidel, Responsible Licensee  
Shawnee, KS 66203  
Credential No. 4779-11

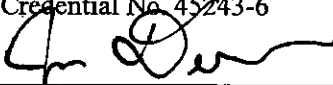
11/29/22  
Date

  
Erik B. Knudsen, Respondent  
Shawnee, KS 66023  
Credential No. 43898-6

11/29/22  
Date

  
Darin T. Seidel, Respondent  
Olathe, KS 66062  
Credential No. 45243-6

11/29/22  
Date

  
Joni Derenne, Attorney  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison, WI 53707-7190

12/5/22  
Date