

SUMMER 2015

BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS

## BULLETIN



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Our Summer 2015 *Bulletin*

We hope you enjoy this issue of the *Bulletin*. Our theme for this quarter's issue is "Enforcement." As stated in the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists' (Board's) mission and vision statements, to effectively protect the public, we always strive to regulate our licensed professions as efficiently as possible:

**Mission:** We protect the public's safety and property by promoting standards for competence and integrity through licensing and regulating the Board's professions.

**Vision:** A California that leads the nation in protecting the public and environment with competent and ethical professional services by the Board's licensees.

Please read about our enforcement efforts and many other topics we hope you'll find enjoyable and informative.

**Take a look inside!** If you have any suggestions to help us improve the newsletter, please let us know.

## Unlicensed Land Surveying

RICHARD B. MOORE, PLS, AND ANGELA SMITH, ENFORCEMENT ANALYST

Licensed land surveyors are usually hired when someone "needs" their services, not necessarily because they "want" those services. Most of the time, it is because property owners need to know where their property boundaries are because there is a disagreement with a neighboring property owner, or construction is being proposed or conducted and the local agency requires confirmation that the new construction is not in violation with established property lines or building setbacks.

In most of these cases, persons doing the hiring or the agency requiring the confirmation are considered "informed consumers" because they are more aware that a qualified licensed land surveyor is required to satisfy their specific needs. However, there are instances, such as during real estate transactions, when the buyer wishes to know what they are buying and where the boundaries lie or when landscaping is in progress that includes the construction of a fence. In these cases, cost plays a primary factor in whether a property owner hires a qualified licensed land surveyor or simply peruses the Internet for property line locating services.

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# BULLETIN

## Unlicensed Land Surveying (continued from page 1)

From time to time, the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board) receives complaints from property owners who have unknowingly paid for a “cost-effective solution” or a service that “can help you locate your own property corners without hiring a surveyor,” and ended up with a much larger and costlier problem than what they started out with. Many times the Board becomes aware of unlicensed land surveying practice from an appropriately licensed land surveyor who is trying to help a property owner who paid for bad services fix a situation. Consider the following statements quoted directly from one such online provider:

*“We can help you find approximate property corners and lines and by producing the most accurate GPS coordinates possible without hiring a surveyor.”*

*“... each coordinate we produce corresponds to a spot that is located at (1) an unknown distance and (2) unknown direction from the actual property corner. In other words, each coordinate establishes an area of an unknown size that contains a corner at an unknown location within that area.”*

Why would a property owner want to pay for the most accurate location of their property corners that are only approximate? Why would a property owner want to pay for a coordinate that is in an unknown position? How do these services/products help the property owner?

Unlicensed land surveying in California accounts for approximately 25 percent of all complaints received by the Board on an annual basis and the issuance of an average of 15–20 citations per year. Although these figures may not be staggering, such unlicensed activity often causes both emotional and financial hardship for those who fall victim to this illegal practice.

A person not licensed in California as a land surveyor may not offer to practice land surveying in the State. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 8725, it is unlawful for any person to practice, offer to practice or represent him- or herself as a land surveyor in California, or to set, reset, replace, or remove any survey monument on land in which he or she has no legal interest, unless licensed or specifically exempted from licensure.

Although it is true that civil engineers licensed prior to January 1, 1982, are authorized to practice all land surveying, it is important to know that pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 415, professional engineers and land surveyors shall practice and perform engineering or land surveying work **only in the field or fields in which he or she is, by education and/or experience, fully competent and proficient.**

Persons with a delinquent license may not practice, offer to practice, or act as a consultant. Likewise, the same applies to persons with a license status of denied, retired, revoked, suspended, or surrendered. However, as with any unlicensed individual, the person may work under the responsible charge of a licensed land surveyor or legally authorized civil engineer.

Additionally, an unlicensed person cannot be the sole owner of a land surveying business. An unlicensed person may, however, be a partner or an officer, provided that a licensed land surveyor or legally authorized civil engineer (civil engineer licensed prior to January 1, 1982) is a partner or officer in charge of the land surveying practice of the business, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 6738 of the Professional Engineers Act and section 8729 of the Professional Land Surveyors’ Act.

Taking the time to become familiar with the laws included in Professional Land Surveyors’ Act and educating the public on the merits of hiring qualified licensed individuals may prove to be a valuable investment for licensees, and ultimately a benefit to clients as well. Knowledge of laws that regulate the practice may carry such benefits as peace of mind, good rapport with clients, and perhaps referrals for additional projects.

Any questions or concerns you may have regarding possible unlicensed practice should be directed to the Board’s Enforcement Unit at (916) 263-2284. Complaint forms may be obtained on the Board’s website, **[www.bpelsg.ca.gov](http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov)**.

## Enforcement Unit: Our Mission is to Protect the Public

Comprised of an Enforcement Program Manager, 10 enforcement analysts, and two support staff members, the Enforcement Unit is committed to supporting the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists' (Board's) mission to protect the public through the investigation of complaints related to professional engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics. Complaints are typically submitted by consumers, other licensees, and public agencies, and range from unlicensed practice of professional services to failure by licensees to meet the standard of care.

Duties of the Enforcement Unit related to the complaint investigation process include:

- The collection of documentation and evidence related to the investigation of complaints from all parties involved;
- Securing the services of Board staff licensees and independent expert consultants in order to assist in determining if there are violations related to the professional practices, including unlicensed practice or the failure of licensees to meet the standard of care in their practice;
- Securing the services of the Department of Consumer Affairs' Division of Investigations to assist in the collection of evidence to pursue administrative or criminal action against those practicing without authority; and
- Coordinating any enforcement actions taken (administrative citations or formal disciplinary actions) against both licensed and unlicensed individuals.



*The Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists Enforcement Unit staff with current Assistant Executive Officer Nancy Eissler.*

In addition to the investigation of complaints, the Enforcement Unit responds to all inquiries related to the complaint process, the status of licenses, including previous complaint or disciplinary history, and the laws and regulations related to the practices of professional engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics.

The Enforcement Unit also maintains records related to businesses offering professional services in California, including *Organization Record* forms required to be submitted by licensees in responsible charge of those services.

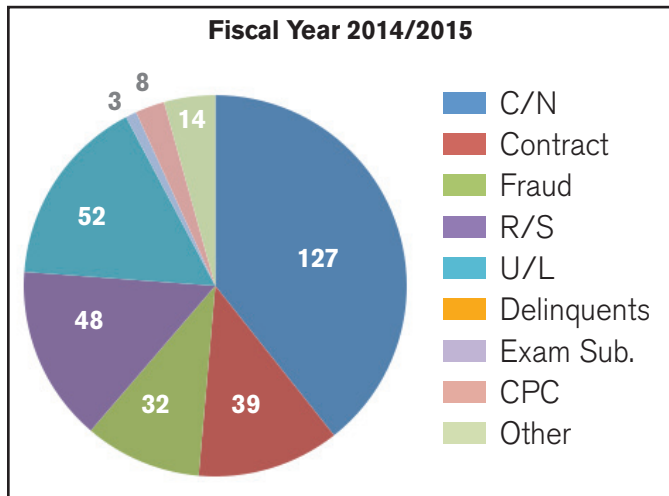
Additionally, the Enforcement Unit is responsible for all enforcement-related legislative and regulatory proposals, such as implementing the legal reporting requirement or requiring fingerprinting of applicants for licensure or certification.

If you have a question about filing a complaint, or the laws, please contact the Board's Enforcement Unit at (916) 263-2284 or **[BPELSG.Enforcement.Information@dca.ca.gov](mailto:BPELSG.Enforcement.Information@dca.ca.gov)**. The *Complaint Form* is available online at on the Board website, **[www.bpelsg.ca.gov](http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov)**.



## Enforcement Unit Reports and Information

### Categories of Alleged Violations at Opening of Complaint Investigation Case



**NOTE:** Fiscal Year 2014/15 statistics are through March 31, 2015. Total may be more than the number of complaint investigation cases opened, since cases may involve more than one category.

**C/N:** Competence/negligence

**Contract:** Contractual issues (breach of contract, failure to execute written contract, failure to include all required elements in written contract)

**Fraud:** Fraud/deceit/misrepresentation; aiding and abetting; criminal conviction

**R/S:** Failure to file; failure to resubmit; monumentation

**U/L:** Unlicensed activity

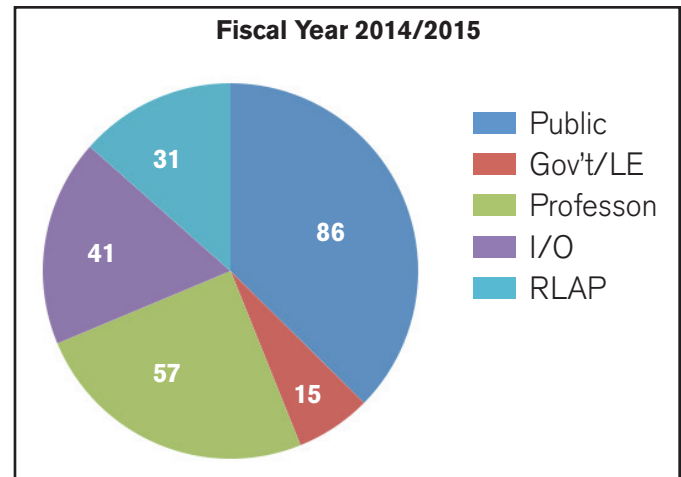
**Delinquents:** Delinquent reinstatement applicants

**Exam Sub.:** Exam subversion (includes those removed from exams and collusion analyses)

**CPC:** Code of Professional Conduct (16 California Code of Regulations sections 475 and 476)

**Other:** Anything not covered above (i.e., failure to sign/seal; failure to file)

### Source of Complaints



**NOTE:** Fiscal Year 2014/15 statistics are through March 31, 2015. Total may be more than the number of complaint investigation cases opened, since cases may involve more than one source.

**Public:** Consumers; individuals not licensed by the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (BPELSG); attorneys; etc.

**Gov't/LE:** Government agency or law enforcement (includes federal, state, and local governmental entities; e.g., County Surveyor's Office, Building Department)

**Profession:** Licensees of BPELSG; also includes professional associations

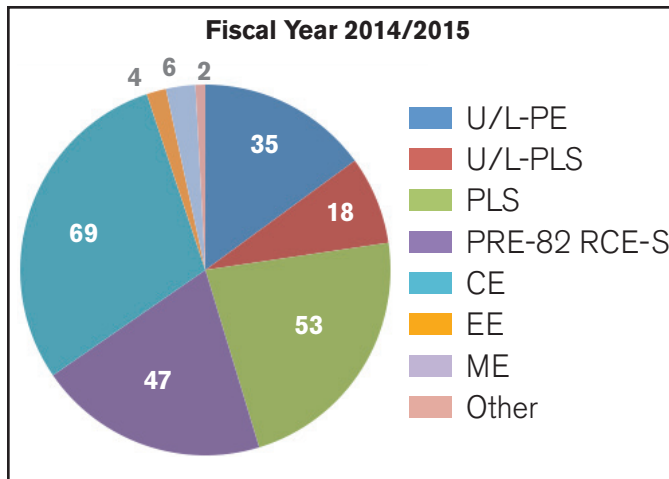
**I/O:** Internal/other—no complainant (exam subversion), inquiries that result in the Enforcement Unit opening a case, anonymous

**RLAP:** Reporting of Legal Actions Program—cases opened as a result of receiving a report of a civil judgment, settlement, arbitration award, or conviction

(continued on page 5)

## Enforcement Unit Reports and Information (continued from page 4)

### Areas of Practice/Licensure of Subject



**NOTE:** Fiscal Year 2014/15 statistics are through March 31, 2015. Total may be more than the number of complaint investigation cases opened, since cases may involve more than one area.

**U/L-PE:** Unlicensed activity relating to the practice of professional engineering

**U/L-PLS:** Unlicensed activity relating to the practice of professional land surveying

**PLS:** Allegations relating to the practice of land surveying by a professional land surveyor

**Pre-82 RCE-S:** Allegations relating to the practice of land surveying by a pre-82 civil engineer

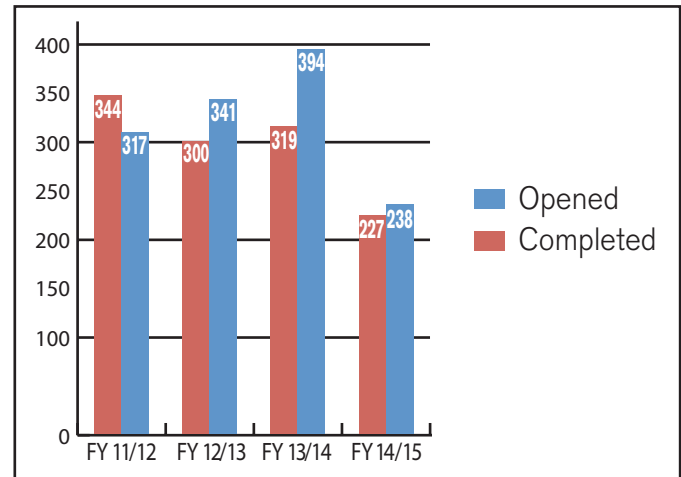
**CE:** Allegations relating to the practice of civil engineering by a civil engineer

**EE:** Allegations relating to the practice of electrical engineering by an electrical engineer

**ME:** Allegations relating to the practice of mechanical engineering by a mechanical engineer

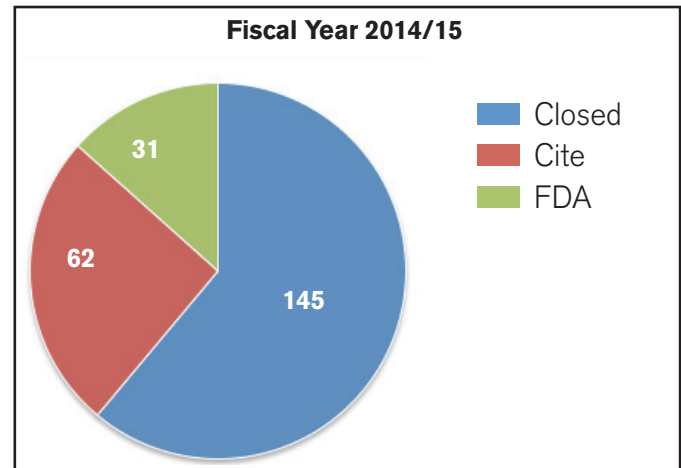
**Other:** Allegations relating to the practice of any other discipline of engineering by a licensee in the specific discipline (i.e., traffic engineering by a traffic engineer)

### Complaint Investigations Opened and Completed



**NOTE:** Fiscal Year (FY) 2014/15 statistics are through March 31, 2015.

### Outcome of Completed Investigations



**NOTE:** Fiscal Year 2014/15 statistics are through March 31, 2015.

**Closed:** Closed with no action taken; includes the categories listed in "Outcome of Completed Investigations" (page 6)

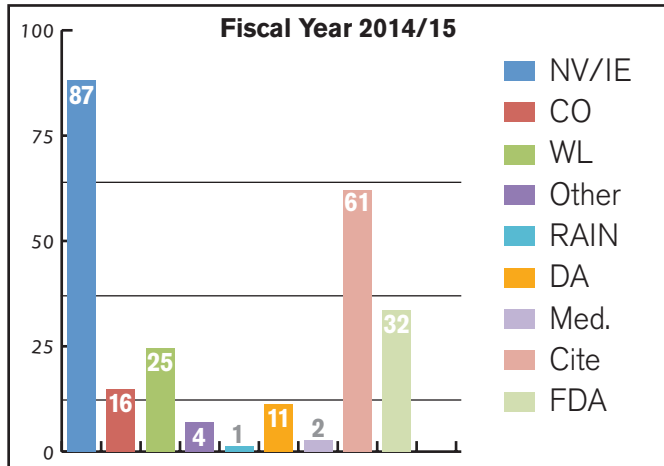
**Cite:** Referred for issuance of citation

**FDA:** Referred for formal disciplinary action

(continued on page 6)

## Enforcement Unit Reports and Information (continued from page 5)

### Outcome of Completed Investigations



**NOTE:** Fiscal Year 2014/15 statistics are through March 31, 2015.

Closed with No Action Taken includes these categories:

**CO:** Compliance obtained

**WL:** Warning letter

**Other:** Other reason for closing without action (e.g., subject deceased)

**RAIN:** Resolved after initial notification

Closed with Action Taken includes these categories:

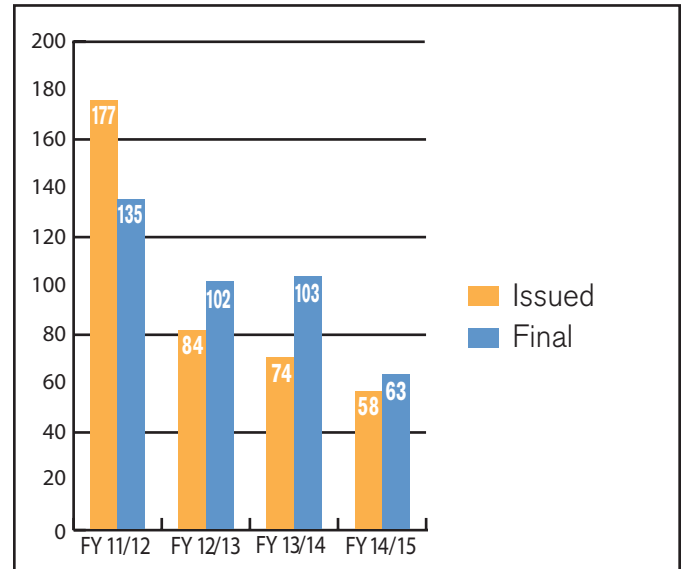
**DA:** Referred to District Attorney with request to file criminal charges

**Med.:** Mediated

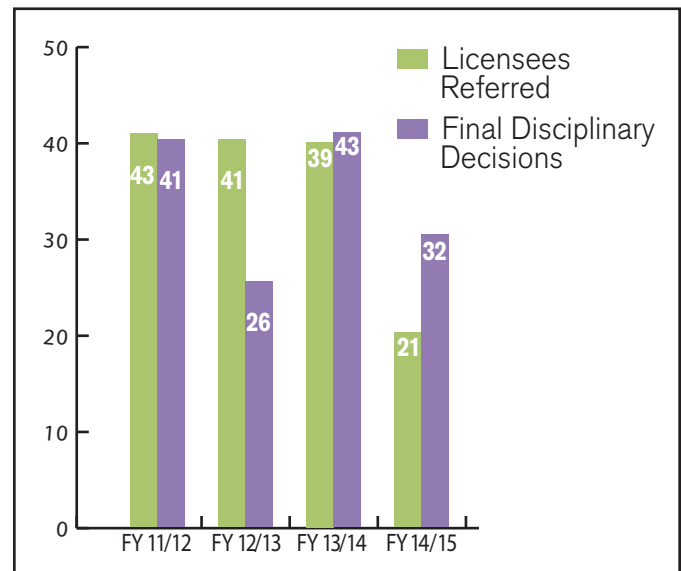
**Cite:** Referred for issuance of citation

**FDA:** Referred for formal disciplinary action

### Citations Issued and Final



### Licensees Referred for Formal Disciplinary Action and Final Disciplinary Decisions



**NOTE:** Fiscal Year 2014/15 statistics are through March 31, 2015.



## Citations Issued to Licensees: Fiscal Year 2014–15 (January–March)

Citations are issued to licensed engineers, land surveyors, geologists, and geophysicists when the severity of a violation may not warrant suspension or revocation of the licensee's right to practice. When a fine is levied with a citation, payment of the fine does not constitute admission of any violations charged but represents a satisfactory resolution of the matter, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.9(d). Code sections numbered in the 6700s, 7800s, and 8700s refer to the Business and Professions Code; those numbered in the 400s and 3000s refer to Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. You can look up the code sections listed and read the laws on the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists' (Board's) website, [www.bpelsg.ca.gov/laws/index.shtml](http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/laws/index.shtml).

All final citations are matters of public record. For a copy of the final citation order or if you have any questions, you may contact the Board's Enforcement Unit at [BPELS.Enforcement\\_Information@dca.ca.gov](mailto:BPELS.Enforcement_Information@dca.ca.gov) or (916) 263-2284. Please include the name of the cited person and the citation number in your request.

Cited Person	Violated Code Section(s)	Citation No.	Date Final
Burgess, Kevin	8780(b)	5284-L	1/25/2015
Foster, Douglas	8762(c)	10379-L	2/27/2015
Huttlinger, Peter	6770(a)(3); 6775(c)	10284-L	1/26/2015
Lee, Hawk	6787(a)	10366-L	1/11/2015

## Citations Issued to Unlicensed Individuals: Fiscal Year 2014–15 (January–March)

Citations are an alternative to criminal prosecutions that the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board) can use to enforce the laws prohibiting the unlicensed practice of engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics, or other activities for which a license is required. When a fine is levied with a citation, payment of the fine does not constitute admission of any violations charged but represents a satisfactory resolution of the matter pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.9(d). Code sections numbered in the 6700s, 7800s, and 8700s refer to the Business and Professions Code; those numbered in the 400s and 3000s refer to Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. You can look up the code sections and read the laws on the Board's website, [www.bpelsg.ca.gov/laws/index.shtml](http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/laws/index.shtml). All final citations are matters of public record. For a copy of the final citation order or if you have any questions, you may contact the Board's Enforcement Unit

at [BPELS.Enforcement\\_Information@dca.ca.gov](mailto:BPELS.Enforcement_Information@dca.ca.gov) or (916) 263-2284. Please include the name of the cited person and the citation number in your request.

Cited Person	Violated Code Section(s)	Citation No.	Date Final
Amirfar, Amir	6787(a)(g)	10256-U	1/25/2015
Arsalan, Rod	8792(a)(i)	10382-U	2/27/2015
Brown, Christopher	8792(a)	10401-U	2/19/2015
Dickey, George	6787(a)(f)(g)	10373-U	1/11/2015
Fisette, Bruce	6787(a)(g)	10111-U	1/25/2015
Molina, Jose	6787(h)	10257-U	1/25/2015
Renzi, James	8792(a)(i)	10198-U	1/25/2015
Schnepf, Henry	8792(a)(i)	10245-U	1/25/2015
Tran, Young	6787(a)(d)(g)	10279-U	1/25/2015

## Formal Administrative Disciplinary Decisions: Fiscal Year 2014–15 (January–March)

A formal disciplinary decision is considered formal administrative disciplinary action against a licensee. It results from the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists' (Board's) adoption of a proposed decision prepared by an administrative law judge following a hearing, a stipulated settlement agreement, or a default decision, all of which follow a full investigation and the filing of an accusation. An accusation is a formal legal document that notifies a licensee of the Board's charges and allegations of violations against the licensee and that requests a disciplinary order be issued. The licensee is entitled to contest the charges at a formal hearing before an administrative law judge or to agree to a stipulated settlement. A final disciplinary decision contains findings and determinations or statements of advisements, waivers, and culpability and a disciplinary order. If there are findings of violations, the order may include revocation or suspension of the license, a stayed revocation or suspension of the license with a probationary period and terms and conditions or probation, or a public reproof. In the alternative, the decision may find that no violations or violations of a de minimus nature occurred and order the dismissal of the accusation. All final disciplinary decisions

are matters of public record. For a copy of the final decision or if you have any questions, you may contact the Board's Enforcement Unit at **BPELS.Enforcement\_Information@dca.ca.gov** or (916) 263-2284. Please include the name of the respondent and the case number in your request.

Respondent	Case Number	Effective Date
<b>Public Reproof</b>		
Youngstrand, Marvin	1059-A	3/13/2015
<b>Revocation of License</b>		
Canada, Leon	1050-A	3/13/2015
<b>Revocation, Stayed; Probation</b>		
Da Pron, Lorne	1097-A	3/13/2015
Hacunda, Paul	1052-A	3/13/2015
Larios, Ramon	1022-A	3/13/2015
Slooten, Dirk	1083-A	3/13/2015
<b>Voluntary Surrender of License</b>		
Lundin, Walter	1086-A	3/13/2015

## Definitions: Outcomes of Formal Administrative Disciplinary Decisions

**Public Reproof:** The licensee is sent a letter of public reproof advising him or her of the violations. The letter is a matter of public record, and a copy will be provided upon request. There are no restrictions on the right to practice, nor is the licensee on probation. This action constitutes formal administrative disciplinary action against the licensee.

**Revocation, Stayed; Probation:** The order of revocation of the license has been stayed (put on hold), and the licensee has been placed on probation, a specified period of time with terms and conditions. If probation is successfully completed, the license will be fully restored. If the probation is violated, the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board) can pursue further action to terminate the stay and impose the order of revocation.

**Revoked or Revocation of License:** The license is terminated, and the right to practice is ended.

**Suspended:** The licensee is prohibited from practicing for a specific period of time.

**Voluntary Surrender or Surrender of License:** The license has been voluntarily returned to the Board, and the right to practice has ended. This action constitutes formal administrative disciplinary action against the licensee.





## Legislation and Regulation News and Updates

Every legislative session, the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board) tracks and analyzes bills that impact the Board's operations and the licensed professions the Board regulates and the statutes that determine that authority. We consistently strive to identify, analyze, and advertise at public Board meetings the bills introduced that may change the landscape of our statutory authority. For more information on upcoming Board meetings and to download meeting materials, go to [www.bpelsg.ca.gov/about\\_us/meetings/index.shtml](http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/about_us/meetings/index.shtml). The following is a summary of tracked legislation and current regulations:

### Legislation

#### Assembly Bill 177 (Bonilla)

**Professions and vocations:** Engineers

**Introduced:** January 26, 2015

**Laws:** Business and Professions Code, relating to professions and vocations

**Bill summary:** The Professional Engineers Act and the Professional Land Surveyors' Act provides for the licensure and regulation of engineers by the Board. This bill would extend these provisions until January 1, 2020. This bill would merge the Geology and Geophysics Account of the Professional Engineer's and Land Surveyor's Fund into one fund. The bill would also add, as a cause for disciplinary action, if a licensee fails to respond to a written request from the Board to cooperate in the investigation of a complaint.

#### Assembly Bill 320 (Wood)

**Environmental engineer.**

**Introduced:** February 13, 2015

**Laws:** Amend section 6732 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to engineers

**Bill summary:** The bill would create an "Environmental Engineer" title license. The bill

would set forth the intent of the Legislature that the Board be responsible for defining environmental engineering through rulemaking and that the Board adopt standardized examination materials applicable to environmental engineering, as specified.

#### Senate Bill 284 (Cannella)

**Limited liability partnerships.**

**Introduced:** February 19, 2015

**Laws:** Amend sections 6738 and 8729 of the Business and Professions Code

**Bill summary:** This bill would extend the operation of engineering and land surveying limited liability partnership provisions until January 1, 2019.

#### Senate Bill 799 (Committee on Business, Professions, and Economic Development)

**Civil engineering plans.**

**Introduced:** March 18, 2015

**Laws:** Amend section 6735 of the Business and Professions Code

**Bill summary:** This bill would revert the language of section 6735 to its form prior to amendments made in 2014 that have created an ambiguity in the law.

### Regulations

The Board has submitted a rulemaking proposal to amend section 438 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations relating to the removal of outdated language regarding the Fundamentals of Engineering examination and the Fundamentals of Surveying examination. In addition, this proposal makes other changes as a result of legislation. All information pertaining to the Rulemaking File can be found on the Board's site:

[www.bpelsg.ca.gov/about\\_us/rulemaking.shtml](http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/about_us/rulemaking.shtml).



## Recent Board Outreach Events

### 'The Many Facets of Geologic Risk' Course Series



Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board) Executive Officer Ric Moore, PLS, was invited along with several other presenters to speak at the Inland Empire Chapter, Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists Risk Short Course Series entitled "The Many Facets of Geologic Risk," in San Bernardino, on May 30. Mr. Moore's presentation focused on the licensure laws, responsibilities of the licensee, and protection of the public as it relates to professional geologists and geophysicists.

### Senior Design Project Showcase at CSU Northridge

The Board attended the Senior Design Project Showcase on May 8 at California State University, Northridge (CSUN), College of Engineering and Computer Science. All photos on May 8 at the Northridge Center by Victor Kamont, CSUN.



*CSUN College of Engineering and Computer Science Dean S.K. Ramesh, Ph.D., and CSUN President Dianne F. Harrison, reviewing the AERO Design entry.*



*Members of the award-winning 2014-15 CSUN Aero Design Team. All are mechanical engineering seniors, and most have accepted job offers with regional industry giants such as Northrop Grumman and Lockheed.*



*CSUN's Intelligent Ground Vehicle student team for spring 2015 shows off their finished product.*

(continued on page 11)



## Recent Board Outreach Events (continued from page 10)



The CSUN Human Powered Vehicle Challenge student team with faculty advisors. In April 2015, the team placed first in the "Innovation" category at the American Society of Mechanical Engineers' annual competition.



CSUN's 2014-15 Formula One design team, made up of mechanical engineering seniors (most of whom graduated May 2015), with their finished race car.

## California State University, Northridge, Engineering Numbers for Board Disciplines

CIVIL ENGINEERING	Academic Year	Enrollment by Year				Total BSCE	Degrees Awarded
		Fr	So	Jr	Sr		
	2012-2013	153	72	116	182	523	60
	2011-2012	127	62	117	147	453	57
	2010-2011	110	50	96	126	382	59
	2009-2010	82	49	73	128	332	56
	2008-2009	93	41	81	109	324	38
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING	Academic Year	Enrollment by Year				Total BSCE	Degrees Awarded
		Fr	So	Jr	Sr		
	2012-2013	105	44	96	150	395	35
	2011-2012	92	36	81	141	350	42
	2010-2011	70	32	71	142	315	41
	2009-2010	49	28	61	117	255	34
	2008-2009	46	36	58	132	272	48
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING	Academic Year	Enrollment by Year				Total BSME	Degrees Awarded
		Fr	So	Jr	Sr		
	2012-2013	211	137	172	253	773	72
	2011-2012	233	117	173	190	713	57
	2010-2011	191	82	130	158	561	60
	2009-2010	145	62	83	162	452	55
	2008-2009	116	63	107	139	425	51

## CSU, Sacramento, Career Day 2015: Huge Demand for Engineering and Computer Science Candidates

By CICI MATTIUZZI, CSU SACRAMENTO, CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

This year, 88 companies participated in the Engineering and Computer Science Annual Career Day, on March 13, at California State University, Sacramento (CSUS). In addition to the job fair, six career seminars took place. The annual event is always the most productive hiring event of the entire year for the university.

The annual employer survey conducted in conjunction with Career Day 2015 showed a high demand for engineers and computer scientists, with companies reporting more than three times as many openings (3,243 openings for technical majors vs. 1,088 in 2014). There is also a strong demand across all technical disciplines.

Companies sought to hire internship, new grad, and experienced candidates, with plans to attract engineering and computer science majors as early as possible to meet the increasing demand for new technology and infrastructure. This year's survey revealed interesting data for what is fueling their hiring demand.

Here's a breakdown of the 2015 hiring demand trends:

- 66 companies cited new business, contracts, and projects (up from 62 last year)
- 47 companies indicated that they are expanding their areas of business (down from 48)
- 35 cited demand for infrastructure (up from 27)
- 37 cited growing demand for technology (up from 27)
- 33 cited upgrades/replacement of old technology (up from 25)

- 19 cited new government regulations (up from 18)
- 17 cited upcoming retirements (up from 14)
- 20 cited population growth (up from 15)
- 17 cited new government spending (up from 15)
- 5 cited expansion into international markets (down from 7)

The Career Day event attracted companies from across a variety of industries, including construction (19), government (9), engineering consulting (9), engineering services (10), IT and software (7), manufacturing (4), construction management (10), utilities (2), insurance (2), energy (1), aerospace (1), computer/electronics (1), consulting (1), control systems (1), military (2), broadcast equipment (1), and telecom (1).

Many of this year's 88 attending companies will hire from more than one engineering discipline:

- 43 companies are hiring civil engineering candidates
- 41 are hiring construction management candidates
- 35 companies are hiring computer engineering candidates
- 34 companies are seeking computer science candidates
- 38 companies are hiring electrical and electronic engineering candidates
- 41 companies have openings for mechanical engineers



*California State University, Sacramento, Career Day, on March 13.*





## National Examination News

### NCEES



# NCEES

advancing licensure for  
engineers and surveyors

*The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing professional licensure for engineers and surveyors. It develops, administers, and scores the examinations used for engineering and surveying licensure in the United States.*

*It also facilitates professional mobility and promotes uniformity of the U.S. licensure processes through services for its member licensing boards and licensees. The Council's members are the engineering and surveying licensure boards from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.*

### NCEES Launches Inaugural Licensure Statistics Report

## EXAM DEVELOPMENT

Licensed engineers and surveyors volunteer their time and expertise to the exam development process by coming to NCEES headquarters to write and evaluate exam questions. In 2013-14, NCEES welcomed a total of **745** volunteers at **54** exam development meetings. This represents approximately **23,056** hours spent developing exam content for **8** fundamentals exams and **26** professional exams.

**745**  
VOLUNTEERS

**54**  
MEETINGS

**23,056**  
HOURS

#### NCEES FACT



15

PERCENTAGE OF  
FEMALE EXAM  
DEVELOPMENT  
VOLUNTEERS

#### SNAPSHOT: PE MECHANICAL COMMITTEE

**2**  
MEETINGS

**18**  
STATES REPRESENTED

**63**  
ATTENDEES

**54**  
**9**



## EXAMS

NCEES exams are a key part of the licensure process. These national exams ensure that professional engineers and surveyors throughout the country meet a uniform minimum standard of competence.

**93,360**



TOTAL NUMBER OF ENGINEERING BACHELOR'S DEGREES AWARDED IN 2013 AS REPORTED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR ENGINEERING EDUCATION (ASEE)

**45,362**

TOTAL NUMBER OF FE EXAM TAKERS



76%

PASS RATE OF  
FIRST-TIME FE  
EXAM TAKERS  
WITH EAC/ABET  
BACHELOR'S  
DEGREES



70%

PASS RATE  
OF ALL OTHER  
FIRST-TIME FE  
EXAM TAKERS

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In February 2015, NCEES announced the release of its licensure statistics publication, *NCEES Squared*, and their interactive *Annual Report*. Both publications are considered the official source of engineering and surveying licensing information.

This new annual publication is designed to make licensure data available to a wide audience, including educators, employers, and the general public. It includes information about the number of U.S. licensees, exam volume and pass rates for NCEES exams, the average age of examinees, and much more. Some of the highlights include:

(continued on page 14)

# BULLETIN

## National Examination News (continued from page 13)

- Examinee volume and pass rates for the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE), Fundamentals of Surveying, Professional Engineer, Principles and Practice of Surveying, and structural engineer exams;
- Number of engineering and surveying licensees per jurisdiction;
- Top 10 schools by FE exam volume; and
- Average age of examinees by exam type.

“Squared’ refers to being direct, honest, and in good order,” said NCEES Chief Executive Officer Jerry Carter. “Recent technology enhancements now allow us to analyze more data. We wanted to offer a straightforward account of our 2013–14 fiscal year through data that measure where licensure is today and the trends we are seeing. We hope this information will help more people understand licensure and its importance to our everyday lives.”

All of the data represent the 2013–14 Fiscal Year, which began October 1, 2013, and ended September 30, 2014. To download your copy, go to NCEES’ website at <http://ncees.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Squared-20141.pdf>.

NCEES’ April 2015 issue of *Licensure Exchange* is now available for download on their website at <http://ncees.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Licensure-Exchange-April-2015.pdf>. This issue features articles on:

- Enforcement
- Model Law and Rules
- Upcoming NCEES Annual Meeting
- Zone meetings
- American Association of Engineering Societies and the Engineering Competency Model and much more

Archives of previous issues are also accessible on their website at <http://ncees.org/about-ncees/ncees-licensure-exchange/>.

NCEES also released its *2014 Annual Report* as an interactive website that complements the printed publication. The *Annual Report* provides an overview of the organization’s accomplishments and growth over the past fiscal year. The *Annual Report* website features videos from 2014 events and interviews with NCEES members and leadership on the organization’s various initiatives. To access the *Annual Report* and download the printed publication, go to <http://reports.ncees.org/2014/12/overview/>.



This was a brief overview of recent news released by NCEES. We encourage you to visit [www.ncees.org](http://www.ncees.org) for their latest and most up-to-date information.

## ASBOG

### Mission Statement

*The National Association of State Boards of Geology*

*(ASBOG) serves as a connective link among the individual state geologic registration licensing boards for the planning and preparation of uniform procedures and the coordination of geologic protective measures for the general public.*

*One of ASBOG’s principal services is to develop standardized written examinations for determining qualifications of applicants seeking licensure as professional geologists. State boards of registration are provided with uniform examinations that are valid measures of competency related to the practice of the profession.*



(continued on page 15)



## National Examination News (continued from page 14)

## Public Protection Through Licensure

The Fundamentals of Geology examination is a requirement for a person to become a licensed professional geologist and to offer geologic services to the public in states that register geologists by examination. Pass-fail analyses of the Fundamentals of Geology Examination indicate that nearly 50 percent of the applicants who take the examination are unqualified to practice geology in the 1990s.

Much of today's geological practice affects the health, safety, and welfare of the public; the environment; and the economy and feasibility of engineered works.

Unqualified geologists, who are employed in jobs that affect the public, place an undue risk on the health, safety, and welfare. Risks include:

- The possibility of an error that will cause a loss of life or property
- The higher costs of supervision
- The costs of repeating incorrect and incomplete work
- Lower cost-benefit ratios brought about by an inability to do efficient work

For information on applying to take the ASBOG Examination, go to <http://asbog.org/registration.html>. Please note that ASBOG does not communicate directly with candidates.

For details on the fundamentals of geology test blueprint and domain percentages, go to <http://asbog.org/documents/testblueprint.pdf>.

## Notice of Department Designation

Updating an article from our *Spring 2015 Bulletin*, the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board) has now developed a form to be completed by governmental agencies to identify and record the professional engineers and land surveyors responsible for performing the respective engineering and land surveying duties for their department or agency. The form, *Notice of Department or Agency Association*, will be required to be filed by all governmental agencies that perform civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering or land surveying services, whether that agency is a State, city, county, or city/county agency, or a district or special district. The form is included on the last two pages of this newsletter, and is available on the Board's website, [www.bpelsg.ca.gov](http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov).

If you have any questions, please contact the Board at (916) 263-2284 or [BPELSG.Enforcement.Information@dca.ca.gov](mailto:BPELSG.Enforcement.Information@dca.ca.gov).

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
GOVERNOR EDWIN G. BROWN, JR.  
BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS  
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 300, Sacramento, California, 95833-2944  
Telephone: (916) 263-2222 - Toll Free: 1-866-780-5370  
Facsimile: (916) 263-2246  
www.bpelsg.ca.gov

**NOTICE OF DEPARTMENT DESIGNATION**  
For California State, City, County, City/County, District, or Special District Departments  
(Pursuant to Sections 6790.2 and 8725.1 of the California Business and Professions Code, an applicable licensed person needs to be designated as the individual in responsible charge of land surveying and each branch of engineering services being practiced)

*Notes: Each department that practices engineering or surveying on an independent basis must designate license in responsible charge of those services. As used on this form, the word "department" means any level that has the independent authority to make final engineering or land surveying decisions without having to obtain approval of those decisions by a higher level of authority.*

☐ State    Name of: ☐ City    ☐ County    ☐ City/County  
☐ District    ☐ Special District

Department Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (including city, state, and ZIP code) \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Website Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Professional Services Practiced:**  
☐ Civil (Structural and Geotechnical) Engineering    ☐ Electrical Engineering  
☐ Mechanical Engineering    ☐ Land Surveying

List the name of the licensee or licensees in responsible charge of each branch of engineering and/or land surveying services that your department practices along with their title and license number. An Organization Chart should be attached. Contracted individuals employees or companies must be listed. (Attach additional pages if needed). If the department has multiple offices, complete the "Additional Offices" form.

Name	Title	License Number

Name of Person Completing this Form \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Information \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Revised 2/2015

## In Memoriam

In Celebration of the Lives and Contributions of the Following Professionals

The Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board) would like to recognize professionals licensed as engineers, land surveyors, or geologists who have recently passed away. Below is list of individuals who have departed between January and March 2015. This list may not include all those who have recently passed away as we rely on information from the public, other licensees, and family members. Please contact the Board regarding individuals who have recently passed.

Name	License No.	Years of Licensure
<b>Engineer</b>		
John Edward Hawley	C 55633	19
John W. Hill	C 11602	56
Richard Anthony Juarez	C 27063	39
Bennett T. Karoly	C 10580	57
Susan Lee Lowell	C 50296	22
Marlow V. Marrs	M 7034	66
James Edward McDonald	C 29464	36
George Lizardo Mejia	C 38489	30
Frank Ong	I 3364	45
<b>Geologist</b>		
Seth Ryder Stiles	GEO 6587	18
<b>Land Surveyor</b>		
Ron Cameron Walter	L 6501	24
<b>Multiple Licenses</b>		
Gary Herbert Moore	CS 3779, M 17134	37, 40

## What Is Your Address of Record?

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 136 and Title 16, California Code of Regulations section 412, all licensees of the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board) are required to provide the Board with an address of record. The address of record is the official address provided to anyone inquiring about the license history and status of a licensee and is the address to which all official Board mail, such as license renewal notices and other legal documents, is sent to the licensee. Additionally, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 27, the Board is required to provide on its website ([www.bpelsg.ca.gov](http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov)) information regarding the status of every license issued by the Board. This law also requires that the information provided must include the licensee's address of record. Therefore, the Board must maintain the addresses of record of its licensees, and include them in the **License Lookup** feature on its website.

However, there are no laws that require the licensee to use a personal residential address as his or her address of record. The licensee is free to choose whether to provide a personal residential address, a business address, an alternate address, or even a post office box as his or her address of record. Therefore, if a licensee does not wish to have his or her home address disclosed to anyone inquiring about the license, then the licensee has the option of changing his or her address of record to a business address or other alternate address.

If you are interested in your current address of record, please find your license information through the Board website's **License Lookup** tool. If you would like to change your current address of record, please do so by filling out an **online address change form**. Any questions regarding the laws and regulations can be found on the **Board's website** as well.





## Spring 2015 Professional Engineer, Land Surveyor, and Geology Examination Statistics

CIVIL ENGINEERING EXAMINATIONS		Pass	Fail	Total	Rate
	Principles & Practices (National)	744	878	1622	46%
	Seismic Principles	919	859	1778	52%
	Engineering Surveying	764	1006	1770	43%
LAND SURVEYING EXAMINATIONS		Pass	Fail	Total	Rate
	Principles & Practices (National)	32	23	55	58%
	Surveying (State Specific)	42	151	193	22%
OTHER ENGINEERING DISCIPLINE EXAMINATIONS		Pass	Fail	Total	Rate
	Agricultural	1	1	2	50%
	Chemical	24	17	41	59%
	Electrical	112	185	297	38%
	Industrial	4	2	6	67%
	Mechanical	189	125	314	60%
STRUCTURAL		Pass	Fail	Total	Rate
	Lateral Forces	45	56	101	45%
	Vertical Forces	56	57	113	50%
2014 FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATIONS JANUARY-FEBRUARY		Pass	Fail	Total	Rate
	Engineering	638	416	1054	61%
	Land Surveyors	9	12	21	43%
GEOLOGY		Pass	Fail	Total	Rate
	Fundamentals of Geology for GIT Certification	32	13	45	71%
	Fundamentals of Geology	26	12	38	68%
	Practice of Geology	36	13	49	73%
	California-Specific Examination	25	62	87	29%

### Board Subscribers List Reminder

Receiving e-mail notifications regarding meetings, legislation, or e-news from the California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board) couldn't be easier. Simply join our subscribers list on the Board's website. You will then be connected to new issues of the Board *Bulletin*, notified when the Board holds meetings, and receive information related to consumers, candidates, or licensees.

Joining the subscribers list can be done in just a few easy steps:

1. Visit the Board's website at [www.bpelsg.ca.gov](http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov).
2. Click on the "Join Our Email List" link in the "Quick Hits" section.
3. Enter your e-mail address and the specified text or audio link to validate submission of your data.
4. Click on "Submit."
5. You will then receive a confirmation e-mail.



California Board for Professional Engineers,  
Land Surveyors, and Geologists  
Tel (916) 263-2222 • Fax (916) 263-2246  
E-mail: [bpels.office@dca.ca.gov](mailto:bpels.office@dca.ca.gov)  
[www.bpelsg.ca.gov](http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov)

## Board Speakers Available

The Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board) continues in its efforts to reach out to groups interested in any of the broad array of Board functions. As part of this outreach effort, we have speakers available to present at meetings and events; speakers include Executive Officer Ric Moore, PLS; Assistant Executive Officer Nancy Eissler; Senior Registrar Susan Christ, P.E.; Senior Registrar Mike Donelson, P.E.; Enforcement Manager Tiffany Criswell; Senior Land Surveyor Registrar Ray Mathe, PLS; and Senior Registrar for Geologists and Geophysicists Laurie Racca, P.G.

Our Enforcement, Licensing, Examination, and Outreach Units all have speakers authorized to represent the Board. To request a speaker, we will need the following information: size of group, location, time, length and type of presentation, and proposed subject matter. Appropriate advance notice is always appreciated.

Current and former Board members may also appear on the Board's behalf, depending on availability.

For more information, contact the Outreach Administrator at the Board, Brooke Phayer at [Brooke.Phayer@dca.ca.gov](mailto:Brooke.Phayer@dca.ca.gov) or (916) 263-2239.



SUMMER 2015

BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS



# BULLETIN



## Social Media: Board Facebook and Twitter Pages

The Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board) is asking for your help in getting the word out regarding the launch of its Facebook and Twitter pages. The Board is now posting information of interest to postsecondary institutions and students on a regular basis. This information includes regulatory changes, updates to our website, interesting articles, useful resources, and a host of other Board-related data.

For those institutions that communicate with students through e-mail or some other means, we invite you to share this information with them. The Board is anxious to use these social media outlets as an ongoing way to reach our stakeholders. Thank you for your assistance in spreading the word.

Please take a few minutes to “like” us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter:



**Facebook** - [www.facebook.com/pages/The-Board-for-Professional-Engineers-Land-Surveyors-and-Geologists/107020752801578](https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Board-for-Professional-Engineers-Land-Surveyors-and-Geologists/107020752801578)



**Twitter** - [twitter.com/CA\\_Engineers](https://twitter.com/CA_Engineers)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA



DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

1625 N. Market Blvd.  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
[www.dca.ca.gov](http://www.dca.ca.gov)


**BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS**

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Facsimile: (916) 263-2246

www.bpelsg.ca.gov


**NOTICE OF DEPARTMENT DESIGNATION**
**For California State, City, County, City/County, District, or Special District Departments**

(Pursuant to Sections 6730.2 and 8725.1 of the California Business and Professions Code, an applicable licensed person needs to be designated as the individual in responsible charge of land surveying and each branch of engineering services being practiced)

**Note:** *Each department that practices engineering or surveying on an independent basis must designate licensee in responsible charge of those services. As used on this form, the word “department” means any level that has the independent authority to make final engineering or land surveying decisions without having to obtain approval of those decisions by a higher level of authority.*

State Name of: ☐ City \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ County \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ City/County \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ District \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Special District \_\_\_\_\_

Department Name	
Address (including city, state, and ZIP code)	
Telephone Number	Website Address

**Professional Services Practiced:**
☐ Civil (Structural and Geotechnical) Engineering

☐ Electrical Engineering

☐ Mechanical Engineering

☐ Land Surveying

List the name of the licensee or licensees in responsible charge of each branch of engineering and/or land surveying services that your department practices along with their title and license number. An Organization Chart should be attached. Individuals contracted to serve in an official capacity (i.e., city engineer, etc.) must be listed. (**Attach additional pages if needed**). If the department has multiple offices, complete the “Additional Offices” form.

Name	Title	License Number

Name of Person Completing this Form	Signature	Title	Contact Information	Date
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Revised 6/2015

## Additional Offices

### For California State, City, County, City/County, District, or Special District Departments

(Pursuant to Sections 6730.2 and 8725.1 of the California Business and Professions Code, an applicable licensed person needs to be designated as the individual in responsible charge of land surveying and each branch of engineering services being practiced)

☐ State Name of: ☐ City \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ County \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ City/County \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ District \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Special District \_\_\_\_\_

Department Name	
Address (including city, state, and ZIP code)	
Telephone Number	Website Address

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☐ Civil (Structural and Geotechnical) Engineering  
☐ Mechanical Engineering

☐ Electrical Engineering  
☐ Land Surveying

List the name, title, and license number of the licensee or licensees in responsible charge of professional engineering or land surveying services at this Department/Agency's office along with their title and license number. An Organization Chart should be attached. Individuals contracted to serve in an official capacity (i.e., city engineer, etc.) must be listed. **(Attach additional pages if needed)**


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Revised 6/2015