## BEFORE THE

# BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

| In the Matter of the First Amended Accusation and Third Petition to Revoke Probation against: | ) |                |
|---|---|----------------|
| STEVEN LEROY FALLON   | ) | Case No. 845-A |
| P. O. Box 693   | ) |                |
| Newcastle, CA 95658   | ) |                |
| Civil Engineer License No. C 45670,   | ) |                |
| Respondent.   | ) |                |
|   | / |                |

## **DECISION**

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists as its Decision in the above-entitled matter.

| This Decision shall beco | ome effective on Apríl 13, 2012 |  |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
|                          |                                 |  |
| IT IS SO ORDERED         | March 8, 2012                   |  |

Original Signed

BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS Department of Consumer Affairs State of California

| 1  | Kamala D. Harris   |   |  |  |
|----|--|---|--|--|
| 2  | Attorney General of California JANICE LACHMAN  |   |  |  |
| 3  | Supervising Deputy Attorney General LORRIE M. YOST   |   |  |  |
| 4  | Deputy Attorney General<br>State Bar No. 119088  |   |  |  |
| 5  | 1300 I Street, Suite 125<br>P.O. Box 944255  |   |  |  |
| 6  | Sacramento, CA 94244-2550<br>Telephone: (916) 445-2271                                       |   |  |  |
| 7  | Facsimile: (916) 327-8643  |   |  |  |
| 8  | Attorneys for Complainant  | N   |  |  |
|    | BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENG   | RE THE<br>GINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND          |  |  |
| 9  | GEOLOGISTS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  |   |  |  |
| 11 |  | CALIFORNIA                                      |  |  |
| )  | In the Matter of the First Amended Accusation and Third Petition to Revoke Probation         | Case No. 845-A                                  |  |  |
| 12 | Against:   |   |  |  |
| 13 | STEVEN LEROY FALLON<br>P.O. Box 693  | STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND<br>DISCIPLINARY ORDER |  |  |
| 14 | Newcastle, CA 95658  |   |  |  |
| 15 | Civil Engineer License No. C 45670   |   |  |  |
| 16 | Respondent.  |   |  |  |
| 17 |  | •   |  |  |
| 18 | IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGE  | REED by and between the parties to the above-   |  |  |
| 19 | entitled proceedings that the following matters as   | re true:  |  |  |
| 20 | PAR  | <u>TIES</u>                                     |  |  |
| 21 | 1. Richard B. Moore, PLS (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board for             |   |  |  |
| 22 | Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists. He brought this action solely in his |   |  |  |
| 23 | official capacity and is represented in this matter  | by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the    |  |  |
| 24 | State of California, by Lorrie M. Yost, Deputy A   | ttorney General.                                |  |  |
| 25 | ///  |   |  |  |
| 26 | ///  |   |  |  |
| 27 | ///  |   |  |  |
| 28 | ///  |   |  |  |
|    |  | Į   |  |  |
| į  |  | STIPULATED SETTLEMENT (845-A)                   |  |  |

2. Respondent Steven Leroy Fallon (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney Strowbridge B. Richardson, whose address is:

Strowbridge B. Richardson Attorney at Law P.O. Box 1066 Newcastle, CA 95658

3. On or about August 27, 1990, the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists issued Civil Engineer License No. C 45670 to Steven Leroy Fallon (Respondent). The Civil Engineer License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in the First Amended Accusation and Third Petition to Revoke Probation No. 845-A (hereinafter referred to as "Accusation/Petition") and will expire on December 31, 2012, unless renewed.

## **JURISDICTION**

4. Accusation/Petition No. 845-A was filed before the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation/Petition No. 845-A and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on October 21, 2010. (The original Accusation and Third Petition to Revoke Probation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on May 6, 2009.) Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation. A copy of Accusation/Petition No. 845-A is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

## ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation/Petition No. 845-A. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation/Petition; the right to be represented by counsel at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of

subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

## **CULPABILITY**

- 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation/Petition No. 845-A.
- 9. Respondent agrees that his Civil Engineer License is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

## **CONTINGENCY**

- 10. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 11. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 12. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions,

negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.

13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

## **DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Civil Engineer License No. C 45670 issued to Respondent Steven Leroy Fallon (Respondent) is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions.

- 1. **Actual Suspension.** Civil Engineer License No. C 45670 issued to Steven Leroy Fallon is suspended for 90 days.
- 2. **Obey All Laws.** The Respondent shall obey all laws and regulations related to the practices of professional engineering and professional land surveying.
- 3. **Submit Reports.** The Respondent shall submit such special reports as the Board may require.
- 4. Quarterly Reports. In addition to the special reports which may be required pursuant to Condition (3), the respondent shall submit on a quarterly basis a report to the Board listing all engineering work engaged in or contracted for. The report shall include all of the following information: the name, address, and telephone number of the client; the name, address, and telephone number of the property owner, if different than the client; the location of the project site; and the type of engineering work provided. The respondent shall permit the Board or its designee to inspect all documents relating to the engineering work at any stage of the project. The first report shall be due to the Board within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the decision.
- 5. **Health and Fitness to Practice Report.** Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the decision, and on a quarterly basis thereafter for the remainder of the probationary period, the Respondent shall provide the Board with a statement from his health care provider that his

mental and physical health conditions are such that he may continue to practice civil engineering without posing a threat to the public health, safety and welfare.

- 6. **Notification.** Within 30 days of the effective date of the decision, the Respondent shall provide the Board with evidence that he has provided all persons or entities with whom he has a contractual or employment relationship such that the relationship is in the area of practice of professional engineering and/or professional land surveying in which the violation occurred with a copy of the decision and order of the Board and shall provide the Board with the name and business address of each person or entity required to be so notified. During the period of probation, the Respondent may be required to provide the same notification of each new person or entity with whom he has a contractual or employment relationship such that the relationship is in the area of practice of professional engineering and/or land surveying in which the violation occurred and shall report to the Board the name and address of each person or entity so notified.
- 7. Cost Recovery. The Respondent is hereby ordered to reimburse the Board the amount of \$1,650.00 within two and one-half (2 1/2) years from the effective date of this decision for its investigative and prosecution costs relating to the Accusation/Petition in this matter. Said reimbursement may be paid in installments. Failure to reimburse the Board's costs shall constitute a violation of the probation order.
- 8. **Tolling of Probation.** The period of probation shall be tolled during the time the Respondent is practicing exclusively outside the state of California. If, during the period of probation, the Respondent practices exclusively outside the state of California, the Respondent shall immediately notify the Board in writing.
- 9. Violation of Probation. If the respondent fails to timely comply with the terms and conditions ordered, the Board may suspend the respondent's license without notice or further opportunity to be heard. The Board shall notify the respondent in writing immediately upon any such suspension. The suspension of the respondent's license shall remain in effect until such time as the Board receives written, verifiable proof of the respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of probation. The period of probation shall be extended by the same number of days as any suspensions imposed pursuant to this condition.

In addition to the suspension of the respondent's license which may be imposed pursuant to Condition (9), if the respondent violates the probationary conditions in any respect, the Board, after giving the respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may vacate the stay of revocation of the respondent's license and reinstate the disciplinary order which was stayed. If, during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to vacate stay is filed against the respondent, or if the matter has been submitted to the Office of the Attorney General for the filing of such, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until all matters are final, and the period of probation shall be extended until all matters are final.

10. **Completion of Probation.** Upon successful completion of all of the probationary conditions and the expiration of the period of probation, the Respondent's license shall be unconditionally restored.

## **ACCEPTANCE**

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Strowbridge B. Richardson. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Civil Engineer License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists.

DATED: VIII Original Signed STEVEN LEROY FAILON Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Steven Leroy Fallon the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: ////2012

Strowbridge B. Richardson Attorney for Respondent

## **ENDORSEMENT** The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists of the Department of Consumer Affairs. Dated: Respectfully submitted, Kamala D. Harris Attorney General of California JANICE LACHMAN Supervising Deputy Attorney General Original Signed DORRIE M. YOST Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant SA2008305656 10796398.doc

## Exhibit A

First Amended Accusation and Third Petition to Revoke Probation No. 845-A

| 3.1  |   | I  |
|--|---|--|
| 1  | EDMUND G. BROWN JR.   |  |
| 2  | Attorney General of California JANICE LACHMAN   | 9 9  |
| 3  | Supervising Deputy Attorney General LORRIE YOST   |  |
| 4  | Deputy Attorney General<br>State Bar No. 119088   |  |
| 5  | 1300 I Street, Suite 125<br>P.O. Box 944255   |  |
| 6  | Sacramento, CA 94244-2550<br>Telephone: (916) 445-2271  |  |
| 7  | Facsimile: (916) 327-8643<br>Attorneys for Complainant  |  |
| 8  |   | RE THE   |
| 9  | DEPARTMENT OF C   | GINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS<br>CONSUMER AFFAIRS   |
| 10   | STATE OF C  | CALIFORNIA   |
| 11   | In the Matter of the Accusation and Third<br>Petition to Revoke Probation Against:  | Case No. 845-A   |
| 12   | STEVEN LEROY FALLON   | OAH No. 2009080437   |
| 13   | P.O. Box 693<br>Newcastle, CA 95658   | FIRST AMENDED A C C U S A T I O N<br>AND THIRD PETITION TO REVOKE  |
| 14   | Civil Engineer License No. C 45670  | PROBATION TO REVOKE  |
| 15   | Respondent.   |  |
| - 1  |   | *  |
| 16   |   |  |
| 16<br>17   | Complainant alleges:  |  |
|  | Complainant alleges:  | RTIES  |
| 17   | Complainant alleges:  | RTIES gs this Accusation solely in his official capacity   |
| 17<br>18   | Complainant alleges:  | gs this Accusation solely in his official capacity   |
| 17<br>18<br>19   | Complainant alleges:  PAF  1. David E. Brown (Complainant) brin   | gs this Accusation solely in his official capacity   |
| 17<br>18<br>19<br>20                                     | Complainant alleges:  PAF  1. David E. Brown (Complainant) brin as the Executive Officer of the Board for Profess Department of Consumer Affairs.   | gs this Accusation solely in his official capacity   |
| 17<br>18<br>19<br>20<br>21                               | Complainant alleges:  PAF  1. David E. Brown (Complainant) brin as the Executive Officer of the Board for Profess Department of Consumer Affairs.  2. On or about August 27, 1990, the Board  | gs this Accusation solely in his official capacity sional Engineers and Land Surveyors,  |
| 17<br>18<br>19<br>20<br>21<br>22                         | Complainant alleges:  1. David E. Brown (Complainant) brin as the Executive Officer of the Board for Profess Department of Consumer Affairs.  2. On or about August 27, 1990, the Board Surveyors issued Civil Engineer License Number  | gs this Accusation solely in his official capacity sional Engineers and Land Surveyors, oard for Professional Engineers and Land   |
| 17<br>18<br>19<br>20<br>21<br>22<br>23                   | Complainant alleges:  1. David E. Brown (Complainant) brin as the Executive Officer of the Board for Profess Department of Consumer Affairs.  2. On or about August 27, 1990, the Board Surveyors issued Civil Engineer License Number  | gs this Accusation solely in his official capacity sional Engineers and Land Surveyors, oard for Professional Engineers and Land er C 45670 to Steven Leroy Fallon (Respondent). |
| 17<br>18<br>19<br>20<br>21<br>22<br>23<br>24             | Complainant alleges:  1. David E. Brown (Complainant) brin as the Executive Officer of the Board for Profess Department of Consumer Affairs.  2. On or about August 27, 1990, the Board Surveyors issued Civil Engineer License Number The Civil Engineer License was in full force and   | gs this Accusation solely in his official capacity sional Engineers and Land Surveyors, oard for Professional Engineers and Land er C 45670 to Steven Leroy Fallon (Respondent). |
| 17<br>18<br>19<br>20<br>21<br>22<br>23<br>24<br>25       | Complainant alleges:  1. David E. Brown (Complainant) brin as the Executive Officer of the Board for Profess Department of Consumer Affairs.  2. On or about August 27, 1990, the Board Surveyors issued Civil Engineer License Number The Civil Engineer License was in full force and herein and will expire on December 31, 2010, under the Civil Engineer License was in full force and the civil Engineer License was in full force and | gs this Accusation solely in his official capacity sional Engineers and Land Surveyors, oard for Professional Engineers and Land er C 45670 to Steven Leroy Fallon (Respondent). |
| 17<br>18<br>19<br>20<br>21<br>22<br>23<br>24<br>25<br>26 | Complainant alleges:  1. David E. Brown (Complainant) brin as the Executive Officer of the Board for Profess Department of Consumer Affairs.  2. On or about August 27, 1990, the Board Surveyors issued Civil Engineer License Number The Civil Engineer License was in full force and herein and will expire on December 31, 2010, utility  | gs this Accusation solely in his official capacity sional Engineers and Land Surveyors, oard for Professional Engineers and Land er C 45670 to Steven Leroy Fallon (Respondent). |

Accusation

## JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws.
  All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 6775 of the Code states, in pertinent part, that "[T]he board may reprove, suspend for a period not to exceed two years, or revoke the certificate of any professional engineer registered under this chapter:
- "(c) Who has been found guilty by the board of negligence or incompetence in his or her practice.
- "(g) Who in the course of the practice of professional engineering has been found guilty by the board of having violated a rule or regulation of unprofessional conduct adopted by the board.
  - "(h) Who violates any provision of this chapter."
- 5. Section 6749 of the Code states, in pertinent part, that "A professional engineer shall use a written contract when contracting to provide professional engineering services to a client pursuant to this chapter. The written contract shall be executed by the professional engineer and the client, or his or her representative, prior to the professional engineer commencing work, unless the client knowingly states in writing that work may be commenced before the contract is executed. The written contract shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:
  - (1) A description of the services to be provided to the client by the professional engineer.
- (2) A description of any basis of compensation applicable to the contract, and the method of payment agreed upon by the parties.
- (3) The name, address, and license or certificate number of the professional engineer, and the name and address of the client.
- (4) A description of the procedure that the professional engineer and the client will use to accommodate additional services.
  - (5) A description of the procedure to be used by any party to terminate the contract."

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## THIRD PETITION TO REVOKE PROBATION

## FIRST CAUSE TO REVOKE PROBATION

(Failure to Obey All Laws Related to the Practice)

9. At all times after the effective date of Respondent's extended probation, Condition 5 provided: "Respondent shall obey all federal, state, and local laws and rules governing the practice of professional engineering and land surveying in California."

Respondent's probation is subject to revocation because he failed to comply with Probation Condition 5, referenced above, in that he violated Business and Professions Code sections 6775 and 6749 as set forth in paragraphs 11 through 15 below.

## ACCUSATION

## CHAND RESIDENCE

## FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Negligence or Incompetence)

10. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 6775 subsection (c) of the Code, in that from on or about July 22, 2003 through August 11, 2003, Respondent was negligent and/or incompetent in the practice of civil engineering. The facts and circumstances are that Respondent contracted with client Ron Chand to prepare building plans to augment existing structural plans for a home Chand intended to build. The plans that Respondent provided included sheets that were poorly prepared to the point of being illegible, did not bear Respondent's company title-block, and did not provide calculations for both vertical and lateral resisting systems should have been included. The plans in general failed to meet the standard of practice and were repeatedly rejected by the Placer County Planning Department, making it necessary for Chand to hire another civil engineer to prepare the plans instead.

## SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violation of Professional Engineers Act)

11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 6775 subsection (h) of the Code, in that Respondent violated section 6749 subsection (a) by agreeing on or about July

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11, 2003 to provide his client Ron Chand with professional engineering services but failing to provide his client with a written contract reflecting the services he had agreed to provide to him.

## ARTALE RESIDENCE

## THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Negligence or Incompetence)

12. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 6775 subsection (c) of the Code, in that Respondent was negligent and/or incompetent in the practice of civil engineering, in that from February through April of 1997, he planned and approved an inadequate repair on a home owned by Norm Vanderlaag. The facts and circumstances are that in 1994. Respondent provided plans for a home for Norm Vanderlaag. In January of 1997 David Artale, examining the house prior to purchase, noticed a sag in the roof over the front entry. The homeowner Vanderlaag referred the problem to Respondent who on February 28, 1997 issued "structural calculations" and a "letter/written report" to homeowner Vanderlaag detailing a repair of the roof. The repairs were made and Respondent certified the repairs on April 8, 1997. Reassured, Artale purchased the home. In 2001, Artale becomes aware that the sag in the roof was much more serious than he had been led to believe. Artale contacted Respondent who came out and made an inspection of the roof on March 5, 2001. During the inspection, Respondent noted that the purlin braces exceeded the unbraced length that 2x braces should maintain, as well as other problems with the construction and/or repair of the roof. This and subsequent inspections revealed that the repair work that had been approved by Respondent was inadequate in both planning and execution, that Respondent had failed to make all of the necessary roof framing calculations and then failed to properly inspect and report upon the state of the repairs after they were completed.

#### DEAN RESIDENCE

## FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Negligence)

13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 6775(c) of the Code, in that Respondent was negligent and/or incompetent in the practice of civil engineering as follows.

On or about January 21, 2009, Respondent invoiced LeRoy and Patricia Dean for plans that he had prepared for their Kitchen & Dining Room And Upstairs Bedroom Remodel project. These plans were to augment existing structural plans for a remodel of the Dean home. The plans that Respondent provided failed to meet the standard of practice in that:

- a) The loadings applied to the design of the beam have been manipulated and misentered into the Enercal program. The Live Loading for the member has been incorrectly entered in the program as a Roof Live Load which is subject to different Load Duration Factors in its stress check than a Floor Live Load. The magnitude of the Live Loading value has been reduced, with a corresponding increase in the Dead Loading to maintain correct Total Loading and Correction values. The Total Load Deflection Ratio for the member does not meet the minimum requirements of 2007 CBC Table 1604.3.
- b) Respondent failed to use proper care in preparation of plans that were to be submitted to and approved by the City of Davis. The plans were significantly incomplete, lacked detail and were repeatedly rejected by the Yolo County Planning Department, making it necessary for the Deans to hire another civil engineer to prepare the plans instead.

## FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violation of Professional Engineers Act)

14. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under 6775 subsection (h) of the Code, in that Respondent violated section 6749 subsection (a) by agreeing on or about January 12, 2009 to provide professional engineering services but failing to provide his client with a properly written contract with all the necessary elements including descriptions of the services he had agreed to provide to him, of the procedure that the he and the client were to use to accommodate additional services, etc.

## SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violation of Regulations)

15. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under 6775 subsection (g) of the Code, in that Respondent violated CCR Title 16 section 475 subsections (e) (1) and (e) (2) by submitting the plan documents to the clients so that they could submit them in turn to the City of

Davis Community Redevelopment Department for Plan Check Review when the plans were not yet substantially complete as described in Paragraph 13(b), above.

## DISCIPLINE CONSIDERATIONS

- 16. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, Complainant alleges that:
- a. In a disciplinary action entitled "In the Matter of Accusation Against Steven Leroy Fallon," Case No. 578A, the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors accused Respondent of engaging in unprofessional conduct. Respondent admitted the violations. The Board issued a decision, effective August 31, 1998, wherein Respondent's civil engineer license was revoked. The revocation, however, was stayed and Respondent's license was placed on probation for a period of five (5) years with certain terms and conditions. A copy of the decision in this matter is attached as Exhibit A and is incorporated by reference.
- b. In a disciplinary action entitled "In the Matter of Accusation Against Steven Leroy Fallon," Case No. 578A, the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Respondent was found to have violated the terms of his probation. As a result, the Board issued a decision, effective July 25, 2003, in which the probationary period of Respondent's civil engineer license was extended for an additional three (3) years with certain terms and conditions. A copy of that decision is attached as Exhibit B and is incorporated by reference.
- c. In a disciplinary action entitled "In the Matter of the First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation Against Steven Leroy Fallon" Case No. 578A, the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors accused Respondent of violating the terms of his probation, negligence and breach of contract. Respondent admitted the violations. The Board issued a decision, effective April 14, 2006, in which the probationary period of Respondent's civil engineer license was extended for a period of an additional three (3) years with certain terms and conditions. A copy of that decision is attached as Exhibit C and is incorporated by reference.

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## PRAYER 1 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, 2 and that following the hearing, the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors issue a 3 decision: 4 Revoking or suspending Civil Engineer License Number C 45670, issued to Steven 1. 5 Leroy Fallon 6 7 Ordering Steven Leroy Fallon to pay the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to 8 Business and Professions Code section 125.3; 9 Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. 10 11 DATED: 12 Executive Officer 13 Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Department of Consumer Affairs 14 State of California Complainant 15 16 SA2008305656 10614806.doc 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

## Exhibit A

Stipulation in Settlement & Decision

DANIEL E. LUNGREN, Attorney General 1 of the State of California PATRICK M. KENADY, Deputy Attorney General, State Bar No. 50882 Department of Justice 1300 I Street, Suite 125 Post Office Box 944255 Sacramento, California 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 324-5377 5 Attorneys for Complainant 6 BEFORE THE 8 BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS 9 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 NO. 578A the Accusation) the Matter of Against: 12

In the Matter of the Accusation) NO. 578A

Against:

STEVEN LEROY FALLON
2890 Richardson Drive
Auburn, CA 95603

Professional Engineers and Land)
Surveyors No. 45670

Respondent.)

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In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of this matter, consistent with the public interest and the responsibility of the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, Department of Consumer Affairs, ("Board") the parties submit this Stipulation and Decision to the Board for its approval and adoption as the final disposition of the Accusation.

The parties stipulate the following is true:

 An Accusation, No. 578A, is currently pending against Steven Leroy Fallon ("Respondent"), before the Board. The Accusation filed by complainant Cindi Christenson (Complainant), together with all other statutorily required documents, was duly served on the respondent on or about October 29, 1997, and respondent filed his Notice of Defense (contesting the Accusation) on or about November 12, 1997. A copy of Accusation No. 578A is attached as Attachment "A" and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.

- 2. At all times relevant herein, respondent has been licensed by the Board under Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors No. 45670.
- 3. Respondent is represented by counsel Richard D. Martland, Esq. of the firm of Neilsen, Merksamer, Parrinello, Mueller & Naylor, in this matter. Respondent has fully and completely discussed with his counsel the effects of this stipulation.
- 4. Respondent understands the nature of the charges alleged in the Accusation and that the charges and allegations constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his license to practice engineering. Respondent is fully aware of his right to a hearing on the charges and allegations contained in said Accusation, his right to reconsideration, appeal and all other rights accorded pursuant to the California Business and Professions Code and Government Code and freely and voluntarily waives such rights. This agreement is made for the purpose of settling the accusation. It is only for the purpose of this proceeding and any other subsequent proceeding between the Board and the respondent, and any action by or before any governmental body responsible for licensing or registration of engineers.

5. Respondent admits the following:

Respondent is subject to disciplinary action because he engaged in unprofessional conduct in violation of Business and Professions Code section 6775(b) as is more specifically set forth below:

I.

## M.A. STEINER, INC. PROJECT

- (a) In or about January, 1992, Respondent prepared, signed and sealed drawings and prepared structural calculations for a mini-storage building for M.A. Steiner Development, Inc., to be located at 4051 Taylor Street, Sacramento, California. The respondent's drawings and calculations were submitted to the City of Sacramento Building Inspection Division on or about May 5, 1992.
- (b) Respondent's plans and calculations for Taylor Street Mini-Storage Building are negligent and incompetent as follows:
  - (1) The original calculations were based on roof trusses at 2' 0" on centers. The forces in the members were proportional to 10' 0" on centers.
  - (2) In calculations dated March 2, 1992, the load on the steel studs, based on studs at 16" centers was calculated as 2,733 pounds. In earlier calculations dated September 17, 1991, the studs were identified as columns. The spacing of the columns was noted as 5' 0". The load on the exterior column was noted as 5,000 pounds and the load on the interior column was noted as 10,000 pounds. The column section was identified as Cee 8" x 3 1/2". The adequacy of the column section was not checked to determine whether it can carry the

imposed load.

- (3) The structure was analyzed for a wind load of 15 pounds per square foot of exposed elevation and a seismic load based on seismic zone 3 of Uniform Building Code. According to the calculations, wind load governs the roof level and seismic governs the second floor level. The calculations should show complete analysis for wind and seismic in both directions. This is not shown in the calculations.
- (4) Roof truss calculations and roof truss detail on sheet 9 of the drawings do not agree.
- (5) The 8" x 3 1/2" Cee columns at 5' 0" on centers stated in the calculations are not shown in the drawings.
- (6) The construction drawings do not include details of the interior walls.
- (7) The calculations for lateral load were based on the assumption that 1/2" gypsum board cladding screwed to the studs at 7" on centers. This detail is not shown in the wall details sheet.
- (8) On sheet 5 of the drawings roof construction is noted as 26 gage HR metal roof with #12 sheet metal screws at 6" on centers. On the exterior wall detail on Sheet 9 of the drawings the roof construction is identified as 5/8" CDX ply with #12 by 1 1/2" TEK screws. Edge nailing is 8" and field nailing is 12" on centers. The trusses are at 2' 0" on centers. On the calculation sheets it is noted that the roof is 1/2" CDX plywood screwed at 6" on centers at sheet edges and 12" in the field with #10 x 1 1/2" TEK screws. The

details of roof construction are not clear because of the different sets of notes in the two sheets, Sheet 5 and Sheet 9.

- (9) On Sheet 5 of the construction drawings 26 gage HR metal deck spans between 18 gage Z strips at 5' 10" on centers. There are no calculations to identify the size or load carrying capacity of the Z strips. Calculations do not include the justification for using 26 gage HR metal deck to span 5' 10" between Z strips. The construction drawings do not show the size or connection details of the Z strip.
- (10) The 5 1/2" metal deck with concrete fill designed for 125 psf. live load cannot be supported by the 8"  $\times$  20 ga metal studs at 24" o.c. specified in sheet nine.
- (11) The construction drawings do not include sufficient details to prepare shop drawings.
  - (12) The calculations are not complete.
  - (13) The drawings are not complete.
  - (14) The calculations and drawings are not coordinated.

## II.

#### PEATMAN PROJECT

- (a) In or about December, 1995, respondent stamped and signed a report entitled "SOILS REPORT FOR PEATMAN PROJECT PLACER CO. CALIF." concerning the Peatman Project, Meadow Vista, California. The respondent's report was submitted to the Placer County Department of Public Works on or about December 18, 1995.
- (b) Respondent's report constitutes negligence, incompetence, deceit and misrepresentation as follows:

Respondent's Peatman project soils report is a photocopy of a report prepared for another project and by a different author (Paragon Office Building, 12405 Locksley Lane, Auburn, California, by Youngdahl & Associates, Inc., dated June 7, 1998). Respondent's plagiarism of the report was accomplished by photocopying the Paragon project soils report and simply changing the name of the project and its author.

5. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action because he engaged in unprofessional conduct in violation of Business and Professions Code section 6775(e) as is more specifically set forth below:

## III.

## LYNOTT SURVEY

- (a) On or about April, 1996, respondent was hired by Christopher Lynott and Pamela Lynott to survey real property which they own in the County of Placer. Respondent signed declarations, under penalty of perjury, dated May 10, 1996 and July 17, 1996, which describes the survey. A map, dated April, 1996, stamped and signed by respondent was attached to the declaration, dated May 10, 1996, reflects the results of respondent's survey.
- (b) Respondent has violated Business and Professions Code section 6775(e) by performing land surveying without a license to practice under section 8708 or an exemption under sections 6731 and 8731 for civil engineers registered before January 1, 1982, as follows:
  - (1) Respondent violated section 8726(i) by procuring land surveying work for himself in being hired to perform a

survey for the Lynotts.

- (2) Respondent practiced land surveying as defined by section 8726(c) in stating in his declaration of May 10, 1996, p. 2, lines 26-27, and p. 3, lines 1-2, that "The surveyor's stakes that are supposed to mark the common boundary line between lots 16 and 25 are not where they should be, having been moved approximately 11 feet to the south since the last survey in 1981."
- (3) Respondent practiced land surveying as defined in section 8726(e) by making statements as described in paragraph(2) above.
- (4) Respondent practiced land surveying as defined in section 8726(g) by preparing a map, which he signed and sealed, which shows the boundary and easements relating to his survey.
- 6. The parties agree that the Stipulation recited herein shall be null and void and not binding upon the parties unless approved by the Board, except for this paragraph, which shall remain in effect.
- 7. The respondent understands and agrees that in deciding whether or not to adopt this Stipulation the Board may receive oral and written communications from its staff and the Attorney General's office. Communications pursuant to this paragraph shall not disqualify the Board or other persons from future participation in this or any other matter affecting respondent. In the event the Board in its discretion does not approve this settlement, this Stipulation, with the exception of

1 t 2 a 3 a 4 B 5 r 6 i

this paragraph, is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon or introduced in any disciplinary action by either party hereto. Respondent agrees that should the Board reject this Stipulation and if this case proceeds to hearing, respondent will assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this Stipulation or of any records related hereto.

- 8. The parties agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulation, including facsimile signatures of the parties, may be used in lieu of original documents and signatures. The facsimile copies will have the same force and effect as originals.
- 9. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and findings, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice of formal proceeding, issue and enter an Order as follows:

## DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the registration (No. 45670), issued to respondent Steven Leroy Fallon is hereby revoked; however, said revocation is stayed and the registration is placed on probation for five (5) years under the following terms and conditions:

## SUSPENSION

1. Actual suspension of the registration for 90 days commencing on the effective date of the decision.

## REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS

2. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3, respondent shall pay the sum of \$22,877.50 (TWENTY-TWO-THOUSAND, EIGHT-HUNDRED-SEVENTY-SEVEN DOLLARS and 50 CENTS) to the

Board as reimbursement for the costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case. Said sum shall be payable in equal monthly installments. Respondent's first payment shall be due and owing on the first day of the month following the effective date of the Decision. The final payment is due and owing 30-days prior to the end of probation. All payments shall be due and owing on the first business day of each successive month until all payments have been made. Should Respondent fail to make a payment that is due and owing by the tenth day of the moth in which the payment is due and owing, the entire remaining balance shall become immediately due and owing. The Board shall not reinstate the registration if the respondent has failed to pay all of the costs as ordered, except as provided for in Business and Professions Code section 125.3 (g)(2).

## 4. PROFESSIONAL ETHICS COURSE

Within two years of the effective date of the decision, the respondent shall successfully complete and pass a course in professional ethics approved in advance by the Board or its designee. Respondent shall provide the Board with an official transcript as proof of successful completion within 60 days of the completion date of the course.

## 5. OBEY ALL LAWS

Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws and rules governing the practice of professional engineering and land surveying in California.

## 6. CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE(S)

Within three years of the effective date of the decision,

the respondent shall successfully complete and pass, with a grade of "C" or better, college-level courses approved in advance by the Board or its designee, two of which shall specifically relate to the area of violation of the Steiner project and two relating to the Peatman project. Respondent shall provide the Board with an official transcript as proof of successful completion within 60 days of the completion date of the course.

## 7. NOTIFICATION OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Respondent shall provide the Board not later than 30 days after the decision becomes effective with evidence that he has notified all clients and employers with whom he has a current or continuing contractual or employment relationship of the offense, findings and discipline imposed and shall provide the Board with the name and business address of each person required to be so notified. This notification requirement shall be a continuing obligation during the period of probation unless otherwise modified by the Board.

## 8. TOLLING FOR OUT-OF-STATE PRACTICE OR RESIDENCE

The period of probation shall not run during the time respondent is residing or practicing outside the jurisdiction of California. If during probation, respondent moves out of the jurisdiction of California to reside or practice elsewhere, respondent is required to immediately notify the Board in writing of the date of departure, and the date of return, if any.

## 9. COMPLETION OF PROBATION

Upon successful completion of probation, including the fulfillment of all conditions, respondent's license/registration

will be restored.

## 10. VIOLATION OF PROBATION

If respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke his or her probation and reinstate the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an accusation or petition to revoke probation is filed against respondent, or if the matter has been submitted to the Office of the Attorney General for the filing of such, during probation the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until all matters are final, and the period of probation shall be extended until all matters are final.

## 11. REPORTS

Respondent shall submit and/or cause to be submitted on a quarterly basis a report to the Board listing all engineering work engaged in or contracted for, including the name, address and phone number of the client, the location of the site, and the type of engineering work. Respondent shall permit the Board or its designee reasonable access to inspect the document relating to work at any stage at the respondent's office.

12. The within Stipulation shall be subject to the approval of the Board. If the Board fails to adopt this Stipulation as its Order, the Stipulation shall be of no force or effect for either party.

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## ENDORSEMENT

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The above Stipulation is respectfully submitted for the consideration of the Board.

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DATED: 5-29-1995

5

DANIEL E. LUNGREN, Attorney General of the State of California

6

Original Signed

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Patrick M. Kenady Deputy Attorney General

8

Attorneys for Complainant

9

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

10

DATED: 5/29/98

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Original Signed

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RICHARD D. MARTLANI

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Attorney for Respondent

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I have carefully read and fully understand the Stipulation and Order set forth above. I have discussed the terms and conditions set forth in the Stipulation and Order with my attorney, Esq. I understand that in signing this Stipulation I am waiving my right to a hearing on the charges set forth in the Accusation on file in this matter. I further understand that in signing this Stipulation the may enter the foregoing order placing certain requirements, restrictions and limitations on my right to practice engineering in the State of California. I agree that a facsimile copy of this Stipulation, including a facsimile copy of my signature may be used with the same force and effect as the originals.

STEVEN LEROY FALLON Respondent Lacense No. 45670

## DECISION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD

The foregoing Stipulation and Order, No. 578A, is hereby adopted as the Order of the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. An effective date of August 31 , 1998, has been assigned to this Decision and Order.

Made this  $31^{5t}$  day of July , 1998.

Original Signed FOR THE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

DANIEL E. LUNGREN, Attorney General of the State of California JOEL S. PRIMES, State Bar No. 42568 2 Supervising Deputy Attorney General PATRICK M. KENADY, State Bar No. 50882 3 Deputy Attorney General 1300 I Street, Suite 125 P. O. Box 944255 Sacramento, California 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 324-5377 6 Attorneys for Complainant BEFORE THE 8 BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS 9 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 In the Matter of the Accusation No. 578A 11 Against: ACCUSATION 12 STEVEN LEROY FALLON 13 2890 Richardson Drive Auburn, CA 95603 Civil Engineer Registration 14 No. 45670 15 Respondent. 16 Cindi Christenson, P.E., as cause for disciplinary action, 17 alleges as follows: 18 Complainant Cindi Christenson, makes and files this 19 accusation in her official capacity as Executive Officer, Board of 20 21 Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, Department of Consumer Affairs. 22 23 On August 27, 1990, the Board of Registration for the Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors issued Civil Engineer Registration No. C 45670 to Steven Leroy Fallon. Said registration 25 expires on December 31, 1998, unless renewed. 26 27 3. Under Business and Professions Code section 6775 the

Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

may reprove, privately or publicly, or may suspend or revoke the certificate of any professional engineer hereunder:

- (b) Who has been found guilty by the Board of any deceit, misrepresentation, violation of contract, fraud, negligence or incompetency in his practice. . .
- (e) Who violates any provision of this chapter.
- 4. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action because he engaged in unprofessional conduct in violation of Business and Professions Code section 6775(b) as is more specifically set forth below:

I.

## M.A. STEINER, INC. PROJECT

- (a) In or about January, 1992, Respondent prepared, signed and sealed drawings and prepared structural calculations for a mini-storage building for M.A. Steiner Development, Inc., to be located at 4051 Taylor Street, Sacramento, California. The respondent's drawings and calculations were submitted to the City of Sacramento Building Inspection Division on or about May 5, 1992.
- (b) Respondent's plans and calculations for Taylor Street Mini-Storage Building are negligent and incompetent as follows:
  - (1) The original calculations were based on roof trusses at 2' 0" on centers. The forces in the members were proportional to 10' 0" on centers.
  - (2) In calculations dated March 2, 1992, the load on the steel studs, based on studs at 16" centers was calculated as 2,733 pounds. In earlier calculations dated September 17, 1991, the studs were identified as columns. The spacing of the columns was noted as 5' 0". The load on the exterior

column was noted as 5,000 pounds and the load on the interior column was noted as 10,000 pounds. The column section was identified as Cee 8"  $\times$  3 1/2". The adequacy of the column section was not checked to determine whether it can carry the imposed load.

- (3) The structure was analyzed for a wind load of 15 pounds per square foot of exposed elevation and a seismic load based on seismic zone 3 of Uniform Building Code. According to the calculations, wind load governs the roof level and seismic governs the second floor level. The calculations should show complete analysis for wind and seismic in both directions. This is not shown in the calculations.
- (4) Roof truss calculations and roof truss detail on sheet 9 of the drawings do not agree.
- (5) The 8"  $\times$  3 1/2" Cee columns at 5' 0" on centers stated in the calculations are not shown in the drawings.
- (6) The construction drawings do not include details of the interior walls.
- (7) The calculations for lateral load were based on the assumption that 1/2" gypsum board cladding screwed to the stude at 7" on centers. This detail is not shown in the wall details sheet.
- (8) On sheet 5 of the drawings roof construction is noted as 26 gage HR metal roof with #12 sheet metal screws at 6" on centers. On the exterior wall detail on Sheet 9 of the drawings the roof construction is identified as 5/8" CDX ply with #12 by 1 1/2" TEK screws. Edge nailing is 8" and field nailing is 12" on centers. The trusses are at 2' 0" on

centers. On the calculation sheets it is noted that the roof is 1/2" CDX plywood screwed at 6" on centers at sheet edges and 12" in the field with #10 x 1 1/2" TEK screws. The details of roof construction are not clear because of the different sets of notes in the two sheets, Sheet 5 and Sheet 9.

- (9) On Sheet 5 of the construction drawings 26 gage HR metal deck spans between 18 gage Z strips at 5' 10" on centers. There are no calculations to identify the size or load carrying capacity of the Z strips. Calculations do not include the justification for using 26 gage HR metal deck to span 5' 10" between Z strips. The construction drawings do not show the size or connection details of the Z strip.
- (10) The 5 1/2" metal deck with concrete fill designed for 125 psf. live load cannot be supported by the 8"  $\times$  20 ga metal studs at 24" o.c. specified in sheet nine.
- (11) The construction drawings do not include sufficient details to prepare shop drawings.
  - (12) The calculations are not complete.
  - (13) The drawings are not complete.
  - (14) The calculations and drawings are not coordinated.
- c. Respondent in or about July, 1992, was negligent and incompetent when he visited the site to view the buckling of the eight (8) inch by twenty (20) gauge metal studs in that he:
  - (1) Failed to advise the owner that the buckling could lead to potential health and safety hazards to the workers and recommend a stop work order at the time of his inspection.

(2) Recommended to the owner the use of sheetrock as a bracing method to remedy the buckling of the metal studs.

II.

#### PEATMAN PROJECT

- (a) In or about December, 1995, respondent stamped and signed a report entitled "SOILS REPORT FOR PEATMAN PROJECT PLACER CO. CALIF." concerning the Peatman Project, Meadow Vista, California. The respondent's report was submitted to the Placer County Department of Public Works on or about December 18, 1995.
- (b) Respondent's report constitutes negligence, incompetence, deceit and misrepresentation as follows:
  - (1) Respondent's Peatman project soils report is a photocopy of a report prepared for another project and by a different author (Paragon Office Building, 12405 Locksley Lane, Auburn, California, by Youngdahl & Associates, Inc., dated June 7, 1998). Respondent's plagiarism of the report was accomplished by photocopying the Paragon project soils report and simply changing the name of the project and its author.
  - (2) Respondent did not do the excavating at six separate locations at the Peatman project to determine the type and depth of the soil. Respondent "dry-labbed" the soil report from the Paragon project report as the soil profiles and depth of the drill holes are identical to the Peatman project report.

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5. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action because he engaged in unprofessional conduct in violation of Business and Professions Code section 6775(e) as is more specifically set forth below:

#### III.

#### LYNOTT SURVEY

- (a) On or about April, 1996, respondent was hired by Christopher Lynott and Pamela Lynott to survey real property which they own in the County of Placer. Respondent signed declarations, under penalty of perjury, dated May 10, 1996 and July 17, 1996, which describes the survey. A map, dated April, 1996, stamped and signed by respondent was attached to the declaration, dated May 10, 1996, reflects the results of respondent's survey.
- (b) Respondent has violated Business and Professions Code section 6775(e) by performing land surveying without a license to practice under section 8708 or an exemption under sections 6731 and 8731 for civil engineers registered before January 1, 1982, as follows:
  - (1) Respondent violated section 8726(i) by procuring land surveying work for himself in being hired to perform a survey for the Lynotts.
  - (2) Respondent practiced land surveying as defined by section 8726(c) in stating in his declaration of May 10, 1996, p. 2, lines 26-27, and p. 3, lines 1-2, that "The surveyor's stakes that are supposed to mark the common boundary line between lots 16 and 25 are not where they should be, having been moved approximately 11 feet to the south since the last survey in 1981."

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- (3) Respondent practiced land surveying as defined in section 8726(e) by making statements as described in paragraph (2) above.
- (4) Respondent practiced land surveying as defined in section 8726(g) by preparing a map, which he signed and sealed, which shows the boundary and easements relating to his survey.
- 6. Under Government Code section 11519(d), the Board may require restitution of damages suffered as a condition of probation in the event probation is ordered.
- 7. Under Business and Professions Code section 125.3, the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

WHEREFORE, complainant requests that a hearing be held and that a decision be issued:

- Revoking or suspending Civil Engineer Registration No. C
   45670 issued to Steven Leroy Fallon;
- 2. Ordering restitution of all damages according to proof suffered by M.A. Steiner Development, Inc., as a condition of probation in the event probation is ordered.
- 3. Ordering respondent to pay to the Board its costs and charges in investigating and enforcing the case according to proof at the hearing pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3.

| 1  | 4. Taking such other    | and further action as may be deemed                               |
|----|-------------------------|---|
| 2  | proper and appropriate. |   |
| 3  | DATED: October 9, 1997  |   |
| 4  |                         |   |
| 5  | 5.                      | Original Signed   |
| 6  | 8 V                     | CINDI CHRISTENSON, Executive Officer<br>Board of Registration for |
| 7  |                         | Professional Engineers and Land<br>Surveyors                      |
| 8  |                         | Complainant   |
| 9  |                         |   |
| 10 |                         | *   |
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Exhibit B

Decision

# BEFORE THE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

| In the Matter of the Petition to Revoke the Probation of: | )        | 9 9 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 |
|---|----------|---|
| STEVEN LEROY FALLON<br>11899 Edgewood Road, Suite P       | )        | Case No. 578A                           |
| Auburn, CA 95603  | )        | OAH No. N-2002070537                    |
| License No. C 45670,                                      | <u>,</u> |   |
| Respondent.   | ) .      |   |

#### DECISION

Pursuant to Government Code section 11517, the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors of the State of California hereby adopts the attached Proposed Decision of the Administrative Law Judge as its Decision in the above-entitled matter.

In adopting this Proposed Decision as its Decision, the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors has made the following technical or other minor changes pursuant to Government Code section 11517(c)(2)(C):

Condition 4 of the Order is corrected to read as follows:

4. Should respondent have medical problems which prevent his compliance with his order of probation, he shall submit a letter from his treating health provider documenting any relevant issues. The Board, or its designee, shall then determine whether the Board shall give respondent additional time to comply with the particular condition, temporarily inactivate his license (with his consent), or take such further action it deems appropriate.

> BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By Original Signed

Exhibit 🗷 🕒

Decision & Order

# BEFORE THE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation Against:

STEVEN LEROY FALLON 11899 Edgewood Road, Suite P Auburn, CA 95603

Civil Engineer License No. C 45670

Respondent.

Case No. 578A

OAH No. N-2005070931 .

#### DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on April 14, 2006

It is so ORDERED March 17,2006

Original Signed

FOR THE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

| - 1 |   |  |  |  |  |
|-----|---|--|--|--|--|
| 1   | BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California   |  |  |  |  |
| 2   | LORRIE M. YOST, State Bar No. 119088  |  |  |  |  |
| 3   | Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice  |  |  |  |  |
| 4   | 1300 I Street, Suite 125<br>P.O. Box 944255   |  |  |  |  |
| 5   | Sacramento, CA 94244-2550<br>Telephone: (916) 445-2271  |  |  |  |  |
| 6   | Facsimile: (916) 327-8643   |  |  |  |  |
| 7   | Attorneys for Complainant   |  |  |  |  |
| 8   | BEFORE THE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA |  |  |  |  |
| 10  | STATE OF CALIFORNIA   |  |  |  |  |
| 11  | In the Matter of the First Amended Accusation   Case No. 578A   |  |  |  |  |
| 12  | and Petition to Revoke Probation Against:  OAH No. N-2005070931   |  |  |  |  |
| 13  | STEVEN LEROY FALLON 11899 Edgewood Road, Suite P Auburn, CA 95603 STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER    |  |  |  |  |
| 14  | Tubula, CII 9000  |  |  |  |  |
| 15  | Civil Engineer No. C 45670  Respondent.   |  |  |  |  |
| 16  |   |  |  |  |  |
| 17  | IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the  |  |  |  |  |
| 18  | above-entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:   |  |  |  |  |
| 19  | PARTIES   |  |  |  |  |
| 20  | 1. Cindi Christenson, P.E. (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the  |  |  |  |  |
| 21  | Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. She brought this action solely in her                        |  |  |  |  |
| 22  | official capacity and is represented in this matter by Bill Lockyer, Attorney General of the State                |  |  |  |  |
| 23  | of California, by Lorrie M. Yost, Deputy Attorney General.  |  |  |  |  |
| 24  | 2. Respondent Steven Leroy Fallon (Respondent) is represented in this   |  |  |  |  |
| 25  | proceeding by attorney Steven L. Simas, Esq., whose address is 1201 K Street, Suite 1950                          |  |  |  |  |
| 26  | Sacramento, CA 95814  |  |  |  |  |
| 27  | 3. On or about August 27, 1990, the Board for Professional Engineers and  |  |  |  |  |
| 28  | Land Surveyors issued Civil Engineer License No. C 45670 to Steven Leroy Fallon                                   |  |  |  |  |

(Respondent). The license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation No. 578A and will expire on December 31, 2006, unless renewed.

### JURISDICTION

4. The First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation No.

578A was filed before the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (Board),

Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on May 11, 2005. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation. The First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation on August 16, 2005. A copy of the First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation No. 578A is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

### ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in the First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation No. 578A. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation; the right to be represented by counsel at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

## CULPABILITY

- 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation No. 578A.
- 9. Respondent agrees that his civil engineer licence is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (Board) 's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

## CONTINGENCY

- Engineers and Land Surveyors. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 12. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

#### DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the previously ordered stay of revocation of Civil Engineer License No. C 45670 issued to Respondent Steven Leroy Fallon is continued, with probation extended for an additional three (3) years to August 31, 2009, with the following terms

 is revoked.

Obey All Laws. The Respondent shall obey all laws and regulated the state of the st

and conditions, which replace and supersede all previously orders terms and conditions:

- Obey All Laws. The Respondent shall obey all laws and regulations related to the practices of professional engineering and professional land surveying.
- Special Reports. The Respondent shall submit such special reports as the
   Board may require.
- 3. **Tolling of Probation.** The period of probation shall be tolled during the time the Respondent is practicing exclusively outside the state of California. If, during the period of probation, the Respondent practices exclusively outside the state of California, the Respondent shall immediately notify the Board in writing.
- 4. **Notification.** If the Respondent violates the probationary conditions in any respect, the Board, after giving the Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may vacate the stay and reinstate the disciplinary order which was stayed. If, during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to vacate stay is filed against the Respondent, or if the matter has been submitted to the Office of the Attorney General for the filing of such, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until all matters are final, and the period of probation shall be extended until all matters are final.
- 5. **Restitution.** The respondent shall provide verifiable proof to the Board that he has paid restitution in the amount of \$1,609.00 to the Bucks within ninety (90) days of the effective date of the decision.
- 6. Ethics Course. Within two (2) years of the effective date of the decision, the respondent shall successfully complete and pass a course the course "Engineering Ethics by Correspondence Advanced Studies in Engineering Ethics" (ENGR ETHICS PDH-60) as offered by the Murdough Center for Engineering Professionalism, Texas Tech University. The respondent shall provide the Board with official proof of completion of the requisite course.
- 7. Cost Recovery. Within two and one-half (2 ½) years of the effective date of the decision, the respondent shall reimburse the Board for its investigative and enforcement costs in this matter in the amount of \$8,914.00. Said reimbursement may be paid in installments.

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- 8. Quarterly Reports. In addition to the special reports which may be required pursuant to Condition (2), the respondent shall submit on a quarterly basis a report to the Board listing all engineering work engaged in or contracted for. The report shall include all of the following information: the name, address, and telephone number of the client; the name, address, and telephone number of the property owner, if different than the client; the location of the project site; and the type of engineering work provided. The respondent shall permit the Board or its designee to inspect all documents relating to the engineering work at any stage of the project.
- 9. Failure to Comply. If the respondent fails to timely comply with any of the terms and conditions ordered, the Board may suspend the respondent's license without notice or further opportunity to be heard. The Board shall notify the respondent in writing immediately upon any such suspension. The suspension of the respondent's license shall remain in effective until such time as the Board receives written, verifiable proof of the respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of probation. The period of probation shall be extended by the same number of days as any suspensions imposed pursuant to this condition.
- 10. Violation of Probation. In addition to the suspension of the respondent's license which may be imposed pursuant to Condition (9), if the respondent violates the probationary conditions in any respect, the Board, after giving the respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may vacate the stay of revocation of the respondent's license and reinstate the disciplinary order which was stayed. If, during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to vacate stay is filed against the respondent, or if the matter has been submitted to the Office of the Attorney General for the filing of such, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until all matters are final, and the period of probation shall be extended until all matters are final
- Completion of Probation. Upon successful completion of all of the probationary conditions and the expiration of the period of probation, the Respondent's license shall be unconditionally restored.

## **ACCEPTANCE**

| 10. 1 |   |  |  |  |
|-------|---|--|--|--|
| 2     | I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and                |  |  |  |
| 3     | have fully discussed it with my attorney, Steven L. Simas, Esq. I understand the stipulation an |  |  |  |
| 4     | the effect it will have on my Civil Engineer. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and       |  |  |  |
| 5     | Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the      |  |  |  |
| 6     | Decision and Order of the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.                  |  |  |  |
| 7     |   |  |  |  |
| 8     | DATED:  |  |  |  |
| 9     |   |  |  |  |
| 10    | STEVEN LEROY FALLON (Respondent)  |  |  |  |
| 11    | Respondent Respondent   |  |  |  |
| 12    |   |  |  |  |
| 13    | I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Steven Leroy Fallon the terms                   |  |  |  |
| 14    | and conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I |  |  |  |
| 15    |   |  |  |  |
| 16    | approve its form and content.   |  |  |  |
| 17    | DATED:  |  |  |  |
| 18    |   |  |  |  |
| 19    | STEVEN L. SIMAS, ESQ.   |  |  |  |
| 20    | Attorney for Respondent   |  |  |  |
| 21    |   |  |  |  |
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FALLON ENGINEERING (FAX)

PAGE 02

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JAN-18-2006(WED) 17:20

#### ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Steven L. Simas, Esq. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Civil Engineer. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

DATED: 01/18/06

Original Signed

Respondent

Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Steven Leroy Fallon the terms and conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED:

STEVEN L. SIMAS, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent

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6 15:00 FAX

DEPTARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ACCEPTANCE 1 I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and 2 have fully discussed it with my attorney, Steven L. Simas, Esq. I understand the stipulation and 3 the effect it will have on my Civil Engineer. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and 4 Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the 5 Decision and Order of the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. 6 7 DATED: 8 9 10 STEVEN LEROY FALLON (Respondent) Respondent 11 12 13 I have road and fully discussed with Respondent Steven Leroy Fallon the terms 14 and conditions and other matters contained in this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I 15 approve its form and content. 16

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Original Signed-STEVEN L. SIMAS, ESQ. Attorney for Respondent

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# ENDORSEMENT The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors of the Department of Consumer Affairs. DATED: \_ / -18-06 BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant DOJ Matter ID: SA2005102040 10215986.wpd .