



INTERchange

Informing Professional Engineers of developments that influence their honored profession

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Putting Aristotle's Wise Words To Work!

**LESLEY L. ROSIER-TABOR, PE,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

"...The whole is not, as it were, a mere heap, but the totality is something besides the parts, there is a cause of unity ..." (Metaphysics, Book 8). Although not his exact words, "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts", is attributed to Aristotle and is a well-known phrase describing the combined effect of a group or system far exceeding the individual contributions of its components.

Whether referencing a sports team or a symphony orchestra, it is evident that a well-coordinated effort of a group far exceeds what one individual can effectively execute alone. Business collaborations such as mergers and partnerships allow companies to create superior, innovative products with a far greater reach in the market than possible for each entity on their own. The natural ecological systems on earth rely on the relationships between species to create a stable habitat for our oceans and forests. Crowdsourcing and open-source projects exemplify how much stronger outcomes result by pooling the collective knowledge and opinions of a large group that could not be accomplished by a single person or one firm. These examples show that effective collaboration can harness collective expertise, creativity, and problem-solving capabilities enabling teams to tackle complex challenges and deliver high-quality solutions.

As a civil engineer myself, I recognize the importance of multi-disciplinary teams and working together with stakeholders to plan, design, manage and construct infrastructure projects. This work cannot be completed efficiently without open communication, mutual respect, and shared accountability among professional engineers, architects, planners, code officials, policymakers, community members, and construction professionals. All must foster a culture of trust, transparency, and shared vision to provide the best product possible.

The work completed for our state government agency is no different. During my three decades as a state employee, I have come to realize that collaboration is key. By taking advantage of historical knowledge and the collective wisdom and expertise of others, we collaborate and navigate the intricacies of our program delivery while overcoming challenges and realizing shared goals. Most boards, commissions and regulatory agencies have common mission statements that closely align ... be fiscally responsible while effectively and efficiently carrying out duties and responsibilities to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Case In Point: In recent months, we called upon the expertise of the WV State Fire Marshal, and his staff, for assistance with investigation of a complaint. Not only were we in need of obtaining their inspection documentation, we required assistance from those much more knowledgeable of applicable building codes and code compliance than our staff or Board members. Fire Marshal, Kenneth Tyree, not only attended our Board meeting, but made himself and his staff readily available for follow-up calls and questions during the Board's investigation through the closure of the complaint. In turn, we have kept the lines of communication open and developed a game plan to better disseminate information to our stakeholders in order to foster successful project completion, meet high-quality standards, mitigate risks and achieve the best end result.

In closing, we are kicking off our latest collaborative efforts by sharing timely announcements from the WV State Fire Marshal on our website and in our newsletter. Should you have questions about these important notices, please email firecommissioner@wv.gov.

APRIL 2024: ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEWLY ADOPTED STATE FIRE CODE

There are several significant changes affecting the design, construction, remodel/renovation/repair, fire protection system installation, and inspection of buildings to provide needed efficiencies and proficiencies for all projects.



SCAN TO
LEARN
MORE

SEPTEMBER 2024: ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTRONIC PLANS SUBMITTAL AND REVIEW PROCESS

Implementation of the new Electronic Plans Submittal and Review process, as noted in the State Fire Code, Section 2.1.d, will be effective January 1, 2025. The new submission process will incorporate all architectural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection system drawings. To ensure timely response and turn around, all drawings/plans shall require a Life Safety Plan and Building/Fire Code Analysis form with emphasis on the applicable fire codes (NFPA 1, NFPA 101, Other applicable NFPA Codes, & State Fire code).



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Left to right in photo:

Mr. L.A. Gates, PE

Board Secretary

Term expires June 30, 2025

Dr. Larry Nottingham, PE

Board Vice-President

Term expires June 30, 2027

Mr. Edward Robinson, PE

Board Member

Term expired June 30, 2019

Mrs. Carol Stevens, PE

Board Member

Term expires June 30, 2026

Mr. Garth Thomas, Jr., PE

Board President

Term expires June 30, 2028

Board Updates



Bhajan S. Saluja, PE, pictured
with Board President
Garth Thomas, Jr., PE

BOARD MEMBER CONCLUDES TWO DECADES OF SERVICE

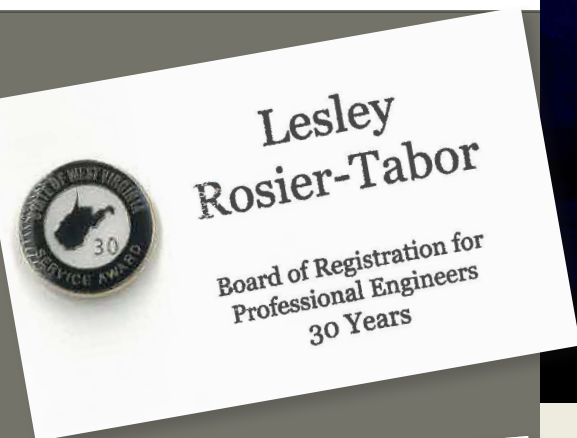
With over 21 years of tireless service to the Board, Mr. Bhajan S. Saluja, PE, completed his final Board duties in August of 2023. Mr. Saluja was originally appointed to the Board by Governor Bob Wise in August of 2002 to fill a partial term, and then subsequently reappointed by new gubernatorial administrations. Mr. Saluja dedicated a tremendous amount of time to fulfilling the entrusted responsibilities of the Board to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public. During his service, Mr. Saluja accepted various leadership roles, including Secretary,

Vice President and President of the Board, spanning over 17 years as an elected officer. He actively participated in NCEES Zone and National meetings and served as a Board observer during several Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) visits at universities and colleges throughout the state. In recent years, he took keen interest in studying the performance data and outcome assessments of both the FE and PE exams. Bhajan also participated in countless forums and seminar presentations throughout the state, speaking on the engineering profession and the value and importance of licensure. The Board recognized Mr. Saluja for over two decades of service during their November 2023 Board meeting and presented him with a locally made, bourbon barrel lid that was laser-engraved with the West Virginia state seal.

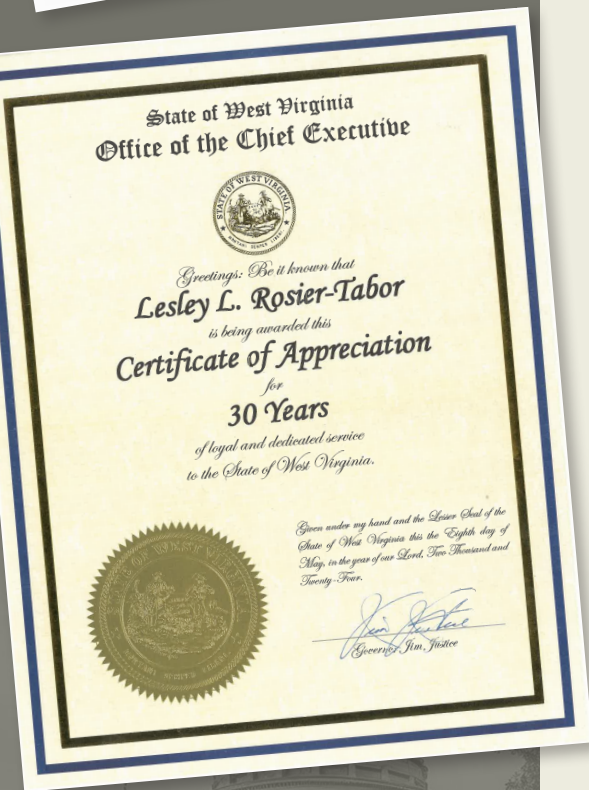
2024-2025 BOARD LEADERSHIP ELECTION RESULTS

During the July 16, 2024 Board meeting, the WV PE Board discussed FY2025 officer elections and Mr. Robinson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Stevens, to retain the same Board officers for the upcoming fiscal year. The motion carried and therefore, the current officer slate remained unchanged:

- **Mr. Garth Thomas, Jr., PE**
Board President
- **Dr. Larry Nottingham, PE**
Board Vice-President
- **Mr. L.A. Gates, PE**
Board Secretary



Ann Urling, the Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff and Lesley Rosier-Tabor, PE, Executive Director of the WV PE Board

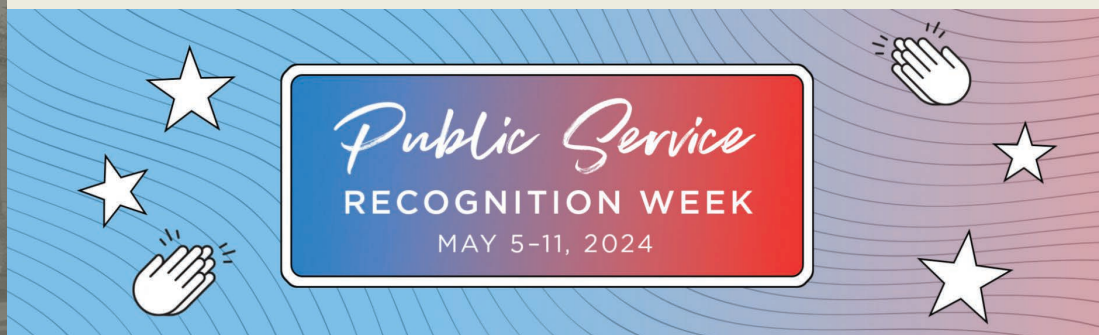
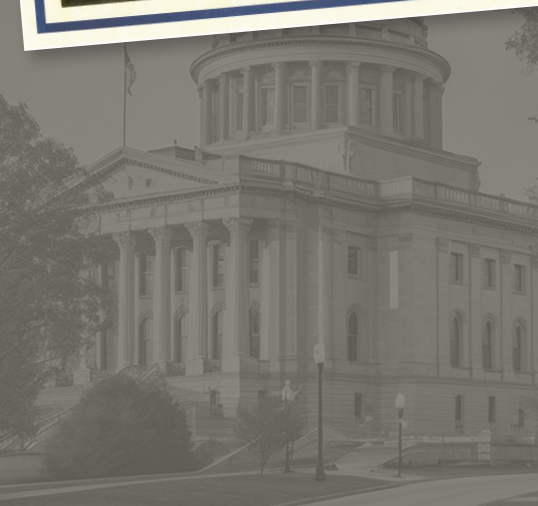


CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

Public Service Recognition Week has been celebrated the first week of May since 1985 to honor the people who serve our nation as federal, state, county, local and tribal government employees. Throughout the nation, public servants use this occasion to educate others about the work they do and why they have chosen public service careers, as well as the many ways government services make life better for all of us.

Governor Jim Justice recognized state employees who have served for at least 20 years or longer during the Governor's Public Service Recognition Ceremony on Wednesday, May 8, 2024. This event was hosted by the Department of Arts, Culture, and History at the State Culture Center. Governor Justice shared that West Virginians are known for their strong work ethic and commitment to getting the job done. He noted that the time given as public servants is invaluable to our state and the programs and services offered by the honored individuals support their colleagues and people across our state each day.

We are pleased to share that our Executive Director, Lesley Rosier-Tabor, PE, was recognized for 30 years of dedicated service to the State of West Virginia. Serving 8 years as a professor in Civil Engineering at West Virginia Institute of Technology, followed by another 22 years leading the WV PE Board, Lesley has dedicated her entire career spanning three decades to the advancement of the engineering profession and the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of our great state.



Reporting Disciplinary Actions

COUNSEL'S COLUMN

N. EDWARD EAGLOSKI, II, BOARD COUNSEL



Your West Virginia Professional Engineer's license is expiring on December 31, 2024. As Board Counsel / Investigator, I want to help you stay out of trouble when you renew your PE license for 2025-2026. In this renewal, you will be asked the following question:

"Since the date of your last WV PE renewal (or if this is your first WV PE renewal, since the date of your initial PE application) have you been subject to any disciplinary action or any investigation by any local, state or national regulatory board (including those in WV), or have you been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor (excluding minor traffic violations)?" ☐ Yes ☐ No

This question is simple, but has been difficult for a few. I hope to assist everyone in answering this question correctly. Most people can recollect whether they have appeared in court on a criminal matter. That part of the question is fairly easy to answer. If you have been in a criminal proceeding, you can answer "Yes," and provide a brief statement of the criminal charges and a copy of the court order. If additional information is needed, the Board Office will contact you.

The problem area, which I hope to assist you in avoiding, is failing to disclose disciplinary actions taken by other state regulatory boards. The West Virginia Board is aware whether you were disciplined or investigated by our own Board within the last few years. After all, that has been my job. The issue is whether you were disciplined or investigated by another PE or regulatory board since your last renewal (or date of licensure for new licensees). You are to answer "Yes" if you have been the subject of a disciplinary action or investigation in this timeframe. If you are not sure, then you should report the same on your renewal, and simply let the Board review it. It is far better for you to report it as a possible disciplinary action and be wrong, versus not reporting it at all. If you were disciplined or investigated, and you did not report it, then you are subjecting yourself to a violation and disciplinary action by the Board, should it learn of your discipline through its search of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Enforcement Exchange database or review of other state PE Boards' publications.

If you were disciplined or investigated by another Board, you are to answer "Yes" and provide a short statement regarding the investigation and disciplinary proceedings, including the outcome, and provide a copy of the closing document, i.e. the dismissal letter, the Consent Order or Settlement Agreement. Otherwise, it will cause additional work for our staff, and who enjoys extra work when it can be avoided? Moreover, if there is a disciplinary finding against you, it could lead to a civil penalty and a disciplinary action that you will have to report to other PE Boards. Note: There is at least one PE Board that requires its licensees to report a disciplinary action **within 48 hours**, and failure to do so may be grounds for additional disciplinary action. So, just say "Yes", and then explain. Again, if additional information is needed, the Board Office will contact you.



Board Disciplinary Actions

Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to ensure that the enforcement information is correct; however this information should not be relied upon without verification from the Board office or website. It should be noted that the names of companies and individuals listed may be similar to the names of parties who have not had enforcement actions taken against them. Should you have any specific questions regarding the disciplinary actions noted below, please contact the Board office.

In meeting its mission of safeguarding life, health and property, and to promote the public welfare, the WV Board actively enforces the statutes and rules that fall within its jurisdiction. Below is a summary of formal complaints that resulted in disciplinary action since the 2023 newsletter. Numerous other investigations were conducted, some resulting in formal complaints which are still pending; some dismissed because the charges were unsubstantiated or considered trivial; and some closed after acceptable corrective action or warning.

Disciplinary actions can be either a result of a formal hearing resulting in a Board Order or settled informally resulting in a Consent Order. These orders are public records. If you are interested in knowing more about the nature of the complaint, you may request a copy pursuant to the State's Freedom of Information Act. All Orders are posted on the Board website.

All civil penalties are deposited in the state's general fund. Administrative costs are made payable to the WV PE Board and are retained by the Board to offset costs incurred in the investigation and complaint resolution efforts. Administrative costs may be waived if the complaint is resolved with a minimum of expense.

Case #: C2022-39 - BSEG, LLC

Violation: Aiding or assisting another to violate Engineering Law. Failure to Seal.
[§30-13-16(c), §30-13-21(a)(8)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 9/11/24.

Case #: C2023-11 - The Cafaro Company

Violation: Practicing engineering without a Certificate of Authorization. Aiding or assisting another to violate Engineering Law. Failure to seal.
[§30-13-16(c), §30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4) and (8)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$1,750 paid. Case closed 2/14/24.

Case #: C2024-02 - Skytrac Services Inc.

Violation: Practicing engineering without a Certificate of Authorization. Aiding or assisting another person to violate Engineering Law. Practicing engineering without a license.
[§30-13-3, §30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4) and (8)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 11/15/23.

Case #: C2024-04 - Zeyn B. Uzman

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 11/15/23.

Case #: C2024-05 - Brad J. Isbell

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 11/15/23.

Case #: C2024-06 - Mark N. Bigbie

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 11/15/23.

Case #: C2024-07 - Howard Alderson

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 12/21/23.

Case #: C2024-09 – Gary D. Ousley

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 1/4/24.

Case #: C2024-10 – Jim J. Zhao

Violation: Offering and practicing engineering without a license. Practicing engineering without a Certificate of Authorization.
[§30-13-3, §30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$750 paid. Case closed 12/21/23.

Case #: C2024-11 – Heath A. Dumack

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 11/15/23.

Case #: C2024-12 – Derek B. Godwin

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Order. Civil penalty of \$500 and hearing costs (pending receipt).

Case #: C2024-13 – Ildefonso Gonzalez

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 11/30/23.

Case #: C2024-14 – David B. Kornacki

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 10/30/23.

Case #: C2024-15 – Ammar Qashshu

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 10/18/23.

Case #: C2024-16 – Savant Engineering LLC

Violation: Aiding or assisting another to violate Engineering Law. Failure to Seal.
[§30-13-16(c), §30-13-21(a)(8)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 3/6/24.

Case #: C2024-17 – Swiss Valley Associates, Inc.

Violation: Aiding or assisting another person to violate Engineering Law. Practicing engineering without a license. Aiding or assisting another to violate Engineering Law. Failure to Seal.
[§30-13-3, §30-13-16(c), §30-13-21(a)(4) and (8)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$750 paid. Case closed 3/6/24.

Case #: C2024-18 – Stanley Wyatt

Violation: Practicing engineering without a license.
[§30-13-3, §30-13-21(a)(4)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$250 paid. Case closed 9/11/24.

Case #: C2024-19 – Zuendt Engineering, LLC

Violation: Practicing engineering without a Certificate of Authorization.[§30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$1,000 (pending receipt).

Case #: C2024-20 – Prospiant

Violation: Aiding or assisting another to violate Engineering Law. Failure to Seal. [§30-13-16(c), §30-13-21(a)(8)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 9/4/24.

Board Disciplinary Actions

Case #: C2024-22 - Alliance Structural Engineers, Inc.

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 5/6/24.

Case #: C2024-23 - Amanda Graphics, LLC

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 6/13/24.

Case #: C2024-24 - BBD Engineering & Design Firm, LLC

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 4/22/24.

Case #: C2024-25 - Becht Engineering Co., Inc.

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 7/30/24.

Case #: C2024-26 - Bowser-Morner, Inc.

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 4/22/24.

Case #: C2024-27 - Caldwell Tanks, Inc.

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 4/22/24.

Case #: C2024-28 - CB&I Storage Tank Solutions LLC

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 5/6/24.

Case #: C2024-29 - Cintar Inc.

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 4/1/24.

Case #: C2024-30 - David Mason & Associates, Inc.

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 4/22/24.

Case #: C2024-31 - EFI Global, Inc.

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 5/6/24.

Case #: C2024-32 - Engineering Systems Inc.

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 4/22/24.

Case #: C2024-33 - EnviroScience Inc.

Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]

Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 4/22/24.

Case #: C2024-34 - Halliwell Engineering Associates, LLC
Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid.
Case closed 4/22/24.

Case #: C2024-35 - Industrial Accessories Company
Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid.
Case closed 6/13/24.

Case #: C2024-36 - Knighthawk Engineering, Inc.
Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid.
Case closed 6/13/24.

Case #: C2024-37 - Kornacki & Associates, Inc.
Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid.
Case closed 6/24/24.

Case #: C2024-38 - KZF Design, Inc.
Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid.
Case closed 7/9/24.

Case #: C2024-39 - MEP Associates, LLC
Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid.
Case closed 6/24/24.

Case #: C2024-40 - Polaris Consulting Engineers
Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid.
Case closed 7/9/24.

Case #: C2024-41 - SBI Engineers PLLC
Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid.
Case closed 7/2/24.

Case #: C2024-42 - SGC Engineering, LLC
Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid.
Case closed 9/11/24.

Case #: C2024-44 - Simple Design, LLC
Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid.
Case closed 6/13/24.

Case #: C2025-02 - Lowe Structures Inc.
Violation: Practicing engineering without a Certificate
of Authorization.
[§30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$250 paid.
Case closed 8/28/24.

Case #: C2025-04 - SWCA, Incorporated
Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board.
[§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid.
Case closed 9/11/24.




Alternative Paths to Licensure: Are They Equivalent?

INSIGHT FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

GARTH E. THOMAS, JR., PE, BOARD PRESIDENT

The standard requirements for engineering licensure outlined in the NCEES Model Law are: a degree from an ABET/EAC accredited program or a program that meets the NCEES education requirements, obtaining a minimum of four years of experience with increasing responsibility, and passing both the Fundamentals of Engineering FE and Professional Engineering PE examinations. While most engineering licensing boards adhere to this standard, many of them have created or agreed to accept alternative paths to licensure having different requirements. The problem arises when a candidate who has been licensed via an alternative pathway attempts to obtain a license in another jurisdiction that does not accept the equivalence of the alternative requirements. A common example of this problem is licensure of candidates having a degree from a four-year engineering technology program. Boards that do not permit this path also will not grant a license for comity applicants who hold ETAC degrees. This limits mobility for these candidates.

NCEES is attempting to address this problem through the work of the Engineering Licensure Task Force, to be replaced by the Committee on Licensure. This group has provided an approach to assessing the equivalence of alternate pathways using a “stacking boxes” concept. The boxes would represent the various licensure components - education, experience, examinations - with the “height” of each box representing its relative contribution toward licensure. The idea is that alternative licensure pathways would be acceptable where the “heights” of the contributing boxes stack to height corresponding to that of an accepted standard. This concept is illustrated in Figure 1 for a comparison between licensure pathways for an ABET/EAC accredited degree and an ABET/ETAC accredited degree.










EAC		ETAC
	EXAMINATIONS	
	EXPERIENCE	
	DEGREE	

Figure 1. “Stacked Boxes” Comparison of Requirements for Engineering and Engineering Technology Graduates



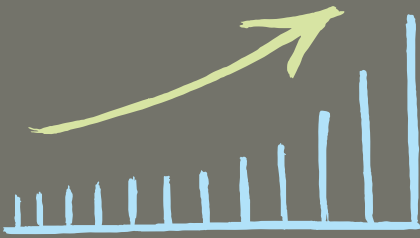
In this case additional experience is used to offset the differences between the degrees. Most licensing boards accept this equivalence, permitting candidates with degrees from ABET/ETAC programs to be licensed if they obtain additional experience, usually a minimum of six years. At the most recent NCEES annual meeting, a majority of the licensing boards voted to accept a motion from the Northeast Zone to modify the model law to add an ABET/ETAC accredited degree as an acceptable option for the education requirement for licensure with the provision of an additional two years of experience. This change to model law may prompt some additional boards to approve a licensing pathway for engineering technology graduates, but likely won't convince all. Boards that do not accept the experience vs. education tradeoff will likely require additional education for technology graduates to be licensed. It is also likely that any effort to reduce the experience requirement for ETAC graduates will not gain broad support.

This example points out a limitation of the “stacked boxes” concept. There is no well-defined way to assess how additional experience compensates for differences in education, or how additional education or experience might be used in place of examinations. The assessment is subjective and there is rarely broad agreement on appropriate tradeoffs. Some boards will waive the requirement to pass the FE examination for candidates who have a PhD degree in engineering, essentially allowing an increase in the education box to offset a smaller examinations box. But this is not a commonly accepted substitution. It is hoped that the Committee on Licensure will be able to develop guidelines that can be used by the licensing boards to assess differences in licensing pathways, promoting improved mobility between licensing jurisdictions.

This need becomes more pressing as NCEES enters into agreements to increase international mobility. At the most recent NCEES annual meeting, an agreement was signed between NCEES and the United Kingdom Engineering Council to facilitate licensure of Chartered Engineers in the US and Professional Engineers in the UK. On the US side, member boards would agree to license chartered engineers without further requirements. The UK Engineering Council does not have examinations that are equivalent to the FE and PE examinations, but Chartered Engineers are required to have the equivalent of a master's degree, and the experience is assessed in a more formal manner than in the US. In this case the examinations “box” would be replaced by a larger education “box” and a larger experience “box”. This also requires that the UK degrees are accepted as equivalent to ABET accredited degrees without further evaluation. Most licensing boards would need to make substantial changes to their law to enable this agreement. It is expected that additional international pacts would require similar accommodations to meet the goal of enhanced mobility.

The answer to the title question is open. Licensing boards are still faced with the problem of assessing equivalence to deal with variations in licensing requirements across jurisdictions. The key will be for boards to consider alternative paths to licensure and not simply fall back on previous practice. It is hoped that the NCEES Committee on Licensure may be able to provide additional guidance.

PE / COA Renewal Updates



CURRENT WV PE BOARD STATISTICS

The following is a numerical summary of registered individuals and firms as of October 1, 2024.

Active PEs	10,309
Retired PEs	259
Active COAs	3,491
Engineer Intern	5,565
TOTAL	19,624

PE RESIDENCY SUMMARY AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2024:

Active PEs living in WV	1,641 (15.9%)
Active PEs living outside WV	8,668 (84.1%)

COA SUMMARY AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2024:

Active COAs with firm record address in WV	435 (12.5%)
Active COAs with firm record address outside WV	3,056 (87.5%)

UPCOMING WV PE RENEWAL REMINDER

It's time to renew your individual WV PE licenses! All individuals in possession of an active WV PE license will be required to renew their PE license by December 31, 2024. As outlined in West Virginia Engineering Law, our agency is required to send notification at least 30 days prior to the expiration of a license, meaning no later than December 1st of odd numbered years for COAs and December 1st of even numbered years for PEs and Retired PEs. Renewal notifications are mailed in late November and the WV State Treasurer's Office activates our online license renewal system at the same time. If you have an active WV PE or Retired PE registration, renewal instructions were enclosed with this newsletter and live renewal links are posted on our website as well. A number of courtesy email notifications will also be sent to the record email address(es) throughout the renewal season until successfully renewed. Upon successful renewal, one will be able to print receipt confirmations and we will no longer send unnecessary renewal email communication.

If you have any questions regarding the WV PE or Retired PE renewal process, please do not hesitate to contact our office by email at info@wvpebd.gov or call 304-558-3554.

WV COA RENEWAL SEASON SUMMARY

WV COA Status Summary for Recent 2024-2025 COA Renewal

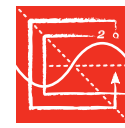
- Active firms receiving COA Renewal Notification in November 2023 = 3,527
- Non-Responding firms resulting in Lapsed Status after COA Renewal Season in February 2024 = 113

To view or download a complete roster of the Active PE licenses, Firm Certificates of Authorizations (COAs), and Retired PEs, simply visit our website License/COA Verification page at www.services.wvpebd.gov/verification. There you will find access to a real-time, online verification search tool that shows if a particular individual and/or firm is authorized to practice or offer engineering services in West Virginia.

REPORTING YOUR CONTINUING EDUCATION

During the PE renewal process, you will document your continuing education by certifying that you have earned a minimum of thirty (30) Professional Development Credits (PDHs) during the 2023-2024 licensure period. Under the Legislative Rules, you are allowed to count your carryover PDHs from your 2023-2024 WV PE renewal to meet this requirement. Your renewal application will have this number pre-populated and presented to you on the online form. A new registrant by way of examination or reciprocity is exempt for his or her first renewal period from this PDH reporting requirement. However, new PEs may report up to 15 PDHs earned since their initial registration date with the WV PE Board to create carryover for the next renewal period of 2027-2028. In any case, current PDHs earned prior to your upcoming renewal data entry date that are not reported in this upcoming 2025-2026 renewal, will not be able to be recorded with the Board in the future.

If you need to check the number of carry-over PDHs you reported to the Board, use the link www.services.wvpebd.gov/verification. Insert your name as the licensee and then click on the result, e.g. your name, and a detailed report of public information regarding your PE license will be shown, including the number of carry over PDHs you last reported. This will allow you to determine the number of additional PDHs you need prior to completing the online renewal form.



HOW TO TRACK YOUR CPC COURSES AND REQUIREMENTS

Most state licensing boards require licensed engineers and surveyors to meet a continuing professional competency (CPC) requirement to renew their licenses. Did you know you can conveniently track and report your CPC requirements for free through your MyNCEES account? You don't have a MyNCEES account? NO PROBLEM! It's quick, easy and free to create an account and there are many advantages to doing so. Simply go to [NCEES.org](https://www.ncees.org) and click on the MyNCEES button to get started. A step-by-step guide is provided below:

- 1. Identify the state licensing board(s) to track CPC requirements.** Create and/or log in to your MyNCEES account and select CPC Tracking. Select the appropriate state licensing boards and enter renewal period information for each.
- 2. Enter CPC course information.** When you complete a continuing education course, add the course information and corresponding professional development hours (PDHs). Supporting documentation can be uploaded to your account, and the course and PDHs will be applied to the appropriate states.
- 3. Track your progress.** View a side-by-side comparison of the state's requirements and your completed CPC courses.
- 4. Transmit your completed CPC report.** Send your CPC transcript electronically to a state licensing board. Check with your state licensing board for specific requirements as most do not need or want you to send unless you are selected as part of their continuing education audit.

The CPC Register is an integrated CPC tracking system free of charge to all licensees. It was built to allow the licensee to track CPC hours for one or multiple states using the NCEES CPC standard. Certificates and other proof of attendance may be uploaded for easy accessibility and review by state boards. All uploaded documents will become a part of the user's course documentation and will be transmitted to a state licensing board. Upload only the documentation necessary to provide proof of completing the course. Examples of supporting documentation include:

- Transcript, certificate, or other proof of completion
- Proof of attendance
- Course syllabus
- Copy of course information as printed in a conference program or brochure
- Proof of teaching or instructing

It is important to remember the system does not evaluate or approve the information entered into the system; it is strictly a reporting/storage tool. Having a single repository of CPC information that is accessible to the licensee and the state boards goes a long way toward streamlining the renewal process and removing barriers to comity licensure. After all, a primary objective of NCEES is to facilitate professional mobility and promote uniformity of licensure processes. This is achieved in part through its Model Law and Model Rules. These documents reflect best practices as determined by the member boards and serve as models for state laws and regulations. Over the years, many NCEES committees have worked on improving uniformity in continuing education requirements. While there are still a number of variations in renewal cycles and state-specific requirements, the CPC tracking system helps to minimize the work involved.

In closing, the WV PE Board staff has reported great experiences with those using the NCEES CPC tracking and reporting tool when conducting their biennial renewal audits. The NCEES CPC tracking provides a side-by-side comparison of a state's requirements and your completed CPC courses which is a great benefit to professional engineers and surveyors who are licensed in multiple states.

WV ENGINEERING LAW & NCEES CPC STANDARD

It is important to note that the WV Engineering Law is more lenient than the NCEES CPC Standard. The NCEES CPC Standard requires a licensee to obtain the equivalent of 15 professional development hours (PDHs) per calendar year (January 1–December 31) with no carryover allowed. A minimum of 1 PDH of the 15 PDHs shall be earned by successfully completing a course or activity that has a content area focusing on engineering ethics or improving a licensee's methods of business practice or operations. However, the WV Engineering Law simply requires 30 hours biennially and not necessarily 15 hours in each calendar year (i.e., all 30 can be earned in one year if that is the decision of the WV PE). In addition, WV Engineering Law allows for up to 15 hours of carryover into the next biennial renewal for those PEs earning in excess of the required 30 hours.





NCEES

advancing licensure for
engineers and surveyors

National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying Updates

EDUCATOR RESOURCES

Why are Educator Resources Important?

NCEES offers several resources for educators interested in providing students with information about the licensure process and its career benefits. For many, having a professional license can open doors to career options and lead to a rewarding career that helps protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Contact NCEES for more information about any of the following:



Exam prep materials

NCEES publishes practice exams and reference handbooks for candidates preparing for engineering and surveying exams. Downloadable PDF files are available. Register or log in to review NCEES exam publications.



Speaker Outreach

The best way to learn about licensure is to hear about it from someone who has done it. For that reason, NCEES has developed a Speaker's Link and a Speaker's Kit for engineers and surveyors. Speaker's Link is a network of licensed engineers and surveyors who can talk to students about the licensure process and provide first-hand accounts of what it takes to become licensed—and how doing so has benefited their careers. The NCEES Speaker's Kit is a versatile multimedia presentation tool that makes it easy to help answer questions about the licensure process. Contact NCEES to request a speaker or a speaker's kit

Educator Resources
continued on page 15 ➡



BOARD PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR APPOINTED TO NATIONAL NCEES COMMITTEES

In June of 2024, the following individuals received notification from the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) regarding their selection by then President-Elect Andrew Zoutewelle, PLS, to NCEES Committees for the 2024-25 administrative year.

- **Garth E. Thomas, Jr., PE**, who serves as the current President of the WV PE Board, was appointed to serve as a Member on the Committee on Examination Policy and Procedures Committee.

The Committee on Examinations for Professional Engineers (EPE) consists of a chair and three members from each zone. It shall supervise the preparation of examination specifications and be responsible for the content and scoring of all examinations in the fundamentals and principles and practice of engineering. The committee, in the interest of uniformity and efficiency, may prepare examination development procedures and shall review examination scores and make recommendations of minimum passing grades for examinations.

- **Lesley L. Rosier-Tabor, PE**, who serves as the WV PE Board's Executive Director, was appointed to serve as a Member of the Advisory Committee on Council Activities Committee.

The Advisory Committee on Council Activities (ACCA) shall consist of a chair and two members from each zone. At least one member shall be a professional engineer, one member a professional surveyor, and one member a member board administrator. The committee shall provide advice and briefing to the President and the Board of Directors on new policy issues, problems, and plans that warrant preliminary assessment of policy choices and procedures not as yet assigned to a standing committee or involving several existing committees. The committee shall review the Manual of Policy and Position Statements, in consideration of past and current action of the Council, and present any proposed revisions as needed.

The WV PE Board would like to thank President Zoutewelle for his confidence in their capability to make meaningful contributions when addressing his assigned committee charges in the coming year. In addition, the appointees would like to thank the WV PE Board for their continued support of their involvement with NCEES in our efforts to assist the Member Boards in safeguarding the health, safety and welfare of the general public.

NEW EXAM SPECIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS

The Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exam tests for a minimum level of competency in a particular engineering discipline. It is designed for engineers who have gained a minimum of four years' post-college work experience in their chosen engineering discipline.

For the most up-to-date exam information, including exam specifications and standards, as well as the relevant exam schedules, please visit the NCEES website and select your engineering discipline at ncees.org/engineering/pe. Once registered with NCEES and approved by their State Board, examinees may reserve their seats at a Pearson VUE test center for NCEES exams.

Below is a list of the most recent PE Exam Updates published by NCEES for the Fall of 2024:

- PE Metallurgical and Materials – The PE Metallurgical and Materials exam has new specifications and design standards as of October 2024 and have been posted to the NCEES website.
- There will be no new specifications or design standards for the exams that will be offered in the Spring of 2025.

WHAT IS THE NCEES FOUNDATION?

The NCEES Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying. It is committed to supporting programs that further the NCEES mission to advance licensure for engineers and surveyors in order to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

The NCEES Foundation conducts one funding cycle per year, starting on October 1 and ending on September 30. Below is the projected Timeline to be followed:

Timeline

- Applicants must submit a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) between October 1 and December 31.
- Invitations to submit a full proposal will be issued in February.
- Full proposals must be submitted by April 1.
- Funding will be formally announced in August.
- Funds will be distributed on or before September 30.

Priorities For Giving

Priority is given to proposals that demonstrate a clear connection to advancing engineering and surveying licensure to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Examples include programs that:

- Promote the value of engineering and surveying licensure within the profession or to the general public.
- Build the pipeline of future engineers and surveyors at the K-12 level.
- Keep current engineering and surveying students enrolled and/or successful in their respective programs.

For questions, please contact foundation@ncees.org.

... RESOURCES CONTINUED



Education Awards

The NCEES Engineering Education Award celebrates engineering programs that provide opportunities for engineering students to interact inside and outside of the classroom with professional engineers.

The NCEES Surveying Education Award recognizes surveying/geomatics programs that best reflect NCEES' mission to advance licensure for engineers and surveyors in order to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Outcomes Assessment



The Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam is the only uniform, nationally used exam that tests candidates on the material covered in college engineering degree programs. For educators and administrators, the exams have the potential to provide a wealth of information about the relative strengths and weaknesses of students in a program. As an educator, having your students take the FE exam can be an effective means of assessing your program's academic strengths and weaknesses.

NCEES offers free subject matter reports that break down the performance of students and graduates from their programs, comparing results on specific content areas to national averages. These reports can be an excellent means of evaluating program outcomes.

NCEES publishes a white paper and several accompanying documents that describe in detail how engineering departments can use the FE exam to assess program outcomes.



WV State Board of Registration
for Professional Engineers
300 Capitol Street, Suite 910
Charleston, West Virginia 25301

CALENDAR of events - 2025

JAN	22	Board Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV
FEB	16-22	National Engineers E-Week (various Board activities/speaking engagements)
MAR	25	Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV
MAR	26-27	WV Construction & Design EXPO (continuing education), Charleston, WV
APR	10-12	2025 NCEES Northeast Zone Meeting, Cambridge, MA
MAY	21	Board Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV
JUL	16	Board Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV
AUG	19-22	2025 NCEES Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
SEP	24	Board Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV
NOV	19	Board Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV

The transition of all NCEES exams to computer-based testing (CBT) is complete. For information on NCEES FE and PE Exam dates, registration guidelines and deadlines, visit www.ncees.org.

