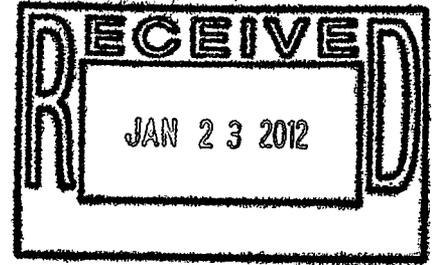


STATE OF ALABAMA  
BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND  
LAND SURVEYORS



IN RE THE MATTER OF:

ROBERT LAWRENCE WATTS

Case No. 2011-44-B

CONSENT ORDER

Robert Lawrence Watts, an Alabama licensed professional engineer (hereinafter referred to as "Respondent") hereby stipulates and agrees, subject to approval of the State of Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") as follows:

STIPULATED FACTS

Respondent stipulates he received professional engineer license # 13915 from the Board on July 8, 1982 and has held that license continuously from that date to the present.

Respondent stipulates he indicated on his 2011 professional engineer license renewal application dated December 31, 2010 that he earned fourteen (14) professional development hours in 2010 and utilized two (2) hours carried forward from his 2010 license renewal application to meet the requirements to renew his Alabama professional engineer license for 2011.

Respondent stipulates he was informed via an email dated March 10, 2011 that his 2011 professional engineer license renewal application had been selected at random for verification of his earned continuing professional competency credits. Respondent also stipulates he was requested to provide documentation verifying the earned professional competency credits no later than April 21, 2011.

Respondent stipulates he was informed via a letter dated May 4, 2011 sent via regular and certified mail that his 2011 professional engineer license renewal application had been

selected at random for verification of his earned continuing professional competency credits. Respondent also stipulates he was requested to provide documentation verifying the earned professional competency credits no later than June 4, 2011.

Respondent stipulates he was informed via a letter dated June 23, 2011 sent via regular and certified mail that his 2011 professional engineer license renewal application had been selected at random for verification of his earned continuing professional competency credits. Respondent further stipulates he was informed that the requested documentation must be received prior to the August 1-2, 2011 meeting of the Board or a recommendation would be made that his professional engineer license be suspended and the Board initiate a complaint investigation for his failure to provide the requested documents.

Respondent stipulates that on August 4, 2011 he contacted the Board via email and indicated "At this time I have not met the continuing education requirements and understand that my Alabama PE license will be suspended." Respondent further stipulates that as of August 1, 2011, the Board had not received any documentation verifying the professional competency credits earned and reported by Respondent on his 2011 professional engineer license renewal.

Respondent stipulates that on August 8, 2011 the Board, by and through its Executive Director Ms. Regina A. Dinger, filed a complaint alleging Respondent failed to provide documentation verifying the continuing professional competency credits earned by him and reported on his 2011 professional engineer license renewal.

Respondent stipulates his professional engineer license was changed to suspended status on August 16, 2011 in accordance with the Board's Administrative Code § 300-X-13-.02(14) for failure to respond to the Board's audit of his claimed continuing professional competency credits.

Respondent stipulates he contacted the Board office and advised, via email on August 22, 2011 and a telephone call on August 24, 2011, that he was unable to provide documentation which would verify continuing professional competency credits earned by him.

### STIPULATED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent admits he is subject to the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 11, Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-11-11 and the jurisdiction of the Board.

Respondent stipulates his conduct as set forth in the foregoing "Stipulated Facts" constitutes violations of Title 34 Chapter 11 Code of Alabama 1975 Section 34-11-11(a)2 and the Rules and Regulations of the Board's *Administrative Code* § 330-X-13-.02(4)(a), § 330-X-14-.02(12) and § 330-X-14-.06(a)(1).

Respondent stipulates his conduct as set forth in the "Stipulated Facts" is a violation of those statutes set forth above, and he is subject to disciplinary action under Title 34, Chapter 11, Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-11-11.

### STIPULATED DISPOSITION

1. Respondent shall not in the future violate the provisions of Title 34, Chapter 11, Code of Alabama 1975, or the Rules and Regulations of the Administrative Code and the Rules of Professional Conduct promulgated together.

2. Respondent understands this Consent Order and subsequent Final Order will become a matter of public record.

3. Respondent understands he shall pay to the Board a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), to be paid in monthly installments of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) with first payment due thirty days from the date of the Final Order.

4. Respondent understands his 2011 Alabama professional engineer license shall remain in **suspended** status until he provides documentation to the Board supporting his earning fifteen (15) professional development hours. Respondent further understands failure to provide this documentation within ninety days of the date of the final order shall cause his professional engineer license to be **revoked**.

5. Respondent understands his Alabama professional engineer license shall be subject to audit of the claimed continuing professional competency credits twice within seven (7) years of the date of the Final Order.

6. Respondent understands his Alabama professional engineer license shall be subject to two (2) years **probation** to commence immediately upon the date his license is returned to active status.

7. Respondent understands that failure to comply with any terms of this consent order shall cause his professional engineer license to be **revoked** pending ratification by the Board. Respondent further understands this matter would be presented to the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting in Montgomery, Alabama at which he could attend and present evidence on his behalf.

8. Respondent understands this Consent Order is subject to the approval of the Board and has no force and effect until a Final Order based upon it is rendered by the Board.

9. Respondent agrees any violation of the terms of this Consent Order, may result in the Board filing additional charges in accordance with the Title 34, Chapter 11, Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-11-11.

10. Respondent understands in order to make a decision relative to approving this Consent Order discussions must take place between Board Members, Board Staff and Board Counsel. Respondent understands that this discussion will take place at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board in Montgomery Alabama. Respondent understands he has the right to be present when this matter is discussed but hereby waives that right.

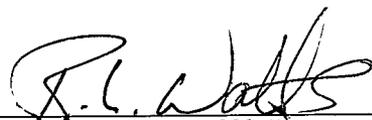
11. Respondent understands he has the right to seek the advice of legal counsel. Respondent also understands he has the right to a formal fact finding hearing before the Board, to compel the testimony of witnesses, to cross-examine witnesses against him, and to obtain

judicial review of the Board's decision in said formal hearing but expressly waives these rights with execution of this Consent Order and Final Order of the Board.

12. Respondent expressly waives all further procedural steps, and expressly waives all rights to seek judicial review or to otherwise challenge or contest the validity of the Consent Order, the stipulated facts, conclusions of law and imposition of administrative action contained herein, and the Final Order of the Board incorporating said Consent Order.

13. Respondent, for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause executes this Consent Order. Should the Consent Order not be accepted by the Board, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration of the Consent Order by the Board shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members from further participation in or resolution of these proceedings. Likewise, if this Consent Order is not accepted, the Board shall not take into consideration the contents of this Order as evidence of an admission.

SIGNED this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, ~~2011~~ <sup>2012</sup>

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Lawrence Watts

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Benjamin H. Albritton  
Assistant Attorney General

STATE OF ALABAMA  
BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND  
LAND SURVEYORS

IN RE THE MATTER OF:

ROBERT LAWRENCE WATTS

Case No. 2011-44-B

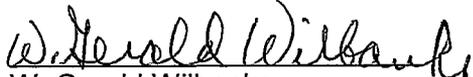
FINAL ORDER

On January 31, 2012, the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors convened for a regularly scheduled meeting. The Board Members in attendance at the meeting were: Mr. W. Gerald Wilbanks, Mr. C. Michael Arnold, Dr. Daniel S. Turner, Mr. Phillip E. Santora, and Mr. Don T. Arkle.

This Final Order is based upon a Consent Order signed by Robert Lawrence Watts (hereafter referred to as Respondent) and dated January 19, 2012. In the Consent Order, Respondent stipulated he violated the Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-11-11(a) (2) and the Rules of Professional Conduct of the Administrative Code § 330-X-13-.02(4) (a), § 330-X-14-.02(12) and § 330-X-14-.06(a) (1).

Upon Consideration of the above it is **ORDERED** that the Consent Order dated January 19, 2012 is adopted by the Board and hereby made a part of this Final Order. It is further **ORDERED** that Respondent abide by the Final Order in this manner.

ENTERED this the 31st day of January, 2012

  
W. Gerald Wilbanks

  
C. Michael Arnold

  
Daniel S. Turner

  
Phillip E. Santora

DID NOT ATTEND  
Earl R. Foust

RECUSED  
Don T. Arkle

  
William C. Ulrich, Jr