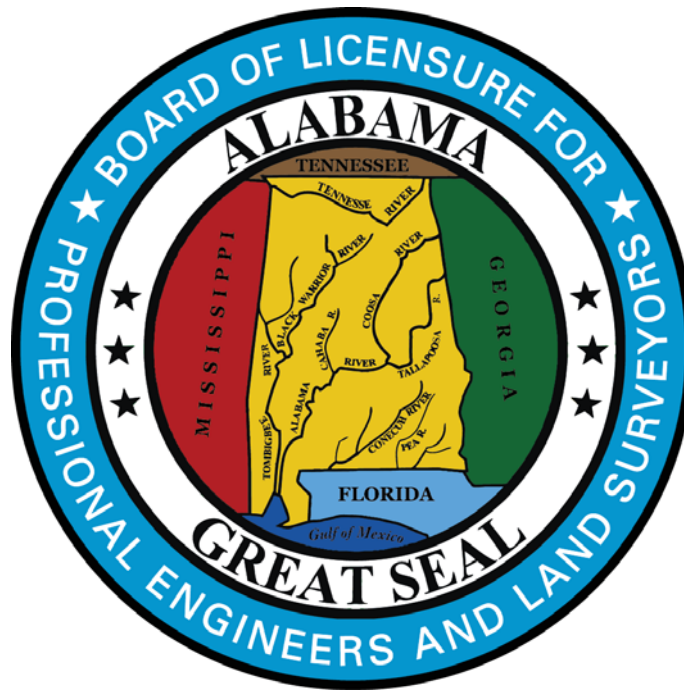


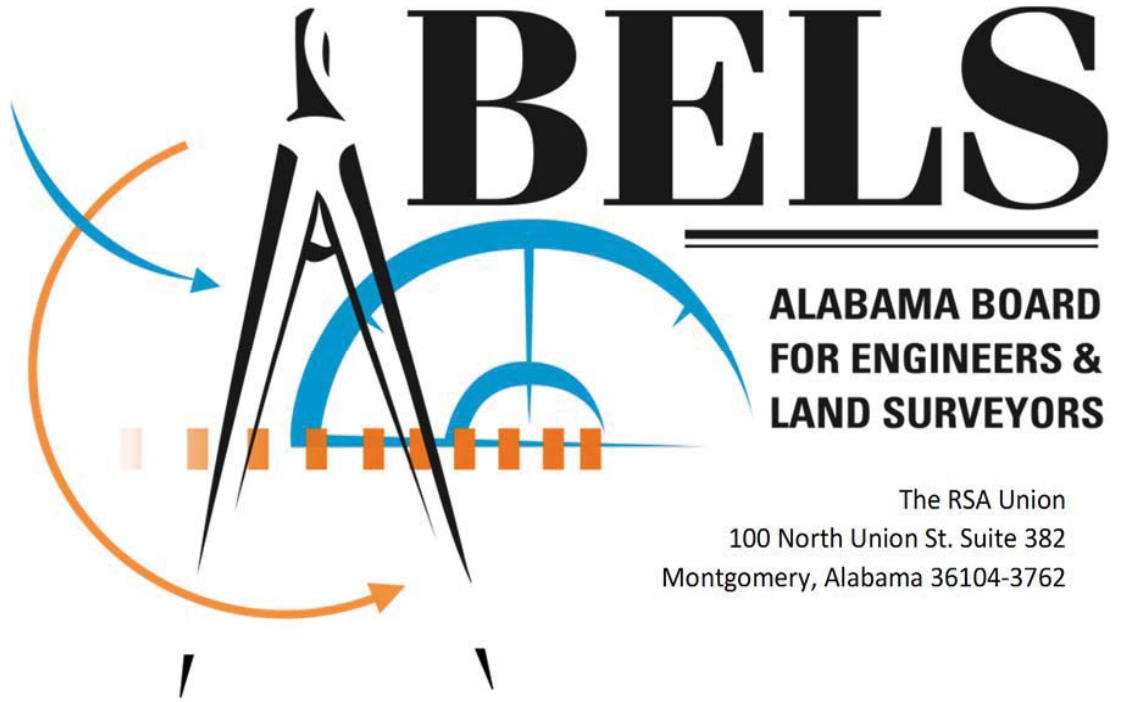
2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors

Oct. 1, 2012 - Sept. 30, 2013

Daniel Turner / PE & PLS
Phillip Santora / PE & PLS
Earl Foust / PE
Marc Barter / PE
Charles Willis / PE
Michael Arnold / PLS
Gerald Wilbanks / PE
Regina Dinger / *Executive Director*



To The Honorable Robert Bentley
Governor of the State of Alabama
Montgomery, Alabama

Governor Bentley:

We hand you herewith the 2013 Annual Report of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors as provided under Title 34, Chapter 11 *Code of Alabama* 1975.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel S. Turner, Chair, 2012-2013
Alabama Board of Licensure
for Professional Engineers and
Land Surveyors

our **BOARD**



Daniel Turner, PE/PLS
Chairman
Tuscaloosa



Phillip Santora, PLS/PE
Vice Chairman
Dothan



Earl Foust, PE
Secretary
Birmingham



Marc Barter, PE
Mobile



Charles Willis, PE
Brookwood



Michael Arnold, PLS*
Fairhope



Gerald Wilbanks, PE
Trussville

The Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors consists of five professional engineers and two professional land surveyors who are appointed by the Governor from a list of three persons nominated for each appointment by a committee.

Each member of BELS must be a United States citizen and a resident of the State of Alabama.

They must be either a licensed professional engineer or licensed professional land surveyor holding a current license, be engaged in the practice of engineering or land surveying, respectively, for at least 12 years, and have led important engineering or land surveying, respectively, work for at least five years.



our **MISSION**

The Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors was established by a legislative action in 1935. Its charter is to protect the public by helping to safeguard life, health, and property, and to promote the public welfare by providing for the licensing and regulation of persons in the practices of engineering and land surveying.

This purpose is achieved through the establishment of minimum qualifications for entry into the professions of engineering and land surveying, through the adoption of rules defining and delineating unlawful or unethical conduct, and through swift and effective discipline for those individuals or entities who violate the applicable laws or rules.

WHO WE ARE

The Board reviews applications, administers the national licensing examinations, develops and administers the state specific licensing examination, licenses qualified applicants, and regulates the professional practice of licensees throughout the State. They also have the power to discipline those individuals who are not licensed in the State but who are performing engineering or land surveying in the State.

Board meetings are held at the Board offices in Montgomery, and are open to the public. We ask that persons wishing to bring matters for the Board's consideration submit written notification or request to be placed on the agenda 20 days prior to the scheduled meeting.

YEAR IN REVIEW

2013 SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- Collected documentation from all licensees to support the legislative mandate to show proof of citizenship or that they were legally present in the United States. No licensee would be allowed to renew unless the necessary documents were received. It was a three-month effort by the entire staff to process the necessary documents to enable the 2014 renewal cycle to begin on time on Oct. 1, 2013.
- The efforts of the State Specific Land Surveying Exam Committee were completed. The committee consisted of three Board members, staff and licensed land surveyors from throughout the state. The task began with determining the knowledge areas to be included in the examination, then writing new test questions. Test evaluation and the setting of the pass point were completed in late 2012. The first exam administered using the new format was in July of 2013.



Frazier Christy PLS/PE
Birmingham

- Mr. Michael Arnold rotated off the board and Mr. Frazier Christy rotated on. Christy was appointed in April 2013 to fill Mr. Arnold's land surveying position and his term is set to expire in April 2018. He has been a practicing Professional Land Surveyor for going on four decades and is also a licensed Professional Engineer. A graduate of Auburn University and a veteran, Christy retired from the firm of Hatch Mott McDonald in 2012.

- Began making the necessary changes for the conversion of the Fundamentals of Engineering and the Fundamentals of Surveying exams from paper and pencil taken twice a year to an on-demand computer-based format. BELS adopted a policy of allowing candidates to directly apply to NCEES (National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Land Surveyors) to sit for the exams and then, upon passing, file their intern certification application to the office. Meetings were held with deans of the engineering and surveying programs to alert them as to the upcoming changes.



MEETINGS

The Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors met six times during Fiscal Year 2013.

Five meetings were held at the BELS office on Union Street in Montgomery, and one was held at the University of South Alabama School of Engineering located in Mobile.

LAW & RULE CHANGES

The Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors proposed legislation to update the licensure law which did not pass.

There was one rule change to clarify the definition of "Inactive Status"

OPINIONS ISSUED

The Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors offered no declaratory opinions during Fiscal Year 2013.

BOARD ELECTION

The Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors elected the following to serve as leadership in Fiscal Year 2014:

- Chairman - Phillip Santora PLS/PE
- Vice Chair - Earl Foust PE
- Secretary - Marc Barter PE

ENGINEERING

	Engineer Interns
Applications Received	799
Certifications Issued	502
Renewed	1,864
Total	2,366
GAIN	504

An Engineering Intern is a person who has passed a Board approved examination in the fundamental engineering subjects, pursuant to the law and who has been certified by the Board as an engineering intern.

EXAM INFORMATION

	Number Given	Number Passed	% Passed	Number Failed
FE Exam	907	515	57	392
PE Exam	440	223	51	217

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS



The practice of engineering is defined as any professional service or creative work, the adequate performance of which requires engineering education, training, and experience in the application of special knowledge of the mathematical, physical and engineering sciences to such services or creative work as a consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, design and design coordination of engineering works and systems, planning the use of land and water, performing engineering surveys and studies, and the review of construction or other design products for the purpose of monitoring compliance with drawings and specification; any of which embraces such services or work, either public or private, in connection with utilities, structures, buildings, machines, equipment, processes, work systems, projects and industrial or consumer products; equipment of a control, communications, computer, mechanical, electrical, hydraulic, pneumatic, or thermal nature, insofar as they involve safeguarding life, health or property.

	Comity	Examination
Applications Received	587	282
Licensed	487	213

	Professional Engineers
Renewed	14,406
Licensed	700
Reinstated	64
Total	15,170
Total from FY 2012	14,636
GAIN	534

LAND SURVEYING

	Land Surveying Interns
Applications Received	12
Certifications Issued	10
Renewed	25
Total	35
GAIN	7

A Land Surveying Intern is a person who has passed a Board approved examination in the fundamental land surveying subjects, pursuant to law and who has been certified by the Board as a land surveying intern.

EXAM INFORMATION

	Number Given	Number Passed	% Passed	Number Failed
FS Exam	30	6	20	24
PS Exam	29	12	41	17
State Specific Exam	25	17	68	8

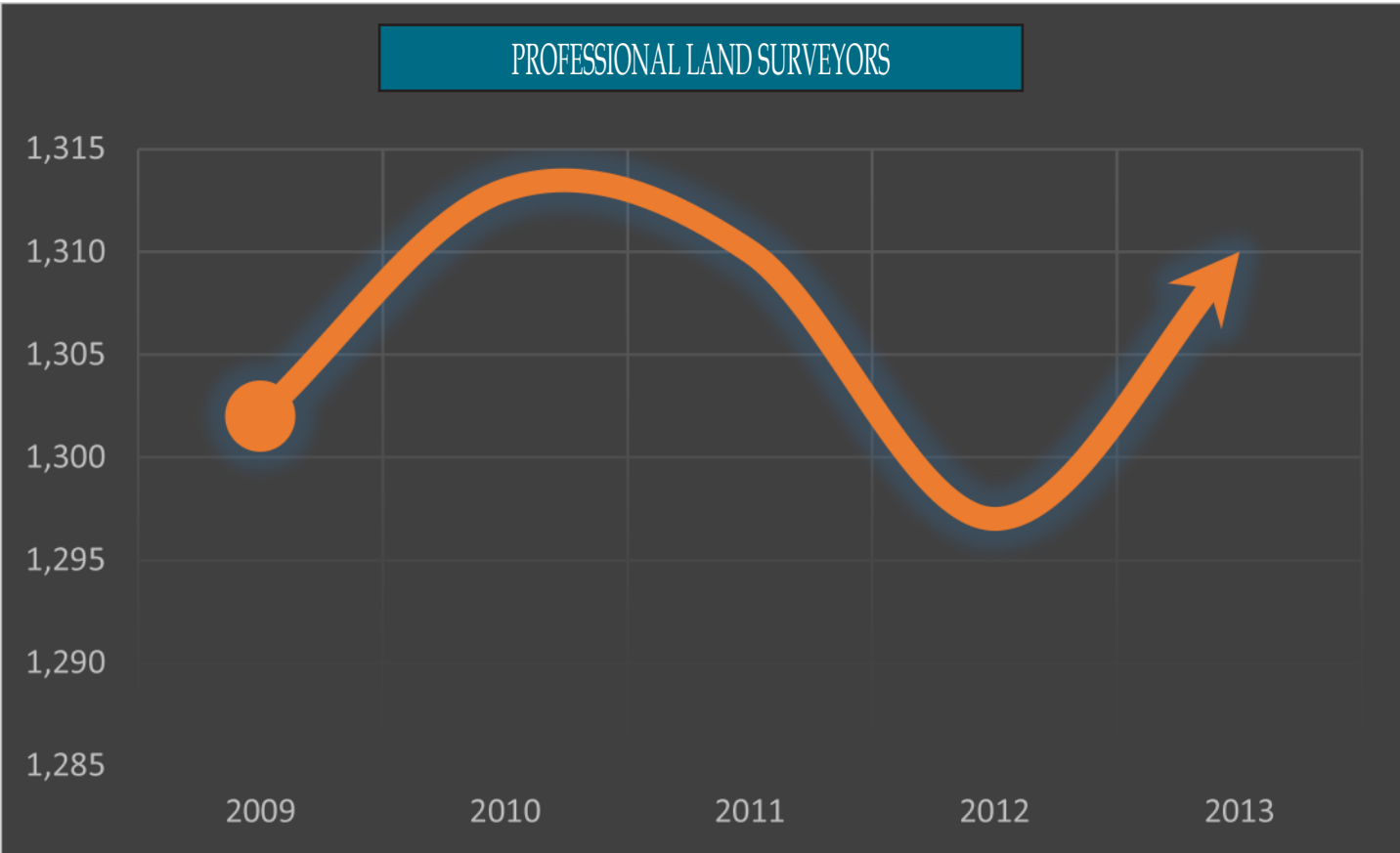
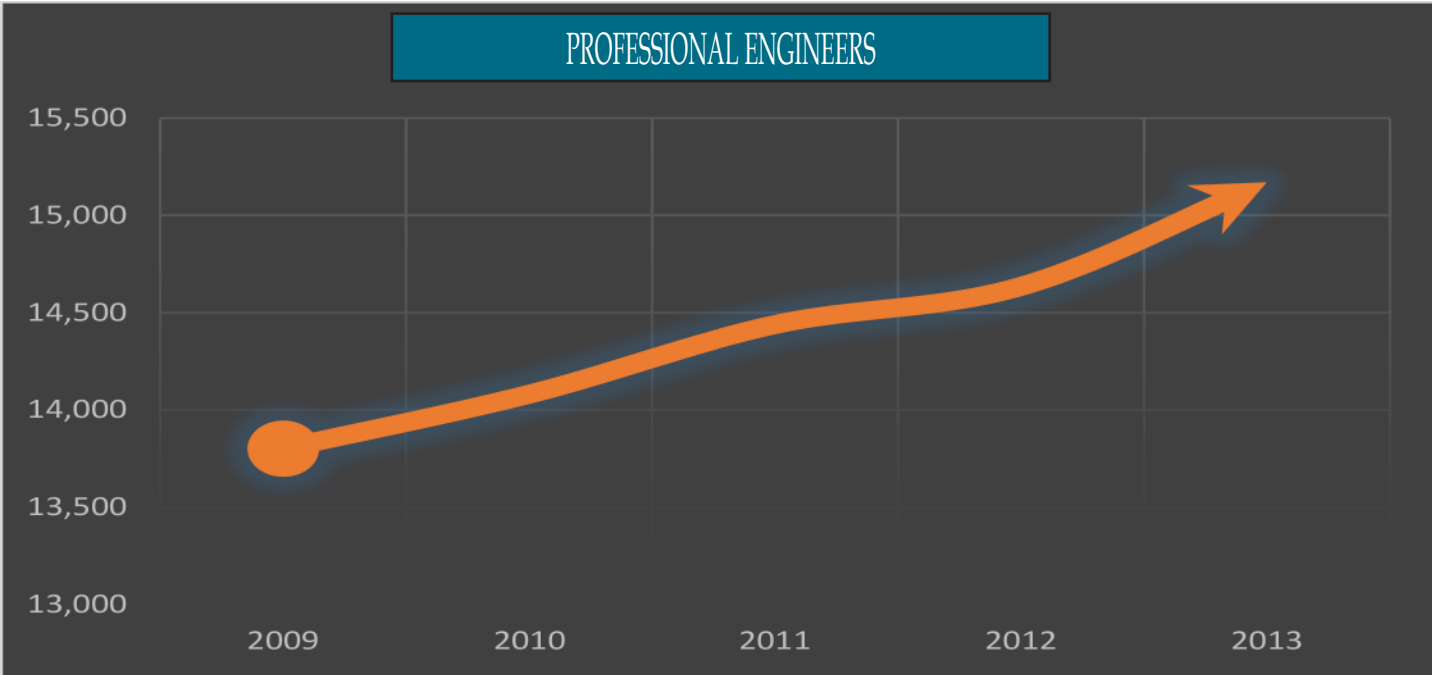
PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS



The practice of land surveying is defined as a professional service that includes, but is not limited to, consultation, project coordination, investigation, testimony, evaluation, planning, mapping, assembling and interpreting reliable scientific measurements and information relative to the location, size, shape, areas, volumes, or physical features on the earth, or any part of the earth, and the utilization and development of these acts and interpretation into an orderly survey map, plan, report, description, or project.

	Professional Land Surveyors
Renewed	1,284
Licensed	15
Reinstated	11
Total	1,310
Total from FY 2012	1,297
GAIN	13

FIVE-YEAR LICENSING TREND



CERTIFICATES OF AUTHORIZATION

	Engineering	Land Surveying
Applications Received	201	34
Certificates Issued FY 2013	190	32

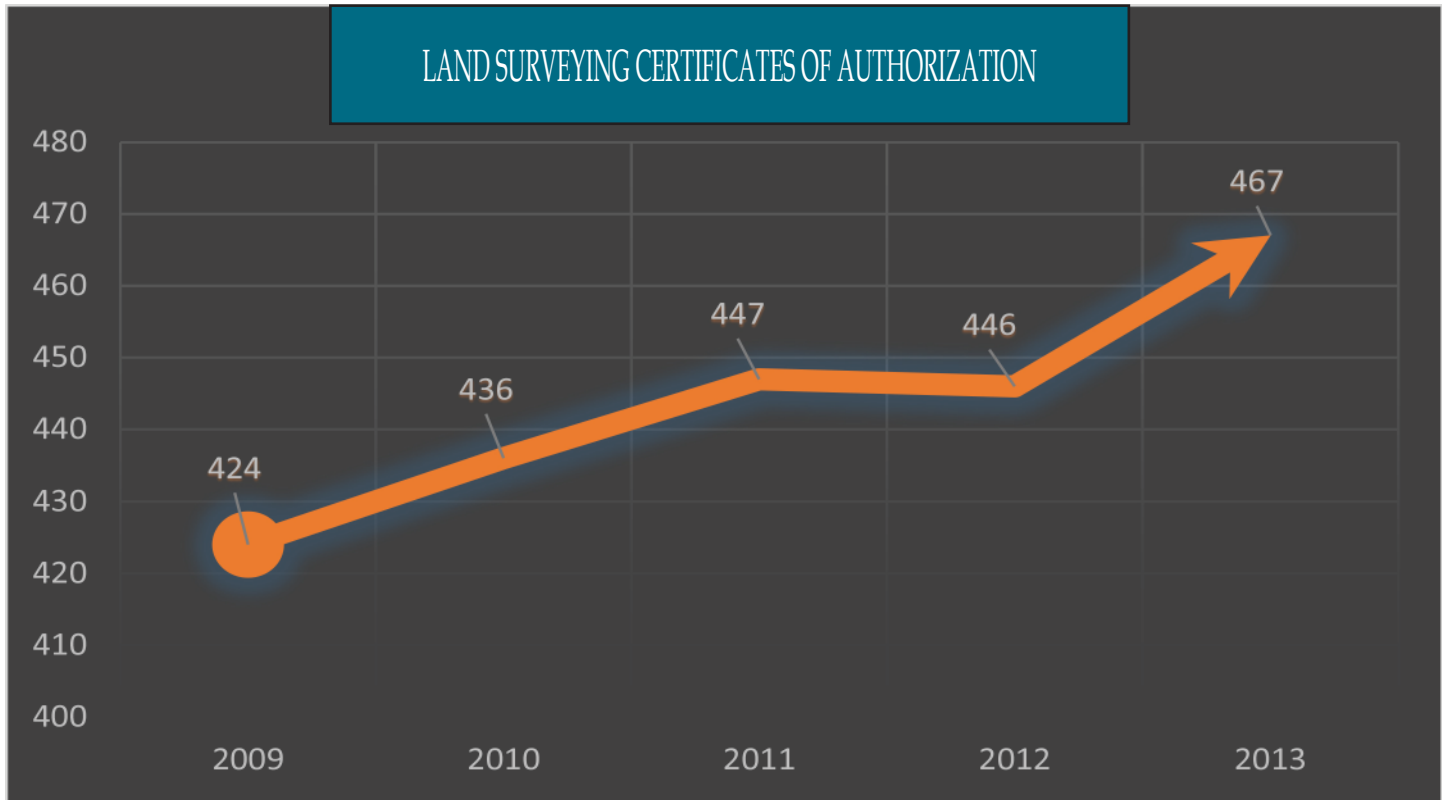
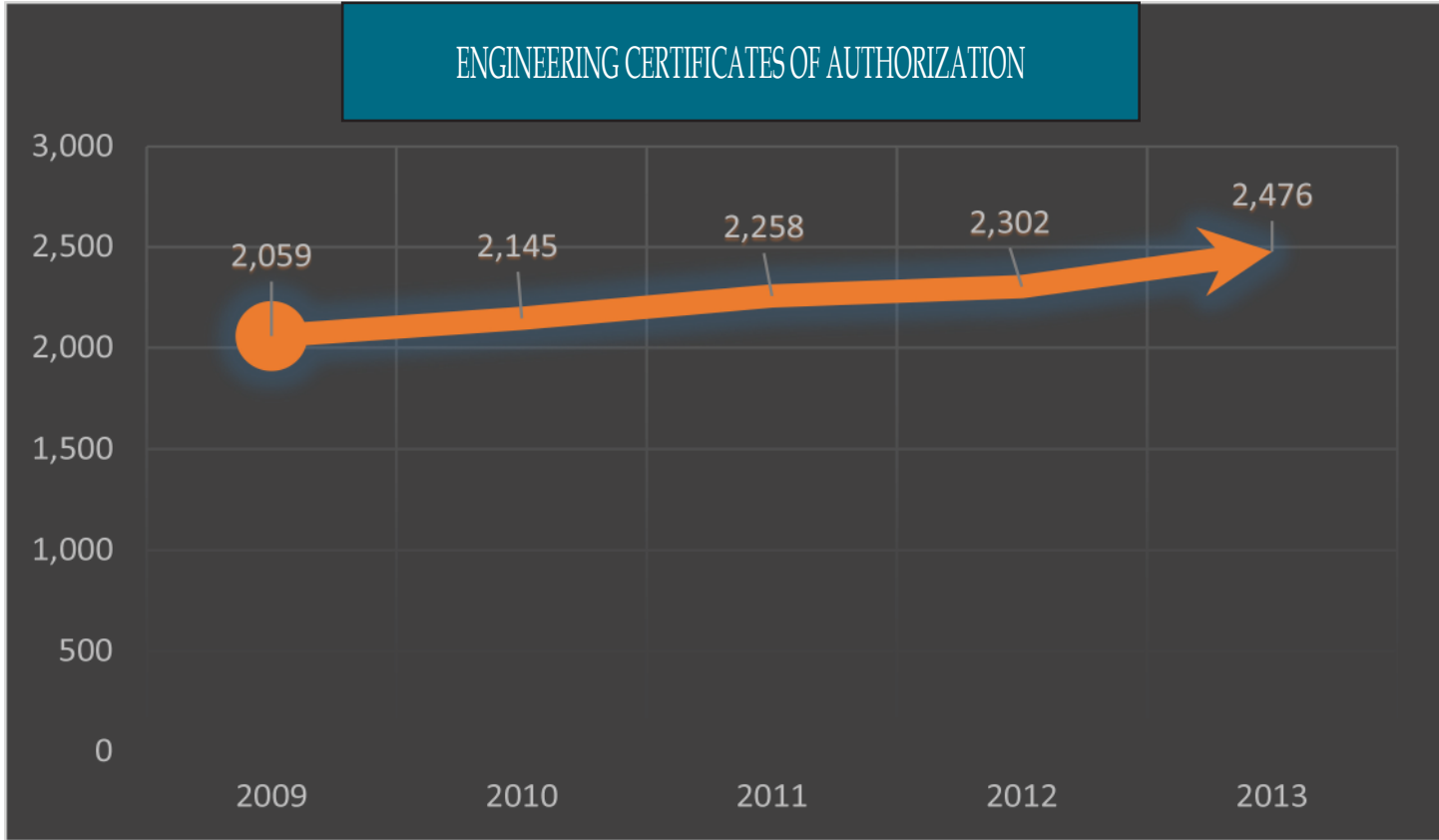
A company desiring to offer engineering or surveying services to the public is permitted to do so through individual licensed Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors. Firms may also join together to offer engineering or land surveying services to the public as long as they meet the requirements of the Code of Alabama.



	Engineering Certificates
Renewed	2,269
Certificated	190
Reinstated	17
Total	2,476
Total from FY 2012	2,315
GAIN	161

	Land Surveying Certificates
Renewed	433
Certificated	32
Reinstated	2
Total	467
Total from FY 2012	447
GAIN	20

FIVE-YEAR CERTIFICATION TREND



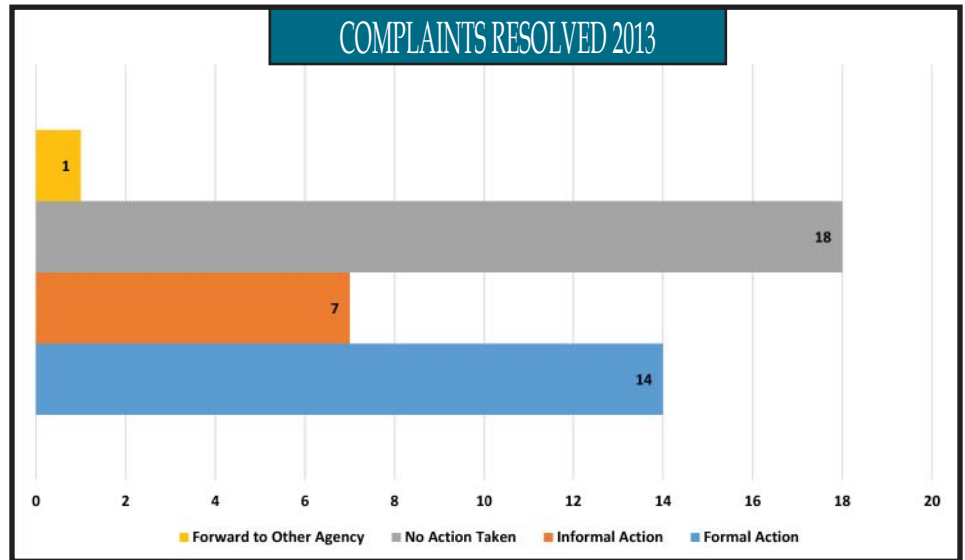
ENFORCEMENT

The Board conducts investigations that result in findings of no violation and both formal and informal actions.

Informal enforcement actions result in letters of caution or reprimand and are not made part of the public record.

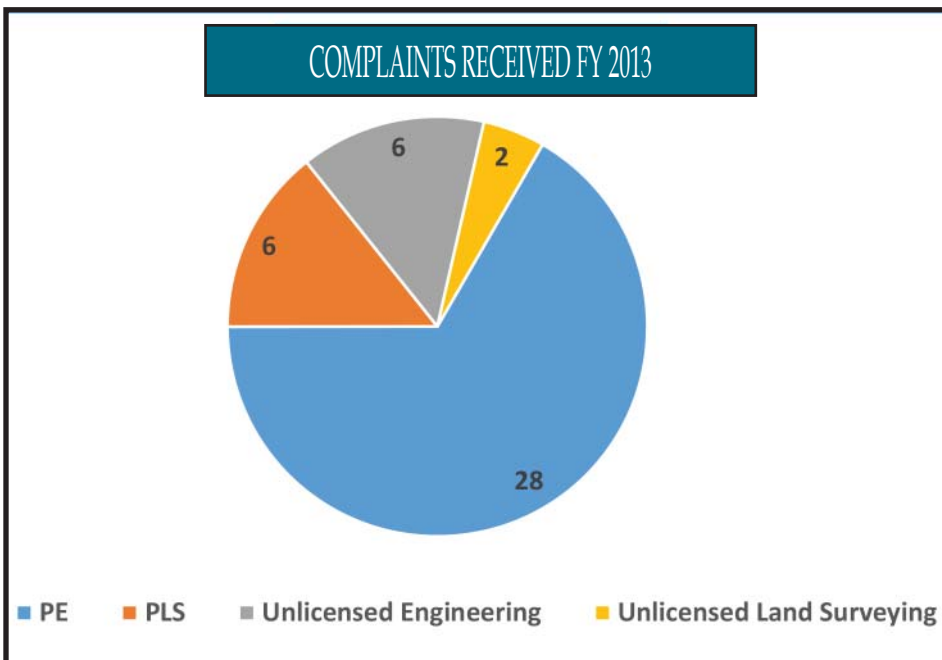
Formal enforcement actions are public record and may include a fine, probation, license suspension or revocation and are made part of the public record.

In FY 2013, the Board resolved 40 complaints.



COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

	Professional Engineers	Professional Land Surveyors	Unlicensed Engineering	Unlicensed Land Surveying
FY 2013	28	6	6	2
FY 2012	15	12	11	2
FY 2011	18	20	14	0
FY 2010	21	9	17	2



Any person may file a complaint alleging a violation of the law or rules against any individual licensee, certified intern or corporation, partnership or firm holding a Certificate of Authorization.

Complaints may also be filed against unlicensed individuals or firms that offer or provide engineering or surveying services that violate the Code of Alabama. The complaints must be in writing and be filed with the Executive Director of the Board.

In FY 2013 the Board received 42 complaints regarding professional engineers, professional land surveyors and unlicensed individuals or firms offering engineering or land surveying services.

OPERATIONS | RECEIPTS

	AUDITED — Fiscal Year 2013
Renewals Penalties	\$909,199.50
Reinstatements	\$35,295
Applications Licensure	\$96,215
Exams	\$3,350
Fines	\$7,981.53
Duplicate Certificates	\$325
Labels	\$2,100
Returned Check Charges	\$240
Returned Checks	\$25
FY 2012 Carry Forward	\$351,798.95
TOTAL	\$1,406,535.98

The Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (BELS) is a self-funded agency. The authorization to spend funds is granted to the Board by the state legislature through the annual passage of the General Fund Budget.

The funds needed to cover expenditures are derived from the various fees charged by the Board and the fines collected from formal disciplinary actions taken against licensees and those holding certificates. Civil penalties collected are not kept as Board funds' but are deposited to the State General Fund. By law there is a fixed amount of funds that can be carried over from one fiscal year to the next.

Any excess funds are transferred to the State General Fund.

SUBTOTAL OF APPLICATIONS | LICENSURE | EXAMS

\$99,565

SUBTOTAL FOR FINES

\$7,981.53

SUBTOTAL OF RENEWALS | REINSTATEMENTS

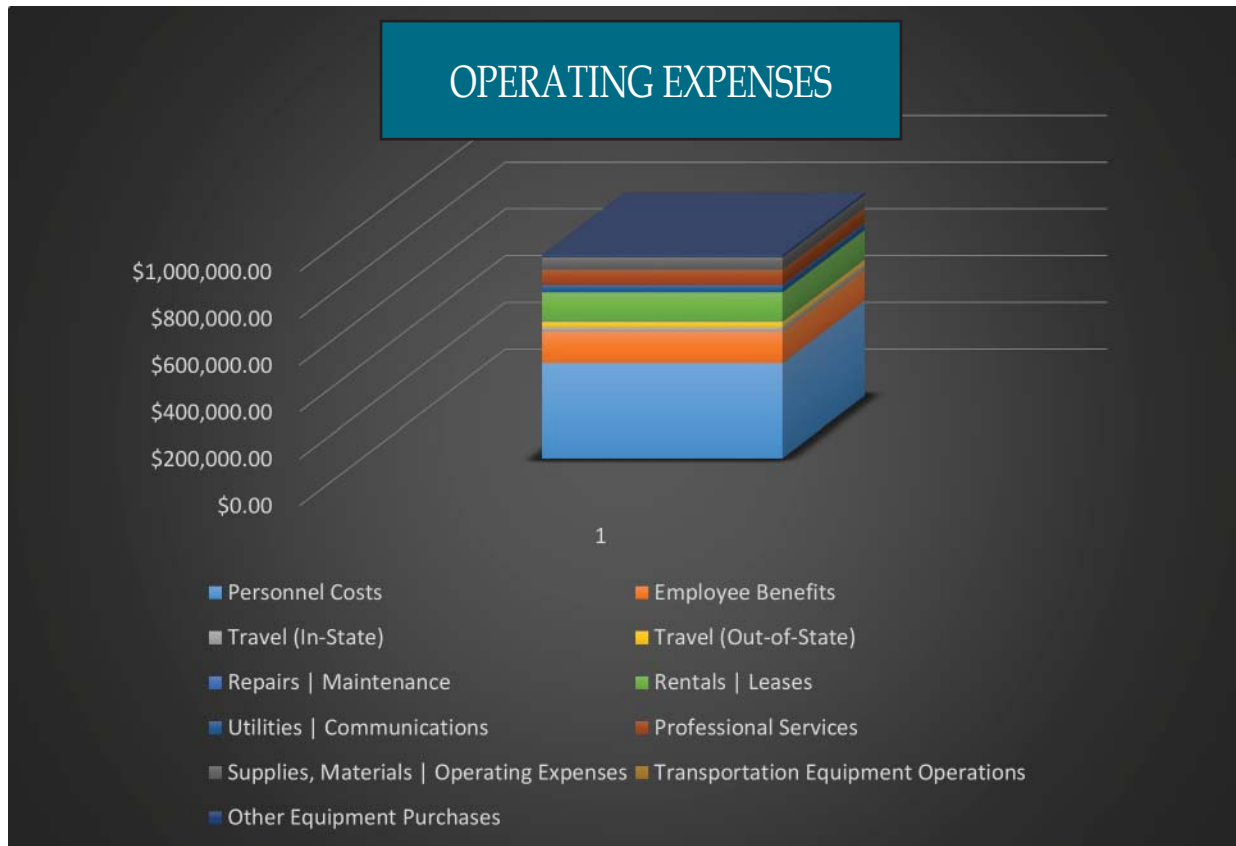
\$944,494.50

REVENUES TO DATE

\$1,406,535.98

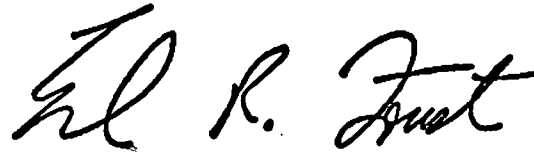
OPERATIONS | EXPENDITURES

	TOTAL FY 2013 Recognized Expenditures
Personnel Costs	\$406,830.23
Employee Benefits	\$134,824.80
Travel (In-State)	\$19,173.97
Travel (Out-of-State)	\$22,392.51
Repairs Maintenance	\$2,861.65
Rentals Leases	\$123,597.18
Utilities Communications	\$31,325.73
Professional Services	\$65,181.43
Supplies, Materials Operating Expenses	\$51,980.70
Transportation Equipment Operations	\$1,567.83
Grants, Benefits and Awards	\$14.89
Other Equipment Purchases	\$10,060
TOTAL	\$869,810.92



FUND BALANCE
\$536,725.06

I, Earl R. Foust, Secretary of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, do hereby attest, to the best of my knowledge and belief, this Financial Statement is a correct statement of the finance of the Board during the period shown.



Earl R. Foust, Secretary 2012-2013

Attest



Daniel S. Turner, Chair 2012-2013