

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESSOR ENGINEER/SURVEYOR

In circumstances where a licensee can no longer provide services on a project (such as death, retirement, disability, contract termination, etc.), a successor licensee may perform work on a survey or set of plans originally prepared by another licensee. In such cases the successor professional engineer or professional surveyor must take all professional responsibility for the documents which are sealed and signed and is in no way exempt from such full responsibility. The calculations, site visits, research and any other work necessary for full responsibility must be documented and produced upon demand. Plans or surveys need not be redrawn by the successor professional engineer or professional surveyor; however, justification for such action must be available through well-kept and complete documentation on the part of the successor professional engineer or surveyor. A successor professional engineer or professional surveyor must use his or her own title block, seal and signature and must remove the title block, seal and signature of the original professional engineer or surveyor.

If the successor professional engineer or professional surveyor is the designated professional in responsible charge of the same firm which performed the services and under the same Department of LLR Certificate of Authorization (COA) as the licensee no longer able to provide the services, this individual shall be allowed to sign and seal drawings or surveys of the original professional engineer or professional surveyor in place of the original engineer or surveyor without performing the above required calculations, site visits, research, etc. However, in such cases, the successor professional engineer or professional surveyor assumes all professional responsibility for the documents which are sealed and signed. The firm is also still responsible as the sealing COA on the project.

S.C. Reg. 49-207(C)(4) provides that "additions, deletions or other revisions to sealed documents shall not be made, unless such changes are sealed, dated and signed by the licensee who made the revisions or under whose direction and control said revisions were made." A licensee who changes or modifies some part or portion of previously sealed work assumes full responsibility for that part or portion of the previously sealed work that is changed or modified. Likewise, the original licensee remains professionally responsible for the original sealed work that is not changed or modified or that part which is not affected by the subsequent changes or modifications.

Guidelines updated May 7, 2019