



May 2002

The South Carolina EXAMINER

Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

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Board Congratulates New Licensees



Chairman Mitchell Tibshirany (left) and LLR Director Rita McKinney (right) presented certificates to new licensees at the South Carolina State House.

The South Carolina Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors sponsored the first Licensing Ceremony for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors at the South Carolina State House on Tuesday, January 22, 2002. New licensees by way of examination and their guests were invited to attend.

LLR Director Rita McKinney joined Chairman Mitchell Tibshirany and members of the Board to offer congratulations to the new licensees and present them with their certificates and registration cards. Both the Director and the Chairman offered words of advice and inspiration to the new engineers and land surveyors. Chairman Tibshirany spoke of pride for his profession and encouraged those present to act with integrity and honesty throughout their careers, keeping in mind that their first commitment is to the safety and welfare of the public.

The ceremony was followed by a reception on the State House grounds given by the South Carolina Council of Engineering and Surveying Societies, the South Carolina Society of Professional Engineers, and the South Carolina Society of Professional Land Surveyors.

The Board plans to hold this ceremony twice each year following the April and October examinations.

License Renewal Time

Renewal forms will be mailed in mid-May and are due back in the Board office no later than June 30. Here are a few quick reminders:

- **Renewal forms** are mailed as a courtesy to our licensees. If you have not received your form by June 1, please contact the Board office at (803) 896-4422.
- **Renewal fees** will now be based on a biennial period (July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2004). Individuals will pay \$100 and dual registrants will pay \$200 for the two-year period.
- **CPC/PDH hours** are required for renewal. Fifteen hours (obtained between July 1, 2001, and June 30, 2002) are required for the 2002 renewal. Thirty hours (obtained between July 1, 2002, and June 30, 2004) will be required for renewal in 2004.



South Carolina
Department of
Labor, Licensing
and Regulation

A Letter From the Chairman

Mitchell S. Tibshirany, Jr., P.E.



Dear Fellow Engineers and Land Surveyors:

Shortly after the new year began, the Board had the pleasure of welcoming a new class of licensees into our professional community. These young men and women joined us at the South Carolina State House to receive their certificates and registration cards for the first time as their families and friends looked on with pride. We were pleased to have the opportunity to share this monumental achievement with the newest engineers and land surveyors of our state.

On behalf of the entire Board, I had the privilege of addressing the 200-member group to offer our congratulations and share some insight on a career in our profession. Perhaps the most important advice given to these young professionals was to remain committed to protecting the health, safety and welfare of the public. More important than financial gain, our responsibility to the citizens of the state should be the highest priority within our professional community. To maintain this commitment, we are all charged to practice engineering and land surveying with honesty and integrity. Although this advice was spoken to the newest professionals, it can serve as a reminder to all of us.

The Board continues to be active in other areas as well. The Ambassadorship Program we initiated last September has continued to develop and prosper due to the hospitality and cooperation of the engineering schools in South Carolina. We met on the campus of the University of South Carolina in September and at The Citadel this past month. Our travel schedule for the Fall includes Clemson University and South Carolina State University.

Major General John Grinalds, Colonel Dennis J. Fallon, Colonel Harold W. Askins, Jr. and the engineering faculty and cadets at The Citadel displayed gracious hospitality to the Board during our meeting and visit. We enjoyed sharing lunch with engineering faculty and cadets where we had the opportunity to discuss the importance of professional licensure. Both asked valid questions and shared constructive ideas regarding faculty licensure and the FE examination. Since the majority of the faculty members at The Citadel are currently licensed, they were able to provide excellent feedback on the licensure process.

Lastly, we toured the engineering school with Colonel Fallon and Colonel Askins. The labs were impressive as was the faculty's dedication and commitment to the students. We cannot thank The Citadel enough for hosting this meeting.

This year promises to be exciting and eventful for the Board. The Licensing Ceremony began 2002 in a spectacular way. Our professional community was able to publicly welcome its newest members and share with them a proud moment in their careers. In addition, the Board's travels to the engineering colleges in the state have presented and encouraged the idea of licensure among students. Through these activities, the Board has increased exposure for licensure and for our professional community as a whole.

In closing, please remember the importance of practicing professional ethics. As an engineer or surveyor, you represent the entire community of engineers and surveyors and your actions affect the public's perception of our professions. We are privileged to be held in such high esteem by the people of South Carolina and it is the responsibility of each of us to maintain these high ethical standards to set an example for our newest professionals and those aspiring to receive their licenses in the future.

Sincerely,
Mitchell

**FUNDAMENTALS OF ENGINEERING EXAM
RESULTS BY SCHOOL
OCTOBER 2001**

	Discipline	# Tested	# Passed	# Failed	% Passing
The Citadel	Chemical	—	—	—	—
	Civil	31	18	13	58%
	Electrical	2	1	1	50%
	Mechanical	—	—	—	—
Clemson	Chemical	4	4	0	100%
	Civil	51	43	8	84%
	Electrical	12	9	3	75%
	Mechanical	16	11	5	69%
USC	Chemical	7	6	1	86%
	Civil	22	19	3	86%
	Electrical	3	1	2	33%
	Mechanical	19	11	8	58%

**PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING
EXAM RESULTS
OCTOBER 2001**

	# Tested	# Passed	# Failed	% Passing
Agricultural	1	0	1	0%
Chemical	2	0	2	0%
Civil	89	44	45	49%
Control Systems	4	4	0	100%
Electrical	32	17	15	53%
Environmental	7	4	3	57%
Fire Protection	2	0	2	0%
Industrial	2	2	0	100%
Mechanical	27	16	11	59%
Nuclear	1	1	0	100%
Structural I	14	11	3	79%
Exam Totals	181	99	82	55%

**LAND SURVEYING EXAM RESULTS
OCTOBER 2001**

	# Tested	# Passed	# Failed	% Passing	National % Passing
Fundamentals of Land Surveying	13	4	9	31%	39%
Principles & Practice of Land Surveying	15	9	6	60%	53%
State Specific	20	16	4	80%	—

Office Notes & Reminders

- The deadline for COA renewals was March 31, 2002. Contact the Board office with any questions.
- Copies of the new S.C. Code of Laws & Regulations can be obtained at no charge by contacting the Board office.
- Visit the Board's Web Page to download applications and forms. Log-on today to find out about upcoming Board meetings, examination dates, fee schedules, frequently asked questions, CPC requirements and the new S.C. Code of Laws & Regulations.
- Beginning July 1, 2004, the practice of Geodetic, Photogrammetric and Geographic Information System (GIS) Surveying as defined in the S.C. Code of Laws and Regulations, will require a license in South Carolina. Application packets may be obtained by contacting the Board office.

CONTACT US:
(803) 896-4422
engls@mail.llr.state.sc.us
www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Engineers

The Board office maintains a full staff committed to serving you. Please contact us at any time!

Investigator's Corner

If I have not completed my 15 required CPC hours in time for my renewal, can I complete these hours after the deadline without being penalized?

Compliance with continuing professional competency (CPC) requirements is a condition of licensure in South Carolina. Failure to comply with the 15-hour requirement by the renewal deadline will result in the suspension of one's license until such time as the licensee may produce evidence of compliance.

Am I required to notify the Board if action has been taken against my license?

Yes. The renewal application specifically requests that information. The Board has the authority to discipline an individual who has had a license to practice engineering or land surveying in another state of jurisdiction cancelled, revoked, suspended or otherwise disciplined.

I have been experiencing medical problems since last summer and have been unable to complete my 15 CPC hours for the period 2001-2002. Does the Board grant an exemption to individuals with extenuating medical circumstances?

Yes. The regulation governing continuing professional competency (CPC) provides for an exemption for a licensee experiencing physical disability or illness during the year; however, the licensee must provide supporting documentation to the Board with any exemption request and must be approved by the Board.

Is there a penalty for providing false information on a renewal form?

S.C. Code of Laws specifically authorizes the Board to sanction a person or firm found guilty of the practice of fraud or deceit in applying for or obtaining a certificate of registration.

How do I obtain the professional development hours (PDH's) necessary for license renewal?

PDH units may be earned through successful completion of college courses and continuing education courses as well as by attending qualifying seminars, in house training, workshops, and professional/technical presentations at meetings, conventions or conferences. PDH units may be earned through teaching (first time only), authoring, publishing, active participation in professional or technical societies, holding office/chairing qualifying committees, successful application for patents or facilitated television/videotaped presentations.

Does documentation need to be submitted to the Board with my renewal application for each educational or instructional activity obtained?

No. A random audit will be performed during the registration year. At that time the licensee will provide appropriate documentation of continuing education obtained.

FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

April 2001 - February 2002

(Release Date)

Kuplic Engineering, Inc. (NC) 4/26/01 – Unlicensed practice (Richland County); \$500 fine, public reprimand.

J. L. Jacobs & Associates (TN) 4/26/01 – Unlicensed practice (Sumter County); \$500 fine, public reprimand.

Stephen J. Geiger, PE (SC) 4/27/01 – Falsely confirmed certain specific work had been completed; \$500 fine, public reprimand.

RMS Engineering/R. M. Suggs Company (GA) 4/27/01 – Unlicensed practice (Horry County); \$500 fine, public reprimand.

Andrew A. Amorosi, PE (NJ) 4/27/01 – Reported on license renewal application that he had completed required hours of continuing professional competency when, in fact, he had not; \$500 fine, public reprimand, license suspended until hours completed.

Engineering Support Services, Inc. (NC) 4/27/01 – Unlicensed practice (Anderson County); \$500 fine, public reprimand.

Keith & Associates, Inc. (VA) 5/14/01 – Unlicensed practice (Florence County); \$500 fine, public reprimand.

Greenco of Augusta, Inc. (GA) 6/29/01 – Unlicensed practice (Aiken County); \$500 fine, public reprimand.

David C. Bonds, PE (SC) 6/29/01 – Committed unprofessional acts likely to deceive, defraud or harm the public; \$500 fine, public reprimand.

Chris Anastos, PE (NY) 6/29/01 – Reported on license renewal application that he had completed required hours of continuing professional competency when, in fact, he had not; \$500 fine, public reprimand, license suspended until hours completed.

Staley Consulting, Inc. (FL) 6/22/01 – Unlicensed practice (Charleston County); \$500 fine, public reprimand.

C. M. Engineering, Inc. (MO) 6/30/01 – Unlicensed practice (Richland County); \$500 fine, public reprimand.

Watson Engineering Service, Inc. (NC) 6/30/01 – Unlicensed practice (Florence County); \$500 fine, public reprimand.

Leopoldo C. Baniqued, PE (GA) 7/3/01 – Reported on license renewal application that he had completed required hours of continuing professional competency when, in fact, he had not; license suspended for five years, public reprimand.

James Kelly Davis, PLS (SC) 7/3/01 – Signed and sealed plat as accurate knowing that all property corners had not been re-established; \$500 fine, public reprimand.

Williams – Russell and Johnson, Inc. (GA) 7/2/01 – Unlicensed practice (Richland County); \$500 fine, public reprimand.

Cynthia Aull Flehan (NC) 7/3/01 – Practice certificate under sanction in another jurisdiction (NC); public reprimand.

Joel F. Floyd, PLS (SC) 7/12/01 – Prepared survey plot for property in Horry County and falsely identified front and side setback distances; \$1,500 fine, public reprimand.

Danny E. Doss, PE (AR) 7/25/01 – Practice certificate under sanction in another jurisdiction (ME, NV); public reprimand.

Lower Florence County Surveying (SC) 8/30/01 – Unlicensed practice (Clarendon, Florence and Williamsburg Counties); \$500 fine, public reprimand.

Stephen Clement Hoffman, PE (IN) 9/27/01 – Practice certificate under sanction in another jurisdiction (MA); public reprimand.

Robert Douglas Garrison, PLS (SC) 9/28/01 – Criminal conviction in a fraudulent check scheme wherein he was paid for survey work he had not performed; license revoked, public reprimand.

Thomas William Harwell, PE (NC) 10/18/01 – Practice certificate under sanction in another jurisdiction (NC); public reprimand.

Desimone Consulting Engineers (NY) 12/6/01 – Unlicensed practice (Horry County); \$1,000 fine, public reprimand.

Exponent, Inc. (CA) 12/14/01 – Unlicensed practice (Richland and Lexington Counties); \$1,000 fine, public reprimand.

Robert E. Lee, PE (SC) 1/11/02 – Reported on license renewal application that he had completed required hours of continuing professional competency when, in fact, he had not; \$1,000 fine, public reprimand, license suspended until he complied with CPC requirements.

Jerry Michael Hart, PE (NC) 1/29/02 – Reported on license renewal application that he had completed required hours of continuing professional competency when, in fact, he had not; \$1,000 fine, public reprimand, license suspended until he complied with CPC requirements.

W. Neil Higgs, PE (TX) 2/5/02 – Reported on license renewal application that he had completed required hours of continuing professional competency when, in fact, he had not; \$1,000 fine, public reprimand, license suspended until he complied with CPC requirements.

Keith K. Ruddy, PLS (SC) 2/12/02 – Convicted of breach of trust by pawing his employer's survey equipment for cash, admitted to unlicensed practice; public reprimand, license revoked.

David C. Cannon, PE (SC) 2/12/02 – Reported on license renewal application that he had completed required hours of continuing professional competency when, in fact, he had not; \$1,000 fine, public reprimand.

Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, before making decisions based upon it, please seek verification at (803) 896-4422. Listings do not reflect pending appeals for rehearing or information that occurs near publication date.

Do you have questions, concerns or comments that you would like to see addressed in future issues of *The Examiner*? If so, just send them in, and we'll be happy to respond. You may send them to our mailing address, call (803) 896-4422, or e-mail: engls@mail.llr.state.sc.us.

We appreciate your input!

Important Information: **SEALS**

Many licensees have called the Board office with questions/concerns on the new seal requirements.

Anyone licensed after July 1, 2001, should have a seal stating "Licensed Professional _____".

However, due to wrong information being mailed out, many licensees have had an incorrect seal made. Any licensee falling into this category will be allowed to use the "Registered Professional _____" seal.

Any licensee registered after February 1, 2002, will fall under the new requirements and his or her seal must state "Licensed Professional _____".

Please review the S.C. Code of Laws (40-22-270) and the S.C. Code of Regulations (R.49-207) for more information.

Correct Address?

Have you moved or changed jobs recently? If so, your address on file with the Board office may not be current.

As a result, you may not receive your renewal form. Please contact us in writing to update our records:

engls@mail.llr.state.sc.us
Fax - (803) 896-4427

Need Information?

Do you have questions about South Carolina licensure? Log-on to our Web Site to find the answers!

www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Engineers

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