

## BOARD MEMBERS

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Licensees of the Pennsylvania State Board of Architects:

To all the current registered, Pennsylvania Architects, I wish to pass along best wishes from the members of the State Architects Licensure Board. It is a pleasure to note that the improved general state of the economy has resulted in increased activity in the building industry in many areas of the Commonwealth and surrounding jurisdictions. The increased activity translates to increased demand for design services for many firms and practitioners. Hopefully, all of you are finding opportunities for your services as a result.

This newsletter is an initiative from our Board members to improve communication with the licensed Architects in Pennsylvania. It is our intent to keep you informed of issues and changes that impact the practice of architecture in the Commonwealth. Our Board is tasked with administering the licensing of Architects and registration of firms practicing architecture. This function focuses on providing for the Health, Safety, and Welfare of the public through the many aspects impacted by the built environment. The legislative and regulatory requirements that have been put in place for the Practice of Architecture and the Licensing of Architects provide a structure for ensuring that a building's design and construction receives the necessary professional oversight to meet the public safety criteria. To this end, we hope to acknowledge the growth of the profession by recognizing newly licensed Architects. We also hope to encourage communication from our licensees when the professional requirements are not being met for building design and permitting.

The design industry and practice of architecture has experienced a dramatic impact through the evolution of technology and changes in project delivery methods. As a result, the regulatory process for architects is being examined to establish what changes are appropriate while maintaining the important standards for protecting the public. Among recent changes are the professional experience requirements for candidates seeking licensure that have been recently changed from the former 'IDP' to the current 'AXP' credits administered by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB). The registration examination for architects (ARE) has also been changed recently to the new ARE 5.0. Our Board is a member of NCARB and, along with the other 54 jurisdictions, participates in the debates and development of changes proposed for regulating the profession.

I hope you enjoy this Newsletter from the Board, find the information provided helpful, and will look forward to future editions. We hope to improve our communication with you and we welcome your comments and suggestions.

Best Regards,

John R. Hill, AIA, NCARB President  
PA State Architects Licensure Board

## CONGRATULATIONS NEWLY LICENSED ARCHITECTS

Larry Wesley Tinnin Jr	Justin Harclerode	Sarah Owens
Robert B Zoelle	Kyle Onderko	Mary Carroll-Coelho
Jonathan Samuel Fridberg	Mark L Hoffman	Eric H Weiss
Ryan Losinno	Adam Briggs Cummins	James Arthur Stedman Iv
Elliot Nolter	Tyler Cooney	Jonathan Szczesniak
Andrew Illein	Elizabeth E Johnson	Melanie Patricia Whedon
Jared Thomas Pohl	Frederick George Glock	Gina Rossi
Marie Louise Miller	Thomas Maxwell Foley	Alexandria Paige Chinikaylo
Geoffrey Klein	Robyn Haley Engel	Caitlin Delach
Kyle Ferrier	Anna Anderson	Benjamin D Garing
Adam Michael Wise	Erik Austin	Gregory Mark Lehman II
Matthew Dean	Bonnie Netel	Truman Paul Benedetti
Carolina Pena	Michelle Kate Sloan	Jay Raymond Wilkinson
Jared Brant Murphy	Jonathan Mckee Golli	Michael Scherer
Kristy Michelle Costanzo	Amy Owen Kassler-Taub	Lauren Teresa Kroll
Julio G Hernandez	Amelia Einbender-Lieber	Julia Dalton Chaffee
Marietta Ann Police	Kaitlyn Emily Korber	Samantha Ann Holmes
Colleen Marie Mcdonough	Rolando Lopez	Victoria Rachel Stokes
Bunny Tucker	Julia Martini	Jinsuk Seo
Taylor Christian Denlinger	Jesse Benjamin Katrencik	Kevin Marino
Katherine Comly Liss	Meghan Marie Brennan	Alexa Lee Hansford
Ryan Mccann	Amanda Marie Tharp	Katherine Elaine Brill
Shannon Marie Baron	Chandra Danielle Swope	Gelsey Lauren Hess-Nickerson

Jesse Lee Smith	Benjamin Isaac Weber	Emma Patricia Castro Martinez
Nathaniel Aaron Hammitt	Ryan Lee Croyle	Kaitlin Marie O'Brien
Zachary James Fatzinger	Christopher W Bonadio	Tyler Joseph Stockholm
Jason Matthew Brinker	Kelly Elizabeth Ryan	Robert Alexander Douglass
Jordan Gilmore Clark	Nickolas Martin	Adam Raymond Castelli
Ashley Pamela Liss	Nathaniel Kenton Wooten	Daniel Dillow
Joshua Thomas Lessard	Mason Lehman	William Nelson Eichwald Jr
Jacob Sarkis Adelman Gulezian	Scott Alan Huff	David Eli Halter
Richard A Pinkerton	George T Kreatsoulas	James J Dziegrenuk

## ARE TIMING

Please note as of June 30th ARE 4.0 will expire and all applicants will be required to complete ARE 5.0. The 5-year rolling clock will still apply to the completion of all test segments from start to finish.

## CASE STATUS REPORT

OPEN FILES/TOTAL OPENED THAT YEAR:				ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS - FYTD/LAST FOUR YEARS:				
	OPEN	CLOSED	TOTAL THAT YEAR		FYTD 17-18	FYTD 16-17	FYTD 15-16	FYTD 14-15
2018	14	5	19	Revocation	1	0	0	0
2017	24	116	140	Voluntary Surrender of License	0	1	0	0
2016	4	89	93	Suspension	0	0	0	0
2015	10	270	280	Automatic Suspension - Court Ordered	0	0	0	0
				License Denied	0	0	1	0
COMPLAINTS OPENED -				Reprimand	0	1	5	4
THIS MONTH/FISCAL YEAR			0/93	Fine	2	3	0	0
				Act 48 Fine	1	2	5	10
COMPLAINTS CLOSED -				Warning Letter (nondisciplinary)	50	85	98	40
THIS MONTH/FISCAL YEAR			2/119	Other nondisciplinary dispositions	1	8	4	7

## UNDERSTANDING THE COMPLAINT PROCESS

When a Statement of Complaint within the Department's jurisdiction is received, a file is opened and forwarded to a paralegal who reviews it and determines whether or not an investigation is required. In making this determination, the paralegal may confer with a prosecuting attorney in the Department's Office of Chief Counsel.

Some complaints contain within themselves all the information that is necessary to determine whether a violation of the licensing law has occurred, and those complaints do not require investigation. Most complaints, however, involve issues of credibility, require that witnesses be interviewed, and/or require that documents, including medical records or contracts, be obtained for review by the prosecuting attorney. Those complaints will be forwarded to the Department's Bureau

of Enforcement and Investigation with a request that the investigator obtain the necessary information to enable the prosecuting attorney to determine whether disciplinary charges should be filed against the licensee against whom the complaint was made. Investigations can take anywhere from a few days to several months, depending on the complexity of the case.

Once the investigation is complete, the Bureau of Enforcement and Investigation forwards the investigation report to the Professional Compliance Office, which sends the matter to a prosecuting attorney for review and determination as to whether or not formal disciplinary charges should be filed. If there is not enough evidence to warrant the filing of a disciplinary action, the case is closed. The prosecuting attorney sends a letter to the Complainant notifying the Complainant of that action.

If the evidence supports the filing of formal disciplinary charges against the licensee, the prosecuting attorney initiates the action by preparing an Order to Show Cause. The Order to Show Cause sets forth allegations and directs the licensee (Respondent) to file a written Answer to those allegations within 30 days.

After the Respondent files an Answer, the matter is generally scheduled for hearing.

If the matter is scheduled for a hearing, the case is heard and a decision, known as an Adjudication and Order, is rendered, usually within six (6) months after the evidentiary record has been closed. If the Respondent is unhappy with the outcome, he or she may appeal the decision to Commonwealth Court.

Some matters are amenable to settlement by means of a legal document known as a Consent Agreement and Order. Either party, the Commonwealth or the Respondent, may approach the other about a possible settlement. In reaching a settlement, the parties negotiate the facts to which they will agree for the purposes of settlement and also negotiate an agreed-upon penalty that they believe will be acceptable to the applicable licensing board or commission. All Consent Agreements and Orders must be presented to and approved by the applicable licensing board or commission in order to become final.

Final Adjudications and Orders and board-approved Consent Agreements and Orders generally represent disciplinary action against a licensee or an unlicensed individual. These disciplinary actions become a part of the licensee's record on file with the respective board or commission. Disciplinary actions are a matter of public record and are available on the Department's licensure website, [www.pals.pa.gov](http://www.pals.pa.gov), where an individual's license status can be verified and the disciplinary history can be reviewed.

To file a complaint, visit <http://www.dos.pa.gov/pages/file-a-complaint.aspx>

## USE OF TITLES

Regarding the announcement by AIA National for suggested titles to replace the term "intern" for individuals in the process of accruing experience and taking the exams for licensure in the profession. The Pennsylvania State Architects Licensure Board (Board) would like to remind everyone to be cautious when determining what title is appropriate.

AIA National has suggested the title, "Architectural Associate." However, Board regulation section 9.171 prohibits use of the term "Architect" if the use of the term would imply that the individual is engaged in the practice of architecture and the individual is not a licensee of the Board. (See. 49 Pa. Code § 9.171)

Also, section 18 of the Architects Licensure Act (Act), 63 P.S. § 34.18, prohibits the implication that someone is an Architect without having completed the licensure process. (See. Section 18 of the Act, 63 P.S. § 34.18)

The other title offered by AIA National is, "Design Professional." It should be noted that the terms Design Professional and Registered Design Professional are used in other contexts, such as in the International Building Codes, which reference responsibilities of licensed architects and engineers.

For a full review of the Act and Board regulations visit [www.dos.pa.gov/architect](http://www.dos.pa.gov/architect)