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State of Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects



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The Nebraska Professional

The Nebraska Professional

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects

Volume 45, September 24, 2024

Non-Compliant Plans

The Board reached out recently to all organizations and licensees with the information below. Please note that this information was not specific to any organization or licensee. If Board staff are made aware of your plans and determines they do not comply with the Nebraska Engineers and Architects Regulation Act (the "Act", *Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-3401 to 81-3455*), a separate email will be sent with specific violations.

The Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects regulates the practice of architecture and engineering through administration of the Act, which mandates that licensed

professionals must design and oversee construction of projects of significant size and complexity. Further, *N.R.S. §81-3437.01* mandates the seal of a Nebraska-licensed professional be placed on all technical submissions, including plans when submitted to a client or any public or governmental agency (see *N.R.S. §§ 81-3437.01(3)* and *Title 110, Nebraska Admin. Code, Chapter 6.*)

Despite outreach in various forms to licensees, the Board continues to see many plans that do not comply with the Act and Board Rules. Improper sealing of plans on non-exempt projects is out of conformance with the Act and Board Rules. The Board can discipline any person or organization found to be violating either the Act or rules, which could include fines and more severe penalties for habitual offenders.

The information below outlines common violations of the Act. Please review each issue to ensure your plans comply with the Act and Board Rules. For the current copy of the E&A Regulation Act Handbook, please click [here](#).

Issue #1: The Licensee Seal

Architects and Professional Engineers licensed in Nebraska receive a seal letter from the Board when initially licensed that shows the approved seal design, along with the statutory requirements pertaining to the correct use of the seal.

Architect's seals will bear their name and license number, have the phrase **STATE OF NEBRASKA** at the bottom, and **ARCHITECT** at the top.

In addition, architects should only use the term *Architect* on their seal. Do not use terms such as *Professional Architect*, *Registered Professional Architect*, or any other phrases that are not simply the word *Architect*.

Professional Engineer seals will bear their name and license number, have **STATE OF NEBRASKA** at the bottom, and **PROFESSIONAL [DISCIPLINE] ENGINEER** at the top. The *DISCIPLINE* term should be replaced with the professional engineer's specific engineering discipline, such as *Professional Mechanical Engineer*, *Professional Civil Engineer*, and *Professional Structural Engineer*. Seals that do not specify a professional engineer's discipline are not compliant with the Act.

The seal must include other design elements, as shown on the seal letter provided by the Board to the licensee when first licensed. The Board does not require a certain size or diameter; however, the seal should be legible whether applied via embossing, ink, or electronically rendered.

You may substitute your middle initial(s) in lieu of your full middle name on your seal.

Issue #2: The Coordinating Professional

When is a Coordinating Professional Required?

A Coordinating Professional is required when more than one licensed professional is involved with a project, such as two professional engineers, one professional engineer and one architect, two architects, and so on. The Coordinating Professional may, but need not, provide architectural or engineering services on the project.

Who Can Be a Coordinating Professional?

The Coordinating Professional is a **licensed** professional engineer, architect, or landscape architect **recognized as such by the project owner**.

What Are the Responsibilities of the Coordinating Professional?

The Coordinating Professional's role is:

- Coordinate communication between the design professionals related to technical documents on the project;
- Act as project liaison with the governing building official; and
- Verify that all design disciplines involved in a project are working in coordination with one another and that any changes made to the design are approved by the corresponding discipline.

The Coordinating Professional requirement has been part of the Act since 1997. References to the Coordinating Professional are located in [N.R.S. §§81-3408, 81-3437.02](#), and [Rule Section 6.3](#).

Identification

The Coordinating Professional must use the following language in conjunction with their individual seal for identification as the Coordinating Professional:

"I, (name of licensee), am the Coordinating Professional on the (name of project) project."

The Coordinating Professional applies his or her seal to the cover sheet of all documents in accordance with the E&A Act and denotes the seal as that of the Coordinating Professional.



I, Jane Doe, am the
Coordinating
Professional on the
(name of project)

Issue #3: Information Required on Technical Submissions

The third compliance issue concerns licensees failing to include certain information on

technical submissions.

New rules requiring this information was adopted on October 8, 2022. Prior to that, the Board held a public hearing on the proposed rules and received no negative feedback.

The rule requires licensees to provide identifying information, such as their name and the project location, on technical documents that constitute the practice of architecture or engineering. The Board's position is that this information helps the general public, building officials, state agencies, and other entities identify the individuals and organizations that prepared the work.

Technical submissions that constitute the practice of architecture or engineering must include **both**:

- **the project name** and
- **the project address or location**

If the work **is not** being performed through an organization, technical submissions must also include, in addition to the project name and address/location:

- **the licensee's name**, and
- **the licensee's contact information**

If the work **is** being performed through an organization(s), technical submissions must include, in addition to the project name and address/location, the organization(s):

- **legal name or DBA**
- **contact information**, and
- **Certificate of Authorization number(s)**

This information **is required** on each drawing, **and** the cover page and/or first page of specifications, reports, studies, and other documents.

Seal/Information Requirements for Technical Submissions

Below is an overview of the information required by state law on technical submissions:

Seal/Info Type	Reference	Drawings	Specifications, Reports, Studies, Other Documents
Seal of licensee(s) who prepared the work	N.R.S. 81-3437.01 Rule 6.1.4	Each sheet	Cover/first page and last
Coordinating Professional seal/designation (if applicable)	N.R.S. 81-3437.02	Cover sheet	Cover sheet
Project name and address/location [required on all projects]	Rule 6.5.1	Each sheet	Cover/first page
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensee information for work not done through an organization(s) OR 	Rule 6.5.2	Each sheet	Cover/first page
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization(s) information for work done through an organization(s), including the Coordinating Professional's organization, if applicable 	N.R.S. 81-3437.02 Rule 6.5.3	Each sheet, except cover sheet only for Coordinating Professional	Cover/first page

Architect James Brisnehan Appointed to the Board



The Board welcomes James R. Brisnehan, AIA, of Grand Island, Nebraska, as the newest member of the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects. Brisnehan is a licensed architect and Principal at CMBA Architects. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies and a Master of Architecture from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

With over 30 years of architectural experience, Brisnehan has led a wide range of projects and currently serves as Chief Operating Officer at CMBA Architects. He is an active member of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), the American Institute of Architects (AIA), and the National Society of Healthcare Engineers (NSHE).

Brisnehan is also a member of the Grand Island Community Redevelopment Association, Grand Island Rotary, serves on the Board of Directors for College Park and St. Leo's Catholic Church, and volunteers with Central Nebraska Big Brothers Big Sisters.

"It's an honor to help establish and uphold the standards for education, experience, and

examination while advancing the practice of architecture across our great state,” Brisnehan said. “I’m excited to collaborate with my fellow Board members during my term.”

Board Welcomes New Compliance Assistant

The Board welcomes new Compliance Assistant Lilliana Irvine, who joined the Board staff in August. Lilliana is originally from Nebraska but moved to Chicago, where she graduated from Loyola University Chicago with a bachelor's degree in psychology.

Lilliana will work closely with the Board’s Compliance Officer on compliance-related issues and tasks to ensure compliance with the E&A Act.

NBEA Lunch and Learn Webinar Series



The graphic is a blue and yellow promotional banner for the NBEA Lunch and Learn Webinar Series. It features the title 'NBEA Lunch and Learn Webinar Series' in yellow and white text. Below the title, it says 'Join us for a FREE live and interactive webinar regarding professional practice and ethics!' in white. A yellow circle contains the text 'Click Here To Register!'. To the right, there are three bullet points: 'September 25, 2024', '12 pm (Central)', and 'WebEx'. On the right side of the graphic, there are three small images: the top one shows two people in hard hats looking at a gear, the middle one shows a person looking at a document, and the bottom one shows two people in hard hats talking.

The Board will host its next installment in its Lunch and Learn Webinar Series on Wednesday, September 25th, at noon Central time. This webinar will discuss professional practice and ethics.

After the presentation, this webinar will be available on the [Board's YouTube channel](#). It is

important to note that participants **will not receive credit for viewing the recorded webinar**.

Please note the webinar is limited to 1,000 participants. If you register and are unable to attend due to the participant limit being reached, this webinar will be held again on Wednesday, October 9th, at noon Central time. A link for this webinar will be available at a later date.

If you have questions about these topics, you may submit them before the webinar, and we can address them during the webinar! Please submit questions to nbea.marketing@nebraska.gov. To register, please click [here](#).

NCEES Exam Development Volunteers

Every year, hundreds of licensed engineers and surveyors—some of the best and brightest in their fields—come to NCEES headquarters to help write and evaluate exam questions. For many, it is a great chance to strengthen their profession while meeting colleagues from various professional backgrounds and earning professional development hours.

If you are interested in volunteering with NCEES, please click [here](#).

Licensure Updates

NEWLY-LICENSED ARCHITECTS

Angel F. Coleman
Scott M. Stovall

Lincoln, NE
Lincoln, NE

NEWLY-LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Agricultural and Biological

Braden D. Mishler

Phillips, NE

Chemical

Dillon R. Gushard

Lincoln, NE

Civil

Colin R. Anthony
Ryan J. Bell
Nathalie J. Ford
William J. Kallhoff
Justin L. Kershaw
Colton J. Knust
Derek J. Meyer

Omaha, NE
La Vista, NE
Omaha, NE
Lincoln, NE
Omaha, NE
Lincoln, NE
Omaha, NE

Electrical and Computer

Mitchell T. Marean

Omaha, NE

Environmental

William F. Calderon

Omaha, NE

Mechanical

Austin P. Anderson

Omaha, NE

Recently Resolved Compliance Cases

24.18 – Audit Failure

Summary: A complaint was initiated alleging that **Rudolph Bennor III** (E-13934) provided false information regarding completing continuing education requirements.

Board Rule 9.1 requires every professional engineer to meet the continuing education requirements as a condition for license renewal.

Action: The Board found that Bennor failed to meet continuing education requirements during the 2022-2023 renewal period. The Board proposed a settlement agreement in which Bennor agreed to the disciplinary action, which imposed a \$500 civil penalty and \$126.55 in investigative costs to be paid within thirty (30) days. The Board accepted and executed the settlement agreement at the September 13, 2024 meeting.

24.24 – Audit Failure

Summary: A complaint was initiated alleging that **Hans Iwand** (E-6926) provided false information regarding completing continuing education requirements. Board Rule 9.1 requires every professional engineer to meet the continuing education requirements as a condition for license renewal.

Action: The Board found that Iwand failed to meet continuing education requirements during the 2022-2023 renewal period. The Board proposed a settlement agreement in which Iwand agreed to the disciplinary action, which imposed a \$500 civil penalty and \$79.67 in investigative costs to be paid within thirty (30) days. The Board accepted and executed the settlement agreement at the September 13, 2024 meeting.

For further information regarding the enforcement process, please click [here](#).

For a full list of disciplinary actions taken by the Board, please click [here](#).

The Nebraska Professional Archive

[The Nebraska Professional #44](#)

[The Nebraska Professional #43](#)

Please click [here](#) for past issues.

If you have questions about topics in this blog post, previous issues, or other topics that would be helpful to publish in our next release, please [contact us](#).

**State of Nebraska Board of Engineers
and Architects**

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