

President's Message



President's message, December 2009

This year brought many changes to the profession of architecture, and there is not a firm or practitioner in North Carolina whose life has not been altered by the economic events of 2009. We have all seen collegial ties shattered as architects lost staff in anticipation of – or as a result of - lost revenue. Some firms postponed the hard decisions at their financial peril, while others reduced salaries and hours in an attempt to hold valuable teams together. I can say that your Board of Architecture recognizes the difficulties experienced by the profession, and regularly discussed the impact of the Great Recession upon architects throughout 2009.

This year, as the economy tightened, we saw an increase in complaints regarding financial mismanagement by architects. Some complaints came from clients who felt underserved; others came from consultants who felt underpaid. Either allegation, when supported by facts, undermines the deeply-seated and hard-won trust placed in architects by the public. In guarding the integrity of the architect

from those practitioners who damage it, we protect the public's interest in this vital segment of society.

In one particularly protracted case, an architect failed to pay his consultants for many months after he received payment from his client for the work. The architect was using the engineer's fees to finance the architect's firm. This practice is in violation of rules 83A-15(a)(2), 83A-15(a)(3), and 21 NCAC2.0210 which govern incompetence and unprofessional conduct. The architect was reprimanded, fined, and ordered to make restitution.

In another case, a former licensee was accused of embezzlement of funds from his Rotary Club, and in fact had failed to pay his employee's withholding tax for several years. The Board, through a formal hearing, revoked his license to practice architecture.

I highlight these cases because they are the first ones I can recall in which financial management, not design or construction flaws, became an issue. In its disposition of these cases, the Board has clearly included an architect's financial practices within its purview. Even in dire

economic times, the public deserves no less a standard of care from its architects and its Board of Architecture.

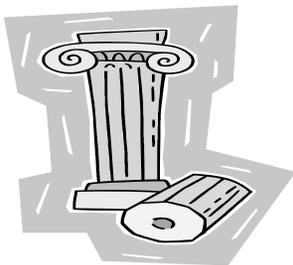
I will close this very difficult year with the opening words of Charles Dickens' A Tale of Two Cities:

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to heaven, we were all going direct the other way - in short, the period was so far like the present period..."

I challenge each of us to reverse Dickens' phrases as we abandon 2009 for 2010. If 2009 was the worst of times, let 2010 be the best of times, a season of light, a spring of hope.

Best wishes for the Holiday Season, and for a better year ahead, from your Board of Architecture.

Sincerely,
Charles H. Boney, Jr. AIA
Chairman 2009-2010



from the executive director's desk



As you should know, the North Carolina Board of Architecture rules require that architects obtain twelve contact hours of health, safety and welfare continuing education each calendar year.

In order to renew your license for 2010-2011 you must obtain those twelve hours by December 31, 2009. Be sure to check your records to determine if you have obtained the required hours....there are only a few more days left in this calendar year.

TAKE NOTE - Firm renewal for 2010 is due on or before December

31, 2009. If you have not yet done so, please take a minute to download the form from the forms section at www.ncbarch.org and return it to the Board office ASAP.

As 2009 comes to a close, I would like to take this time to wish you a very Happy New Year. It is a pleasure for the Board staff to serve you. On behalf of Julie Piatek and Tyler Barrick, we wish you a joyous holiday.

Sincerely,

Cathe M. Evans
Executive Director
cathe@ncbarch.org

North Carolina Board of Architecture License Statistics As of December 21, 2009

Active Individual licenses (exp 6/30/10): **5643**

Breakdown:

NC - 2349

Out-of-State – 3294

Active firm licenses: **1530**

Breakdown:

NC –383

Out-of-State - 2677

Candidates Eligible to take the ARE - **410**

(Note that not all candidates are actively taking the exam.)

NCARB news

NCARB Board of Directors Approves Changes to the NCARB Education Standard

Effective 1 January 2010

Washington, DC—The National Council of Architectural Registration Board's (NCARB) Board of Directors voted to approve changes to the *NCARB Education Standard*. The *NCARB Education Standard* was developed to approximate a degree program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB). It outlines the requirements that applicants who do not hold a degree from a NAAB- or CACB-accredited program are required to satisfy as an alternative to the education requirement for NCARB certification.

The approved changes will go into effect on 1 January 2010. The changes are:

Revision of General Education requirements from 40 to 45 semester credit hours

Revision of the *NCARB Education Standard's* General Education Requirement from 40 to 45 semester credit hours was necessary to make it consistent with the current requirements for professional degree programs. Adjustment of the corresponding General Education subject area semester credit hour requirement in areas other than English from 37 to 42 and the balance of semester credit hours in Elective Subjects from 24 to 19 was necessary to maintain the total 160 semester credit hours.

Sustainability

The NAAB *Conditions for Accreditation* requires that graduates possess knowledge and skills defined by criterion of understanding and ability in sustainability as it applies to specific Student Performance Criteria. Revision of the definition of the requirements of several subject areas in the *NCARB Education Standard* was necessary to make it consistent with the current requirements for professional degree programs. Issues of sustainability were incorporated into the subject area of Environment in the History, Human Behavior, and Environment Requirement; the subject area of Environmental Control Systems in the Technical Systems Requirement; and Level IV of the Design Requirement.

NCARB news/continued.

Training Units Become Training Hours in January 2010

Submitting your IDP experience is about to get easier. In January, experience reports will go from being reported in training units to training hours. Below are frequently asked questions about the upcoming change.

Why are training units becoming training hours?

The switch to training hours is part of the second phase of IDP 2.0. One hour of acceptable work experience will equal one training hour. This should make reporting experience easier and more accurate.

Experience reports can then have a direct correlation to timesheets interns fill out on a regular basis.

When are training units becoming training hours?

All aspects of IDP 2.0 are effective 1 January 2010; however, due to the holiday weekend, you will not see these changes in the e-EVR until **4 January 2010. Please note: The e-EVR will be intermittently unavailable throughout the holiday weekend while changes are implemented.**

How many training hours equal a training unit?

Eight training hours equal one training unit.

Is the IDP training requirement the same?

Overall, the IDP experience requirement will go from 700 training units to 5,600 training hours. The actual amount of experience required to complete the IDP remains the same.

When can I start entering training hours into the e-EVR?

Due to the holiday weekend, the e-EVR will be updated to reflect these

changes on 4 January 2010. **Please note: The e-EVR will be intermittently unavailable throughout the holiday weekend while changes are implemented. What happens to the training units I already reported?**

All training units currently entered in the e-EVR will be converted to training hours automatically. No experience will be lost.

What is the smallest denomination of training hours I can enter in to the e-EVR?

The lowest denomination of training hours the e-EVR will accept is .25 hours. The e-EVR will convert all fractions of previously entered training units. No experience will be lost.

What if my jurisdiction still requires training units?

Some jurisdictional laws and regulations may still reference training units after January 1. Although the e-EVR will be in training hours from the intern and supervisor's perspective, some of NCARB's "behind-the-scenes" systems will continue to reflect training units, and your jurisdiction will still be corresponding with NCARB in terms of training units.

To avoid confusion, please be aware if you are referencing training hours or training units when corresponding with NCARB or your jurisdiction.

What happens if an experience report is submitted in training units after the e-EVR has been switched to training hours?

If an intern realizes the mistake before it has been approved by a supervisor, the supervisor can select "return for edits" in the e-EVR and the intern may change the report to reflect training hours. If the supervisor has already approved the

report, the intern should contact NCARB Customer Service at 202/879-0520 or [here](#).

How will supplementary education be affected by the switch from training units to training hours?

Previously entered supplementary education will be converted in the e-EVR the same way as all other experience—one training unit will equal eight training hours. All supplementary education except AIA learning units will maintain this conversion after the switch to hours.

For example:

NCARB *Professional Conduct* Monograph: 16 training hours (2 training units)

LEED AP: 40 training hours (5 training units)

Post-Professional Degree: 936 training hours (117 training units)

As of 1 January 2010, one AIA learning unit (LU) will equal one IDP training hour. Credits for AIA learning units are based on the day the credit is earned.

For learning units earned on or after 1 January 2010:

1.5 AIA learning units (LUs) will equal 1.5 IDP training hours

2 AIA LUs will equal 2 IDP training hours

Will the IDP Workbook be available?

Yes, the IDP Workbook will still be available and will reflect this change.

Will the IDP Guidelines be updated to reflect this change?

Yes. We anticipate the updated *IDP Guidelines* to be available before the end of the year.

enforcement report

Following is the Enforcement Report for the period August 2009 through November 2009. The Board is not bound by precedence in matters of disciplinary action. It is the prerogative of the Board to be conservative in its review of cases and to enforce the rules and laws with sanctions and civil penalties as allowed by law. You may request a copy of the entire order by sending an email to cathe@ncbarch.org be sure to include the case number with your request.

CEASE AND DESIST

A cease and desist order was issued to the following company for non-licensed practice of architecture:

Case 819 Vandewalle & Associates, Inc.

Consented to:
Scott Harrington
Dean Proctor

Letters of Caution

The Board closed one case with a letter of caution issued to an architect licensed in North Carolina..

Dismissed/Unfounded

The Board of architecture dismissed three cases as unfounded.

Consent Orders

Case 847 Alan Resnick

THIS CAUSE, coming before the Board at its offices at Board Offices in Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to NCGS 150B-41 and 150B-22, the Board and Respondent stipulate the following Findings:

Respondent is licensed as architect by the Board for the year.

Upon submitting a renewal for the 2009-2010 license year, Respondent indicated that he did not comply with Board Rule 21 NCAC 02.0900 Continuing Education for the calendar year 2008.

Respondent's license registration for the year 2009-2010 has been renewed conditionally.

Respondent did not claim an exemption from North Carolina's continuing education requirements.

Respondent previously entered in to a Consent Order with the Board of Architecture admitting failure to comply with Rules and Laws governing Continuing Education in the State of North Carolina. The probationary period ended on December 31, 2008.

Respondent wishes to resolve this matter by consent and agrees that the Board staff and legal counsel may discuss this Order with the Board ex parte, whether or not the Board accepts this Order as written.

BASED upon the foregoing, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

Respondent is subject to the provisions of Chapter 83A of the North Carolina General Statutes (NCGS) and Title 21,

Chapter 2 of the North Carolina Administrative Code (NCAC), including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.

Respondent's conduct as set out above constitutes a violation of NCGS Chapter 83A and 21 NCAC 02.0209 (11), 21 NCAC 02.0903 (a),(b) & (d).

Based upon the Findings and Conclusions of Law set out above, and in lieu of further disciplinary proceedings the Board and Respondent agree to the following Order:

Respondent shall complete thirty-six hours of Continuing Education in the areas of health, safety and welfare by December 31, 2009. As part of the thirty-six hours, Respondent must complete the National Council of Architecture Registration Boards continuing education monograph entitled Professional Conduct.

Respondent shall pay a Civil Penalty in the amount of \$2000.00

Respondent is reprimanded.

Respondent's license shall be place on probation for five years, during which time the Respondent's failure to timely comply with all applicable architecture laws and rules shall result in a suspension of his license in addition to any additional discipline imposed with regard to the latter offense or offenses.

Respondent shall reimburse the Board for administrative costs.

Case 719

Millennium 3 Design Group, Inc.

Consented to: Anthony Hunt
Timothy Mc Mullin

Mr. Hunt and Mr. Mc Mullin each signed separate consent orders in this matter. Due to the extreme length of each consent order, a link to the documents is found on the Board web site at: <http://ncbarch.org/newslett.asp>



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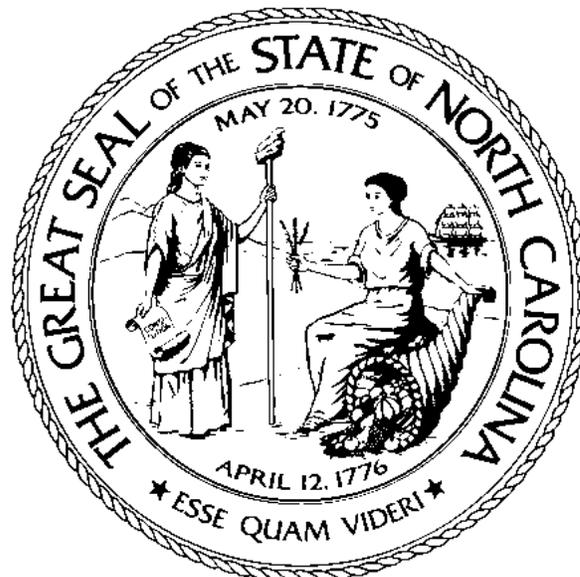
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