



# Columns

*The Newsletter of the Board of Architecture and  
Registered Interior Designers  
January 2025*

## President's Message



*Cathy Morrison, Board  
President 2024-2025*

Happy New Year!

As we step into 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on the collaborative work that helps ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the people of North Carolina. Our Board continues its dedication to maintaining the highest standards of professional

practice and fostering strong partnerships throughout the design and construction community.

I'd like to bring to your attention an important update regarding building codes in our state. North Carolina General Assembly Session Law 2024-57 (S382) became law on December 11, 2024. Under Section 1F.3 of this new legislation, the effective date of the **2024 North Carolina State Building Code has been delayed to July 1, 2025**. As a result, the 2018 North Carolina State Building Code will remain effective through June 30, 2025.

The North Carolina Board of Architecture and Registered Interior Designers works closely with building code officials across the state to ensure that our shared commitment to public health, safety, and welfare is upheld.

I encourage you to review a statement from David Bruce Rittlinger, PE, Division Chief – Codes & Interpretations, North Carolina Office of the State Fire Marshal, for further insights into this update.  
*North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal –  
Engineering and Building Codes Division Statement*

### Board Members

Cathy Morrison	President/Architect
Roula Qubain	Vice President/Architect
Emmy Williams	Treasurer/Registered Interior Designer
Timothy Hillhouse	Secretary/Architect
Cora Cole-McFadden	Public Member
Fred Dodson	Public Member
Ilesha Patel	Registered Interior Designer
Elizabeth Pyle	Registered Interior Designer
Walt R. Teague	Architect
Walter Sawyer	Architect

### Board Staff

Cathe M. Evans	Executive Director
Julie L. Piatek	Director of Administration
Tyler Barrick	Firm/CE Compliance Director

### Upcoming Meeting Dates

May 9, 2024 – Charlotte, NC  
July 11, 2025 – Raleigh, NC

### Board Office Location

434 Fayetteville St  
Suite 2005  
Raleigh, NC 27601  
984-328-1161

[ncba@ncbarch.org](mailto:ncba@ncbarch.org)   [www.ncbarch.org](http://www.ncbarch.org)  
All Board meetings are open to the public.

Thank you for your dedication and continued efforts in our shared mission. Together, we will make 2025 a successful and impactful year.

For the Board of Architecture and Registered Interior Designers,  
*Cathy Morrison, AIA*



## Executive Director's Message

The Dog Ate My Renewal and Other Tales of Woe. Otherwise known as.... I didn't get the Email and Other Fish Tales.

Renewing your license and registration is part of your professional responsibility.

*This article was adapted and reprinted with the permission of Betty Rose former Executive Director of the KS State Board of Technical professions.*

The NC Board of Architecture & Registered Interior Designers requires its licensees and registrants to renew every year. Renewals are due by June 30<sup>th</sup> each year. We email renewal to individuals in mid-May each year as a reminder that it is time to renew your professional license or registration. The notice is sent to the last known email address on file. Additionally, as a courtesy, we send a second, third and final notice throughout the year. NOT to mention... for NC residents the NC AIA also sends a reminder note as a COURTESY to its members. Because the licensing and registration of professionals has implications that reach further than our state borders, we take this requirement very seriously. The Board staff has heard just about every imaginable excuse and even some unimaginable ones for not renewing a license or registration in a timely manner. Here are some of our favorites:

### **I paid my AIA dues and thought that covered my license.**

The NC Board of Architecture and the AIA are two completely different entities. The AIA DOES NOT ISSUE A LICENSE to practice architecture.

The Board understands that professionals have a great deal of work to do, and something clerical such as mailing in a renewal may seem unimportant when in fact, it is not. Renewing your license in a timely manner is the single most important thing you will do each year. Without a license, you are not an Architect in the eyes of the law and may not practice architecture as defined by NCGS 83A. Without a registration you are not a Registered Interior Designer you may not offer services as one. Without a license or registration, you may have no livelihood. Failing to renew your license or registration and continuing to architecture in this State will result in disciplinary action.

### **I got the notice, but I didn't read it. / I got the notice, but I am too busy to read it. /I got the notice, but I am too important to read it (yes, someone actually said that to us).**

You are a professional. You are responsible for maintaining your license or registration.

**My ex-husband/ex-wife/mother/father didn't forward my mail when I moved out. / My former employer didn't forward my mail to my new employer.**

We email the renewal notice to the email address on file in mid-May each year. If you change it, you must notify the Board office so we can update our records. 21 NCAC 02.0201 requires that you promptly notify us of any changes to your contact information. You can easily change your address directly on our web site at [www.ncbarch.org](http://www.ncbarch.org).

**I downloaded the form from the web site, I thought I could mail my check on the deadline, and it would be delivered on time. / I told the postman to be sure you received it.**

Make sure that you allow enough time for your snail mail to reach our office. No exceptions are made for checks received after the renewal deadline.

**I downloaded the renewal form but misplaced it. / My desk is messy, and I couldn't find it.**

There is no extension for filing; we must have your renewal by the date due or your license or registration will expire on June 30.

**My mother/accountant/spouse/secretary/clerk/partner...forgot to pay the bill.**

Renewing your professional license or registration is ***YOUR PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY***.

**I didn't have any projects in North Carolina, so I let my license or registration expire.**

If your license or registration expires, we will not continue to send you notice each year. After it expires, REGARDLESS of the reason, it will stay on 'delinquent' status for one year and you may renew with a late penalty fee. After one year is up the license or registration will be revoked for failure to renew. At that point you cannot renew; you must go through the reinstatement process. If you want to reinstate your license or registration, contact the board office for a reinstatement application or download one from the web site. Your application must then go before the Board for approval, and you must pay the reinstatement fee (currently \$260) before your license or registration is reinstated. Remember, you must be licensed or registered in North Carolina before you offer, render or compete for projects in the State. Doing so without a license or registration is a violation of the law.

Please don't hesitate to call the Board office if you have questions about license or registration renewal.

Sincerely,  
*Cathe M. Evans*  
Executive Director

**License and Registration Statistics as of January 13, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. Eastern**

Architect licenses expiring on June 30, 2025

7320

Break down:

NC - 2883  
Out of State - 4437

Architecture firm licenses expiring on December 31, 2025  
1944  
Break down:  
NC – 725  
Out of State - 1219

Interior Designer Registrations Expiring on June 30, 2025  
363  
Break down:  
NC -288  
Out of State - 75

Registered Interior Designer firms expiring on December 31, 2025  
72  
Break down:  
NC - 46  
Out of State – 26

## **Expired License and Registration Report**

Individual architect licenses that expired on June 30, 2024, can be found here.

Individual interior designer registrations that expired on June 30, 2024, can be found here.

Architecture Firm Licenses that expired on December 31, 2024, can be found here

Interior Design Firm Registrations that expired on December 31, 2024 can be found here.

**These lists are current as of January 13, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. Eastern.** If you renewed after that date you may check the status of your architecture firm or individual license by clicking here - [Architect Search – NC Board of Architecture \(ncbarch.org\)](#) or to check the status of your interior designer or interior designer firm by clicking here - [Registered Interior Designer Forms/Information – NC Board of Architecture \(ncbarch.org\)](#)

The staff for the Board of Architecture and Registered Interior Designers is dedicated to assisting you in keeping your license or registration active and in good standing. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions whatsoever. The Board office main number is 984-328-1161.

For Firm Licensure or Registration, Continuing Education – Tyler Barrick, Director of Firm/CE Compliance. [tyler@ncbarch.org](mailto:tyler@ncbarch.org)

For Individual Licensure or Registration or status and general information – Julie Piatek, Director of Administration. [juliap@ncbarch.org](mailto:juliap@ncbarch.org)

For official complaints, rules or laws or inquiries from Code Officials – Cathe Evans, Executive Director. [cathe@ncbarch.org](mailto:cathe@ncbarch.org)

## NCARB NEWS

### [NCARB Releases a New Competency Standard](#)

Developed with input from thousands of practicing architects, the *NCARB Competency Standard for Architects* establishes 16 knowledge areas, skills, abilities, and behaviors—called competencies—that describe the capabilities necessary at the point of initial licensure for an individual to protect the public’s health, safety, and welfare.

## CIDQ News

The CIDQ 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting took place on November 8-9, 2024 in Chicago, IL. North Carolina Board of Architecture and Registered Interior Designers, Emmy Williams, Elizabeth Pyle and Ilesha Patel, shown here, attended the meeting. During the meeting, state and provincial regulatory board staff, their Delegates, representatives from interior design professional organizations, sister credentialing organizations, and many CIDQ past leaders will come together to discuss CIDQ, the NCIDQ Exam, and issues related to interior design regulation. Attendees will be able to learn key strategic initiatives for CIDQ, exchange ideas and tools, and collaborate with their peers.



## NCBA/RID Enforcement Report

The following Enforcement Report is for the period August 1, 2024 to January 10, 2025. 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](mailto:cathe@ncbarch.org) be sure to include the case number with your request. The Board of Architecture and Registered Interior Designers has jurisdiction pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §83A-15 and 21 NCAC 02 to receive and investigate complaints involving dishonest conduct, incompetence and unprofessional conduct and non-licensed practice. This Board does not have the statutory authority to discipline architects regarding complaints involving contract disagreements between a client and architect or allegations of ordinary negligence, nor can the Board mediate these situations. All civil penalties collected by the Board of Architecture and Registered Interior Designers are deposited with the Office of State Budget management where they are disbursed to school systems throughout the State.

The Board dismissed two cases with no action or as unfounded.

The Board dismissed one case without prejudice.

The Board issued one Letter of Caution to an architect.

The Board issued Consent Orders to the following individuals:

Case 1292 Marty Beal

Case 1297 Andrew Cherry

Case 1299 Elizabeth Lyon

Case 1300 Errol Warren

Case 1281 and Case 1295 Jonathan Wolk