Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners Complaint Review Committee Meeting Minutes April 16, 2021, 9:00 am Via Zoom

Present: Kevin J. Singh, Chair Ronald B. Blitch Richard J. LeBlanc Katherine E. Hillegas, Executive Director Tyson J. Ducote, Deputy Director Paul H. Spaht, Board Attorney

The meeting was called to order by Singh who reviewed the agenda.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed.

Motion #1: LeBlanc/Blitch: To approve the February 25, 2021, CRC minutes. Passed. 3-0.

Motion #2: Blitch/LeBlanc: To enter into Executive Session to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, <u>La. R.S. 42:17(A)(4)</u>. Passed. 3-0.

Discussion of the following matters:

- 2019-15 update
- 2019-18 update
- 2021-03 update
- 2021-04
- 2021-06
- 2021-02
- 2019-25
- 2020-06

Motion #3: Blitch/LeBlanc: To leave Executive Session. Passed. 3-0.

Lydia Rhodes joined the meeting.

Existing Matters:

<u>2019-18</u>

Ducote stated the proposed actions discussed during the Executive Session.

Motion #4: LeBlanc/Blitch: To monitor the case for the next six (6) months for any action by the Respondent. If, after that time, no evidence of the practice of architecture can be verified, close the case. **Passed. 3-0.**

Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners Complaint Review Committee Meeting Minutes April 16, 2021, 9:00 am Page 2

New Matters:

<u>2021-04</u>

Ducote presented a matter involving a possible violation of the Board's laws or rules concerning the expired practice of architecture in Louisiana and the proposed actions discussed during the Executive Session.

Motion #5: Blitch/LeBlanc: To propose a consent order to the Respondent with the following sanctions: a fine of \$4,500 and actual administrative costs; publication of any adopted consent order on the Board's website, publishing a summary of the matter in the Board's newsletter, and reporting the matter to NCARB, all identifying Respondent by name **Passed. 3-0.**

<u>2021-06</u>

Ducote presented a matter involving a possible violation of the Board's laws or rules concerning the expired practice of architecture in Louisiana and the proposed actions discussed during the Executive Session.

Motion #6: LeBlanc/Blitch: To propose a consent order to the Respondent with the following sanctions: a fine of \$1,500 and actual administrative costs; publication of any adopted consent order on the Board's website, publishing a summary of the matter in the Board's newsletter, and reporting the matter to NCARB, all identifying Respondent by name **Passed. 3-0.**

2021-02

Ducote presented a matter involving a possible violation of the Board's laws or rules concerning the expired practice of architecture in Louisiana and the proposed actions discussed during the Executive Session.

Motion #7: Blitch/LeBlanc: To propose a consent order to the Respondent with the following sanctions: a fine of \$4,000 and actual administrative costs; publication of any adopted consent order on the Board's website, publishing a summary of the matter in the Board's newsletter, and reporting the matter to NCARB, all identifying Respondent by name. **Passed. 3-0.**

The committee allowed Ms. Rhodes an opportunity to speak regarding case 2021-02.

<u>2019-25</u>

Ducote presented a matter involving a possible violation of the Board's laws or rules concerning the conviction of a crime or entering a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to any criminal charge an element of which is fraud, or which arises out of such individual's practice of architecture and the proposed actions discussed during the Executive Session.

Motion #8: Blitch/LeBlanc: To propose a consent order to the Respondent with the following sanctions: permanent revocation of their Louisiana architect license;

Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners Complaint Review Committee Meeting Minutes April 16, 2021, 9:00 am Page 3

publication of any adopted consent order on the Board's website, publishing a summary of the matter in the Board's newsletter, and reporting the matter to NCARB, all identifying Respondent by name **Passed. 3-0.**

2020-06

Ducote presented a matter involving a possible violation of the Board's laws or rules concerning an allegation of fraud related to the practice of architecture in Louisiana and the proposed actions discussed during the Executive Session.

Motion #9: LeBlanc/Blitch: To pause the investigation until the associated litigation has been concluded. Passed. 3-0.

Returned Consent Orders:

<u>2021-03</u> Ducote presented an executed Consent Order to the committee for acceptance.

Motion #10: Blitch/LeBlanc: To accept the executed Consent Order related to case 2021-03 and forward it to the full Board for consideration. **Passed. 3-0.**

There being no further business to address,

Motion #11: Blitch/LeBlanc: To adjourn the meeting. Passed. 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Singh, Chair