TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS

Board Meeting Agenda
TBAE Board Room
505 E. Huntland Drive, Suite 370
Austin, Texas
Thursday, November 19, 2026
10:00 a.m. – Conclusion

1. Preliminary Matters

- **a.** Call to order — Darren James
- **b.** Roll call — Justin Hiles
- **c.** Excused and unexcused absences — Darren James
- **d.** Determination of a quorum
- **e.** Recognition of guests
- **f.** Chair's opening remarks
- **g.** Public comments

2. Approval of August 20, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes *(Action)* — Darren James

3. Executive Director Report *(Information)* — Lance Brenton

- **a.** Summary of Executive Accomplishments
- **b.** FY2026 Annual Financial Report (AFR)
- **c.** Income Statement/Scholarship Fund: Presentation on FY2026 Expenditures and Revenues
- **d.** Income Statement/Scholarship Fund: Presentation on FY2027

4. Enforcement Cases *(Action)* — Samer Shobassy

Review and possibly adopt staff's recommendation in the following enforcement cases:

a. Registrant/Non-Registrant Cases:

Case No. 150-24N	Anlarr Design, LLC	Non-Registrant
Case No. 003-26N	Estrada, Efren	Non-Registrant
Case No. 074-23I	Hurst, Michele	R.I.D. No. 9897
Case Nos.102-23N 110-25N	Leung, Carson Ka-Shun	Non-Registrant
Case No. 161-24A	Perezanta, Jose Ignacio	Arch. No. 27220
Case No. 171-25A	Ragland, Frank Weir	Arch. No. 14769
Case No. 075-25N	Wilbois, Brandon Layne	Non-Registrant

SOAH Docket No. 459-26-13657

b. Continuing Education Cases:

Case No. 129-26A	Adams, Michael Clay	Arch. No. 19071
Case No. 131-26A	Black, Jack	Arch. No. 29734
Case No. 137-26L	Cooper, Charles	L.A. No. 3770
Case No. 136-26L	Dryden, Aileen	L.A. No. 2999
Case No. 128-26A	Epstein, Mark Steven	Arch. No. 29791
Case No. 150-26A	Fox, Will Howard	Arch. No. 29763
Case No. 126-26I	Franklin, Elizabeth Lynne	R.I.D. No. 12944

Case No. 149-26A	Hofnagle, Christine	Arch. No. 29199
Case No. 123-26A	Kustusch, Matthew	Arch. No. 30865
Case No. 151-26I	Luera, Megan Bailey	R.I.D. No. 13048
Case No. 159-26I	McHenry, Suzanne	R.I.D. No. 10945
Case No. 130-26A	Mouzoon, Kamran	Arch. No. 13684
Case No. 162-26A	Peterson, Daniel J.	Arch. No. 12707
Case No. 152-26A	Reimer, Paul Eric	Arch. No. 28221
Case No. 135-26A	Vansice, Kyle	Arch. No. 30734

The Board may meet in closed session pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code § 551.071(1) to confer with legal counsel.

5. **Update on NCARB's Pathways to Practice Initiative** *(Information)* — Lance Brenton

6. **Reports on Past Conferences/ Meetings, National Regulatory Boards, and Board Member/Staff Committee Service** *(Information)* — Darren James

Aug. 26-29	CLARB Annual Meeting
Oct. 7	Texas Tech Interior Design Program Presentation
Oct. 6	West Texas Design Expo
Oct. 9-10	2026 MBC/MBE Executives Leadership Summit
Oct. 15-17	TxA Annual Conference and Design Expo
Nov. 12-14	CIDQ Annual Meeting

7. **Report on Upcoming Conferences and Meetings** *(Information)* — Darren James

Feb. 25	MBE Workshop
Feb. 26-27	NCARB Regional Summit
April 21-23	2027 Texas ASLA Annual Conference
June 24-26	NCARB Annual Business Meeting

8. **Board Member Comments/Future Agenda Items** *(Information)* — Darren James

9. **Upcoming Board Meetings** *(Information)* — Darren James

Thursday, February 18, 2027
Thursday, June 3, 2027
Thursday, August 19, 2027
Thursday, November 18, 2027

10. **Adjournment** — Darren James

NOTE:

- *Items may not necessarily be considered in the order they appear on the agenda.*
- *The Chair of the Board will be present and preside over the meeting from the location identified in this agenda. The open portions of the meeting will be open to the public at that location. Note that some Board members may attend the meeting by videoconference call.*
- *Executive session for advice of counsel may be called regarding any agenda item under the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.*
- *Action may be taken on any agenda item.*

NOTICE OF ASSISTANCE AT PUBLIC MEETINGS

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who need auxiliary aid or services are required to call (512) 305-8548 at least five (5) workdays prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

FREQUENTLY USED ACRONYMS

ACSA	Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AIA	American Institute of Architects
AREFAF	Architect Registration Examination Financial Assistance Fund (Scholarship)
ASID	American Society of Interior Designers
ASLA	American Society of Landscape Architects
ARE	Architect Registration Examination
AXP	Architectural Experience Program
BOAT	Building Officials Association of Texas
CACB	Canadian Architectural Certification Board
CIDA	Council for Interior Design Accreditation (Formerly FIDER)
CIDQ	Council for Interior Design Qualification
CLARB	Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards
GAA	General Appropriations Act
GRF	General Revenue Fund
IDCEC	International Design Continuing Education Council
IDEC	Interior Design Educators Council
IIDA	International Interior Design Association
LARE	Landscape Architect Registration Examination
MBE	Member Board Executive (within NCARB)
NAAB	National Architectural Accrediting Board
NCARB	National Council of Architectural Registration Boards
NCEES	National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying
OAG	Office of the Attorney General
SOAH	State Office of Administrative Hearings
SORM	State Office of Risk Management
TAID	Texas Association for Interior Design
TAS	Texas Accessibility Standards
TASB	Texas Association of School Boards
TBPELS	Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
TxA	Texas Society of Architects
TSPE	Texas Society of Professional Engineers

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
Minutes of August 20, 2026, Board Meeting
Centennial Building, 505 E. Huntland Dr., Ste. 370
Austin, TX 78752
10:00 a.m. until completion of business

AGENDA ITEMS	**DESCRIPTIONS**
1a. Call to Order	Mr. James called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
1b. Roll Call *Denotes attendance by video conference.	Mr. Hiles called the roll. <u>Present Board Members</u> Darren L. James — Chair, Architect Jennifer Walker — Vice-Chair, Architect Justin S. Hiles — Secretary/Treasurer, Architect Rosa G. Salazar* — Registered Interior Designer Joyce J. Smith — Public Member Tim A. Bargainer — Landscape Architect Eva M. Read-Warden — Architect Michael A. Ebbeler, Jr. — Public Member
1c. Excused and Unexcused Absences	None.
1d. Determination of a Quorum	Mr. James determined a quorum was present.
1e. Recognition of Guests *Denotes attendance by video conference.	Mr. James acknowledged the following guests and TBAE staff in attendance. Becky Walker — Texas Society of Architects Jared Zurn* — NCARB Sabrina Jones — TBAE Human Resources Jennifer Hogan — TBAE Accounting Nelly Clayton — TBAE Accounting Julio Martinez — TBAE Information Security Officer Glenn Garry — TBAE Communications Manager Jessica Ramirez — TBAE Executive Assistant Dale Dornfeld — TBAE IT Manager Mike Alvarado — TBAE Registration Manager Steve Ramirez — TBAE Enforcement Manager Siobhan Kennon — TBAE Legal Assistant Andrew VanDyke — TBAE Assistant General Counsel Sam Shobassy — TBAE General Counsel Lance Brenton — TBAE Executive Director
1f. Chair's Opening Remarks	Mr. James welcomed attendees to the August Board Meeting and remarked that there has been a lot of activity with all of the national organizations and around the state. He said Mr. Brenton would be

	providing an update on these and other matters. Mr. James expressed his appreciation for the Board members' continued service to support the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Texas.
1g. Public Comments	Mr. James asked for public comments. No public comments were offered.
2. Approval of May 21, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes	A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Read-Warden/Smith) TO APPROVE THE MAY 21, 2026, BOARD MEETING MINUTES. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
3. NCARB Pathways to Practice Initiative Update and Board Discussion	Mr. James directed the Board to a handout on the NCARB Pathways to Practice initiative and updated the Board on the current status of this matter. Mr. James summarized the updates that NCARB provided during the Annual Meeting. Mr. Brenton introduced Jared Zurn, NCARB's expert on the Pathways to Practice Initiative, who provided the Board with an overview of the initiative. Mr. Zurn addressed a number of topics, including the history of this initiative; the emphasis on competencies of practice; the reason for the changes; how competencies will be assessed; the expected impact on education, experience, and examination; and the contemplated adoption process. Ms. Read-Warden asked how NCARB would support the Texas Board if legislative changes were necessary to implement the initiative. Mr. Zurn stated that NCARB would look at each jurisdiction individually, with the goal to propose the least amount of statutory change as possible. Mr. Hiles noted that other professions have implemented competency-based models and asked what NCAB has learned from those examples. Mr. Zurn noted that the medical professions have led the way in this area. He said these professions have developed a concept called entrustable professional activity, which includes a layering in of professional growth toward a place where a professional can be trusted to undertake a task in a truly independent way. He said that the experience, education, and examination committees would be spending this year developing rubrics that are based in part on what has been learned from other professions. Ms. Read-Warden asked about NCARB's timeline for outreach to Texas professional societies and advocacy groups, emphasizing their importance to the effort.

	Mr. Zurn stated that NCARB had just finished a series of townhall events to get feedback from stakeholders, which will now be brought to the NCARB Board of Directors meeting in September, followed by an update at the Member Board Chairs and Executive Summit in October. Following the October summit, NCARB plans to begin outreach to selected local jurisdictions. Mr. James thanked Mr. Zurn for his presentation and asked the Board for their feedback regarding the information that was passed out.
4. Executive Director Report **4a. Summary of Executive Accomplishments**	Mr. James invited Mr. Brenton to deliver the Executive Director Report. <u>Staff Accomplishments</u> Mr. Brenton discussed the summary of Staff Accomplishments that begin on page 22 of the Board materials and referred the Board to those materials as a supplement to his verbal presentation. Mr. Brenton highlighted the following topics: 1. *Staffing Activities* • Mr. Brenton noted the agency has a new General Counsel, Mr. Sam Shobassy, and highlighted Mr. Shobassy's experience. • Mr. Brenton invited Mr. Shobassy to introduce himself to the Board. Mr. Shobassy shared that he has more than 20 years of legal experience in both the public and private sectors. He expressed enthusiasm for working with the agency; protecting the health, safety, and quality of the built environment; and serving as a resource to Board members and staff. He thanked the Board and staff for a very warm welcome. • Mr. Brenton noted the upcoming retirement of Jennifer Hogan and discussed the agency's plan for hiring and training a successor. Mr. Brenton noted Ms. Hogan's generosity in agreeing to stay on for another two months so that she could help train her successor on the preparation of the agency's annual financial report. Mr. Brenton also announced that Ms. Clayton will transition into a managerial role in the Finance department. • Mr. Brenton provided an overview of other staff highlights, including the completion of performance evaluations at the end of July and upcoming goal-development for FY27. 2. *Outreach:*

- Mr. Brenton reported that seven outreach presentations are scheduled for the fall. He noted that, following last year's efforts to expand the pool of presenters, the plan for FY27 is to leverage this additional staff capacity to reduce the burden on managers and promote a more equitable distribution of presentations.
- Mr. Brenton presented the final FY26 public outreach program figures, noting that although the agency did not surpass the record number of in-person impressions achieved in FY25, the agency still generated more than double the number of impressions recorded in any year from 2020 through 2024. Mr. Brenton thanked Steve Ramirez, Mike Alvarado, and Glenn Garry, and all other staff who participate in the outreach program.

<u>Agency Trends</u>

Mr. Brenton addressed the trends in registration as described on page 24 of the Board materials and referred to those materials as a supplement to his presentation.

In particular Mr. Brenton provided updated data on the registration trends, reporting 977 new registrants this year and a net increase of 274 active registrants across the professions compared to the previous year, representing overall growth of 1.3%. Active architect registrations increased by 1.6%, while registered interior designer (RID) registration decreased by 1%. Active landscape architect registrations grew by 3.6%, reaching 1,994 at the end of the month. Based on average of approximately six additional registrations per month, the agency anticipates reaching 2,000 active landscape architect registrants by year-end.

Mr. Alvarado noted that landscape architect registrations have been trending upward in recent years, with most registration coming through reciprocity.

Mr. Hiles asked whether registration trends among resident and nonresident registrants are consistent with the overall growth trends.

Mr. Brenton responded that staff would provide a report comparing registration data across other states. He noted that over the past two years, Texas, California, New York, Tennessee, and Florida have shown a slight increase in the proportion of out-of-state registrants relative to in-state registrants. He said this reflects a broader pattern of professionals obtaining and maintaining registrations in multiple states.

	Both Ms. Warden and Ms. Salazar observed that registration among interior designers is declining. Ms. Salazar asked whether similar trends exist across other professions. She expressed interest in understanding the factors contributing to the trend and asked whether any data or studies were available, inviting Board members to share observations from their respective professions. Ms. Read-Warden responded that she did not believe the same trend applied to architecture. She suggested that the decline in interior designer registrations may be related to the fact that registration is not required to practice interior design in Texas. Mr. James noted that licensure is not required to practice interior design in some other states. Mr. Brenton offered to review historical application data across the three professions to identify trends and potential contributing factors and present his findings at the next Board meeting. Mr. Brenton also noted that CIDQ now shares data with the Board that allows us to identify recently successful examinees located in Texas. We contact those individuals and inform them of their eligibility to become registered in Texas. Mr. Brenton and Mr. Alvarado further explained that the interior design application process differs from those of other professions, as applicants must first apply through CIDQ and pass the required examination before submitting an application to the agency for licensure. This makes it difficult to compare current numbers with past application trends, because RID applicants used to apply to the Board first and then complete the exam. <u>Enforcement Trends</u> Mr. Brenton addressed enforcement trends and directed the Board to page 25 of the board materials as a supplement to his verbal presentation. Mr. Brenton reported that, in the current fiscal year, 149 cases were opened and 193 cases were referred to Legal or dismissed. This continues an 18-month trend of Enforcement resolving cases faster than new cases are opened. Mr. Brenton commended the team for its strong performance. Mr. James expressed appreciation for staff's efforts in managing enforcement cases and handling the workload on behalf of the Board. Mr. Brenton reported that the approval of the 14 cases presented to the Board today would bring the fiscal year totals to 55 disciplinary actions, 40 Warnings, and 5 Voluntary Surrenders for 100 final resolutions. This exceeds FY25's total of 78. He expressed satisfaction with the year-over-

	year improvement and hopes to further align Enforcement's resolution numbers with Legal's output. Mr. Brenton directed the Board to the bottom of page 25 and reported great scores for the most recent customer service and employee engagement surveys. Ms. Read-Warden commended the increase in outreach opportunities and asked about potential limitations to further growth based on available resources. Mr. Brenton stated that maintaining the current level of outreach presentations would be a significant success, noting that opportunities could be shared among staff while ensuring core responsibilities remain a priority. Mr. Ramirez noted the success staff has had in meeting Mr. Brenton's request to focus on outreach to building officials. Over the past few years, they have pushed hard to meet with as many building officials as possible, especially in major cities. Mr. Ramirez and Mr. Brenton said that staff could now rely on periodic visits to any given building department every few years to maintain established relationships with staff. Mr. Ramirez noted ongoing efforts to strengthen outreach relations in areas such as El Paso, where responsiveness from schools and local contacts has been inconsistent. Mr. Alvarado discussed efforts with university architecture programs, noting that engagement varies by school. Rice, UT Arlington, and Texas A&M have begun reengaging, while other schools have been slower to respond. Mr. Hiles asked about attending the Building Officials' annual conference to host a booth or give presentations. Mr. Brenton noted that the agency typically attends the Building Officials Association of Texas (BOAT) conference but did not this year. Mr. Ramirez added that the agency participates in regional ICC chapter meetings, reaching approximately 70 municipalities at the Alamo Chapter meeting in 2025, with plans to attend the North Texas ICC Chapter meeting in November.
4b. Income Statement/ Scholarship Fund: Update on FY 2026 Expenditures and Revenues	Mr. Brenton directed the Board to FY26 Income Statements, noting that the Income Statement on page 26 is through the third quarter (ending May 31, 2026), while the Income Statement on page 28 is through July 31, 2026.

	Mr. Brenton provided an update of the current scholarship numbers that are found on page 29 of the Board materials. He noted Mr. James's previous request for historical data on scholarship awards. Mr. Brenton provided that data to the Board, which demonstrates a turning point in 2021 following efforts by the Board and former Executive Director Ms. Hildebrand to increase awareness of scholarship opportunities. Mr. Brenton commended the registration and presentation teams, accountants, and others involved for contributing to a successful year in issuing scholarships. Ms. Smith asked whether the monetary amount awarded for scholarships has increased. Mr. Brenton explained that scholarship amounts are set by statue and cannot be changed. Ms. Salazar asked whether applicants may receive a scholarship more than once. Mr. Brenton responded that applicants may receive a scholarship only once, as established by statue. Ms. Read-Warden asked whether applicants taking the ARE, which contains five tests, could receive a scholarship for only one test. Mr. Brenton explained that applicants may apply for scholarships after passing the number of exams that exceed $500 in cost, which is currently two exams.
4c. TBAE Review by the Regulatory Efficiency Office (TREO)	Mr. Brenton updated the Board on staff's activities in responding to the ongoing review by the Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office (TREO), which was established during the last legislative session within the Governor's Office. Mr. Brenton discussed the purpose of TREO and its goals, the timeline that TBAE has been operating under, and an upcoming meeting with TREO staff. Mr. Brenton noted that staff's initial response to TREO included potential rule changes that would reduce the size of the TBAE rulebook by about 6%. He said reducing word count and making rules easier to read and understand is an emphasis for TREO. Mr. Hiles asked whether our agency is being treated differently since we are an SDSI agency. Mr. Brenton said he has no reason to believe that our agency is being treated differently. Mr. James called a recess at 11:16 am.
5. FY27 Proposed Operating Budget	The Board reconvened at 11:21 am. Mr. James invited Mr. Brenton to present the FY27 Operating budget. Mr. Brenton directed the Board to the FY27 Proposed Operating Budget on page 32 of the Board materials and referred the Board to those materials as a supplement to his verbal presentation.

	Mr. Brenton reported that FY26 revenues are expected to exceed initial projections by 2.13%, with 1.7% growth over FY25 revenues. For FY27, the projected total revenues are $3.9 million, which would represent 1.5% growth. Registration-related revenue projections are based on five-year averages, while interest revenue is subject to market conditions and expected to remain near current year levels. Mr. Brenton projected overall FY26 expenditures to the approximately 6% under budget due to staff vacancies and delays in boardroom and website projects, which he hopes to carry forward into FY27. The FY27 proposed budget would include an increase of 7% over projected FY26 expenditures. Mr. Brenton continued by discussing individual line items in the proposed budget. For salaries and wages and payroll-related costs, the proposed budget assumes full staffing, includes a retirement vacation payout, and provides merit increases for qualifying employees. Ms. Read-Warden asked which budget line items include the website and boardroom improvements. Mr. Brenton responded stating the website improvements would come in under Professional Fees and Services – IT/IS, and the boardroom improvements would come in under Materials and Supplies – IT/IS. For Professional Fees and Services – IT/IS, projections indicate the agency will finish approximately $97,000 under budget due primarily to delays in the website improvement project. He explained that the project was postponed pending DIR templates and the need for a formal procurement process. Mr. Brenton is requesting that funding be carried over into FY27, with $105,000 requested for website improvements compared to $109,000 budgeted last year. On the line item for Materials and Supplies – IT/IS, Mr. Brenton is requesting $85,400 in funding, which will cover boardroom improvements, software, and server licensing, virtual machines, switch installation support and a new microfiche reader. Mr. Hiles asked whether boardroom improvement costs would be shared with the TSBPA. Mr. Brenton explained that costs would be shared based on each agency's share of the lease payment. He noted that potential office relocation plans may affect how improvements are funded and that he is still evaluating options. Mr. Brenton reported that the FY26 ending fund balance is projected to be about $4 million, compared to a proposed FY27 budget of $4.16 million,

	resulting in an anticipated deficit of approximately $247,000. He noted that, unless revenues increase unexpectedly, the agency will likely end FY27 with an actual deficit, especially if the website project is completed. This outcome is intentional and aligns with the policy preventing reserves from exceeding 100% of annual funding requirements for any fiscal year. Gradually spending down the fund balance will help avoid fee reductions followed by future fee increases. He emphasized the importance of moving forward with the website project and stated he is committed to doing so. A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Bargainer/Read-Warden) TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY27 BUDGET AS PRESENTED. Mr. James invited additional questions and commended Mr. Brenton for his attention to detail and responsible financial stewardship in balancing fund management with infrastructure needs. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
6. Enforcement Cases **6a. Registrant/Non-Registrant Cases**	Mr. James invited Mr. Shobassy and his staff to present enforcement cases for Board consideration. Assistant General Counsel Mr. Andrew VanDyke presented the enforcement cases. **Adams, Brian Jr (Case No. 017-25N)** Mr. VanDyke directed the Board to the written materials for the case beginning on page 33 and provided a summary of the case as well as staff's recommendation. A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Read-Warden/Walker) TO ENTER THE PROPOSED ORDER OF THE BOARD, WHICH INCORPORATES STAFF'S NOTICE OF HEARING, FORMAL CHARGES, SOAH DEFAULT DISMISSAL ORDER ISSUED BY ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE MEGAN JOHNSON ON MAY 4, 2026, AND SOAH'S LETTER DATED MAY 22, 2026. THE ORDER IMPOSES AN ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY IN THE SUM OF $9,000, AND ORDERS THE RESPONDENT TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM ENGAGING IN ANY CONDUCT THAT VIOLATES TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE, CHAPTER 1051 OR 22 TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, CHAPTER 1. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. **Condit, Jaime Carlos (Case No. 040-26N)** Mr. VanDyke directed the Board to the written materials for the case beginning on page 47 and provided a summary of the case as well as staff's recommendation.

	A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Walker/Bargainer) TO ENTER AN ORDER WHICH ADOPTS THE FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND RECOMMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY OF $3,000, AND WHICH FURTHER ORDERS PAYMENT OF THE REQUIRED REGISTRATION FEES OF $901, AND COMPLETION OF ANY REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION, UPON WHICH RESPONDENT'S ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION BY REINSTATEMENT SHALL BE APPROVED AND PLACED ON ACTIVE STATUS AS SET FORTH IN THE FIRST AMENDED AGREED ORDER DATED AUGUST 10, 2026. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. **Enriquez, Luis (Case No. 194-24N)** Mr. VanDyke directed the Board to the written materials for the case beginning on page 55 and provided a summary of the case as well as staff's recommendation. A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Bargainer/Hiles) TO ENTER AN ORDER WHICH ADOPTS THE FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND RECOMMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY OF $5,000, AND ORDERS THE RESPONDENT TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM ENGAGING IN ANY CONDUCT THAT VIOLATES TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE, CHAPTER 1051 OR 22 TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, CHAPTER 1, AS SET FORTH IN THE REPORT AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION DATED MARCH 6, 2026. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. **Gnich, Jason D. (Case No. 090-26A)** Mr. VanDyke directed the Board to the written materials for the case beginning on page 56 and provided a summary of the case as well as staff's recommendation. A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Hiles/Walker) TO ENTER AN ORDER WHICH ADOPTS THE FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND RECOMMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY OF $1,000, AS SET FORTH IN THE REPORT AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION DATED JUNE 17, 2026. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. **Katsios Deere, Anna Melina (Case No. 142-23A)** Mr. VanDyke directed the Board to the written materials for the case beginning on page 57 and provided a summary of the case as well as staff's recommendation. A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Read-Warden/Walker) TO ENTER AN ORDER WHICH ADOPTS THE FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND RECOMMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY OF $4,000, AS SET

	FORTH IN THE REVISED REPORT AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION DATED MAY 22, 2026 THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. **Wilbois, Chayne Allyn (Case No. 112-25N)** Mr. VanDyke directed the Board to the written materials for the case beginning on page 58 and provided a summary of the case as well as staff's recommendation. A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Walker/Hiles) TO ENTER AN ORDER WHICH ADOPTS THE FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND RECOMMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY OF $1,000, AND ORDERS THE RESPONDENT TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM ENGAGING IN ANY CONDUCT THAT VIOLATES TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE, CHAPTER 1051 OR 22 TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, CHAPTER 1, AS SET FORTH IN THE REPORT AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION DATED DECEMBER 19, 2025. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
6b. Continuing Education Cases	Mr. VanDyke directed the Board to written materials for the continuing education cases on pages 59-67 of the Board materials, which contain summaries of the cases as well as staff's recommendations. A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Bargainer/Smith) TO ACCEPT STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION FOR DISCIPLINE IN THE FOLLOWING CONTINUING EDUCATION CASES: Case No. 114-26A Butler, Jonathan Eric Arch. No. 28939 Case No. 218-25A Cardello, Jonathan William Arch. No. 25837 Case No. 057-26L Holt, Stacie Ellen L.A. No. 2376 Case No. 058-26A Palermo, Scott Paul Arch. No. 18106 Case No. 060-26I Perrin, Kristen Johnson R.I.D. No. 10421 Case No. 064-26A Reynolds, Sean William Arch. No. 28481 Case No. 098-26I Roy, Casey Lynn R.I.D. No. 10441 Case No. 008-26A Valadez, Francisco Arch. No. 15586 Ms. Smith noted that five of the eight CE cases today include false certification. She noted that one case involved repeated conduct. She asked whether staff could review CE cases across multiple years to identify patterns of behavior. Mr. Brenton explained that staff reviews each respondent's disciplinary history to determine whether they have previously been found to have violated CE requirements. When previous discipline exists, penalties are generally increased, sometimes up to twice the previous amount, to encourage improved compliance.

	Ms. Smith asked whether staff could review prior-year C.E. to identify individuals who may be repeatedly misrepresenting information, expressing concern about recurring dishonesty. Mr. Brenton explained that the agency had a previous program in which individuals who failed CE audits were automatically re-audited following the initial disciplinary action. He said the practice was discontinued following complaints from registrants and stakeholders. Mr. Brenton asked Mr. Alvardo to identify the percentage of audits that result in a failure. Mr. Alvarado said approximately 3% fail the audit. The Board discussed balancing consistent penalties with effective deterrence and fairness. In response to Ms. Smith's suggestion, Mr. Brenton agreed to explore whether requiring an ethic course for violators would be a workable option. Mr. Ebbeler asked whether states share disciplinary information across state lines. Mr. Brenton explained that TBAE reports certain disciplinary matters to national databases but does not report CE violations due to a concern in piling on with cascading disciplinary actions in other states. He said TBAE's administrative penalties are set at a level that is intended to provide a sufficient deterrent. Ms. Read-Warden noted that publishing violations in the newsletter is also a deterrent. Mr. Brenton agreed by noting that *Disciplinary Actions* is the most read section of the TBAE newsletter. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
7. CIDQ Annual Meeting on Nov. 12-14, 2026: Designation of Voting Delegate	Mr. James notified the Board of the next CIDQ annual meeting being held in Atlanta, November 12-14, and the Board will need to designate a voting delegate. A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Bargainer/Smith) TO APPOINT ROSA SALAZAR AS THE VOTING DELEGATE TO THE CIDQ ANNUAL MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
8. Resolution Honoring Jennifer Hogan	Mr. James noted the upcoming retirement of Jennifer Hogan and the Board would consider the adoption of resolution in her honor. Mr. James read the following proposed resolution into the record:

	"Be It Known that Jennifer Hogan has distinguished herself by her many years of dedicated service to her profession and to the people who live, work, and play in the built environment of the State of Texas; and WHEREAS, Mrs. Hogan is a native Texan, born in the City of Beeville, later growing up in the City of Laredo; and WHEREAS, Mrs. Hogan first served the people of Texas as a State Employee in 1996, with the Texas Railroad Commission, beginning what would become an impressive State of Texas career spanning nearly 31 years; and WHEREAS, Mrs. Hogan soon moved on and up into four increasingly critical positions within the Office of the Attorney General; and WHEREAS, Mrs. Hogan began her storied tenure with the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners in 2008, tirelessly ensuring accounting accuracy and solid financial stewardship of this agency for nearly 18 years, and WHEREAS, Mrs. Hogan is, unbeknownst to all but a few agency staff, an accomplished practitioner of the arts and crafts, having become a skilled and talented creator of both jewelry and knitted goods; and WHEREAS, Mrs. Hogan has without fail represented the interests of the people of Texas for decades, across three separate state agencies, always with an emphasis on the protection of the public through the proper use and accounting of State resources; and WHEREAS, Mrs. Hogan is certain to enjoy her retirement adventures, having already prepared for such by purchasing a beautiful blue F-150 and a Recreational Vehicle to tow behind it wherever the road takes her, sped along the American highways and byways with the warmest of wishes and the deepest appreciation from the Board and staff of the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners, in formal meeting assembled this 20th day of August, 2026, does publicly acknowledge its appreciation of outstanding service to the state of Texas and have voted unanimously for this RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION to Jennifer Hogan, and have caused a copy of this Resolution to be included within the minutes of this meeting of the Board." A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Hiles/Walker) FOR THE RESOLUTION OF JENNIFER HOGAN EMPLOYMENT RETIREMENT. The Board thanked Ms. Hogan for her service.

	Ms. Hogan expressed her appreciation to the Board. She said TBAE has been the best agency she worked for and that TBAE staff is like family to her. She joked that she is looking forward to payday without having to complete payroll. THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY ACCLAMATION.
9. Approval of the Proposed 2027 Board Meeting Dates	Mr. James proposed dates for the 2027 Board Meetings: Thursday, February 18, 2027 Thursday, June 3, 2027 Thursday, August 19, 2027 Thursday, November 18, 2027 A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Walker/Hiles) TO ACCEPT THE 2027 BOARD MEETING DATES. Mr. Hiles asked whether the June meeting is scheduled earlier due to the NCARB Annual Business Meeting. Mr. James explained that the schedule was adjusted around other June meetings as well. Mr. Brenton noted that the Board typically meets in May but scheduled the meeting after the legislative session concludes. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
10. Reports on Past Conferences/Meetings, National Regulatory Boards, and Board Member/Staff Committee Service	Mr. James invited Mr. Brenton to report on the NCARB Annual Business Meeting. Mr. Brenton reported that the NCARB Annual Business Meeting was unsurprisingly focused on the Pathways to Practice Initiative, which he expects to remain a key topic over the next two to three years. He noted that NCARB introduced a framework for demonstrating competencies through five measurement tools but provided limited implementation details. As part of this plan, he discussed a proposed portfolio review process for evaluating experience, which would require review by at least two individuals and is much more comprehensive than what is currently done for AXP. Mr. Brenton noted that NCARB administers over 40,000 exams per year. If some significant fraction of those exams were replaced by portfolio reviews, he has questions about whether NCARB would have the resources to administer the program. Mr. James provided more information on the proposed competency evaluation process, which includes certification by the candidate's employer or supervisor and review by two evaluators, with a third evaluator resolving disagreements. He noted concerns about relying on trained volunteers and stated that NCARB continues to gather feedback and concerns. He also discussed NAAB's concerns regarding program

	validation. He noted that the intent of the program is to provide equitable registration opportunities for candidates with diverse backgrounds and experience. Mr. James encouraged the Board to maintain a healthy bit of skepticism, continue asking questions, and provide feedback, noting that NCARB welcomes this input. Mr. Hiles asked whether additional experience requirements would remain in addition to competency assessments, noting that candidates could potentially demonstrate competencies without completing any work experience. Mr. James explained that NCARB recognizes the need for the work experience component and will be adding that requirement, though specific standards are still being developed and may not be time-based. Ms. Smith provided an update on her service with the Examination Committee and asked what changes Texas would need to make if NCARB's Pathways to Practice initiative moves forward. Ms. Smith noted that the Pathways program would allow eligibility by candidates without a college degree, which would conflict with the Texas Practice Act. Mr. James stated that NCARB would be looking at individual states to determine what is needed in order to implement the Pathways to Practice initiative. Mr. Brenton noted that Texas would require a significant statutory change. Mr. James added that most jurisdictions appear to require some postsecondary education, though not necessarily a NAAB degree.
11. Report on Upcoming Conferences and Meetings	Mr. James noted the upcoming conferences and meetings: Aug. 26-29 CLARB Annual Meeting Oct. 15-17 TxA Annual Conference and Design Expo Nov. 12-14 CIDQ Annual Meeting Ms. Smith and Mr. Hiles will travel to Washington DC for the Joint Committee Meeting next week, August 28-29. Mr. James said that he will be attending the Policy Advisory Committee meeting in New Orleans in the first week of October and will also attend the Member Board Chair and Member Board Executives Meeting with Mr. Brenton October 9-10 in Memphis.
12. Board Member Comments/Future Agenda Items	Mr. James asked if the Board members had any comments or suggestions on future agenda items. No suggestions were received.

13. Upcoming Board Meeting	Mr. James noted the upcoming Board Meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2026.
14. Executive Director Annual Performance	Mr. James adjourned the meeting to go into Executive Session. The Board entered into executive session at 12:30 p.m. The Board reconvened in open session at 12:45 p.m. Mr. James excused himself from the meeting and turned the gavel over to Vice Chair Walker to preside over the remainder of the meeting. Ms. Walker reported the Board's decision on the Executive Director's Annual Performance report, stating the Board is pleased with Mr. Brenton's great performance. Ms. Walker identified the executive director's performance goals for fiscal year 2027: To lead the agency through this legislative session and consideration of the Pathways initiative; complete the carryover items and projects (website, the boardroom, and how that relates to office space); have deliberate delegations so he can focus on goals 1 and 2; and maintain the outreach program in the upcoming year. A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED (Bargainer/Hiles) TO ADJUST THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMPENSATION TO $201,500.00 TO REFLECT MARKET RATES. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Mr. Brenton expressed his appreciation to the Board for the vote of confidence. Mr. Brenton shared his excitement about new staff and bringing the new accountant on board. Mr. Brenton reports the agency is on the right path; now it's about execution. He told the Board they'll hear more soon about website procurement. Mr. Hiles commented on the budget for staff and salary increase.
15. Adjournment	Ms. Walker thanked the guests and staff for attending the meeting and adjourned the meeting at 12:51 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD:

_____

DARREN L. JAMES, FAIA
Chair
TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS

TBAE Staff Accomplishments: November Board Meeting

August

- Meeting to Refine TBAE Fingerprinting Procedures – ED, Enforcement, IT
- CLARB Membership Meeting – ED
- TXING Meeting – ED
- Governor's Center Management Development Program – HR
- TBAE Board Meeting
- Interviews for Accounting Position – ED, Accounting, and HR
- All-staff Training
- CLARB MBE Committee Meeting – ED
- CLARB Annual Meeting
- NCARB Region 3 ExComm Meeting - ED

September

- Introductory Meeting with OOG Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office (TREO) – ED and GC
- Planning IT Projects for FY 27 (Switch Replacement, Firewall Upgrade, Ticket Management)
- New Accountant Onboarding and Training – Accounting and HR
- Annual Financial Report Preparation – Accounting
- Meeting with DIR to Discuss Website Project Procurement – ED, Communications, and Accounting
- Follow Up Meeting with TREO – ED and GC
- Presentation to Texas State Interior Design Students – Registration
- Presentation to AIA Lower Rio Grande Valley – Registration and Enforcement
- Power BI Training – IT & Communications
- University of Texas Pro-Practice Presentation – Registration and Enforcement
- NCARB Region 3 Membership Meeting - ED
- Wellness Coordinators Conference – HR
- CLARB MBE Summit – ED
- Case Review Meeting – ED, Legal, and Enforcement
- Prairie View A&M Career Day – Registration
- Presentation to Stephen F. Austin Interior Design Students – Communications
- Presentation to Rice University Architecture ProPractice – Registration
- Texas A&M Career Day - Registration
- TXING Meeting – ED
- SOAH Hearing – Legal
- Advanced Administrative Law Training - ED and GC

- Presentation to AIA El Paso Emerging Professionals – Registration and Enforcement
- Meeting with El Paso Building Department – Registration and Enforcement
- Presentation to El Paso Community College – Registration and Enforcement
- Check-in with Texas ASLA Government Affairs – ED
- CLARB MBE Committee Meeting – ED
- BizReg Meeting - ED, Registration and Enforcement

October

- Review of TREO Recommendations – ED and GC
- Development of Presentation Topic for Texas ASLA Annual Meeting – ED, GC, Communications, and Enforcement
- Case Review Meeting – ED and Legal
- West Texas Design Expo – Communications
- Presentation to Texas Tech Interior Design Students – Communications
- Development of Staff Goals for FY 2027 – ED and Managers
- Preparation and Submission of Annual SDSI Report – Communications
- DIR Discover Conference – IT & Accounting
- Presentation to UT Arlington ProPractice – Registration and Enforcement
- Presentation to San Antonio College Architecture Class – Registration and Enforcement
- Presentation to UT San Antonio ProPractice – Registration and Enforcement
- NCARB Chairs and Executives Conference
- TxA Annual Meeting (Presentation, Booth, and Convocation) – ED, Registration, Enforcement, and Communications
- DIR ISO Summit – IT
- Presentation to Del Mar College – Registration
- Presentation to Texas Southmost College – Registration
- SOAH Hearing – Legal

November

- Case Review Meeting – ED, Legal and Enforcement
- Presentation to Prairie View A&M Architecture Students – Registration and Enforcement
- CIDQ Annual Meeting – Board Members
- SOAH Hearing – Legal
- Presentation to Texas Tech Architecture and Landscape Architecture – Registration and Enforcement
- North Texas International Code Council Meeting – Registration and Enforcement
- Telicon Classic Training – Communications, Legal, and EA

	▪ NCARB MBE Committee Meeting – ED ▪ TXING Meeting – ED ▪ TBAE Board Meeting ▪ CLARB MBE Committee Meeting ▪ Meeting with NCARB Council Relations on Pathways to Practice – ED
December	▪ Development of Rulemaking Package for TREO Implementation – ED and Legal ▪ Office of the Attorney General Open Government Conference – EA and Legal ▪ Central Texas BPI Training – Enforcement ▪ NCARB Region 3 ExComm Meeting – ED ▪ TXING Meeting – ED ▪ CLARB MBE Committee Meeting – ED
January	▪ NCARB Region 3 ExComm Meeting – ED ▪ Telicon Classic Training – ED ▪ NCARB Region 3 Membership Meeting – ED ▪ CLARB MBE Committee Meeting – ED
February	▪ NCARB Region 3 ExComm Meeting – ED ▪ TBAE Board Meeting ▪ CLARB MBE Committee Meeting – ED ▪ NCARB Regional Summit

Texas Board of Architectural Examiners
FY 2026 Q4 Income Statement

	FY2026 Budget	FY2026 Income Statement Sept 1, 2025 - Aug. 31, 2026	FY2026 Percentage Earned/Spent Sept 1, 2025 - Aug. 31, 2026
Total Beginning Fund Balance		**$ 3,794,676.10**	
Revenues:			
Licenses & Fees	$ 3,231,000	$ 3,254,160.25	100.72%
Business Registration Fees	$ 166,000	$ 176,224.31	106.16%
Late Fee Payments	$ 178,000	$ 190,065.48	106.78%
Other	$ 4,000	$ 4,625.00	115.63%
Interest	$ 114,000	$ 148,093.45	129.91%
Convenience Fees	$ 84,000	$ 86,796.97	103.33%
Draw on Fund Balance			
Total Revenues	**$ 3,777,000**	**$ 3,859,965.46**	**102.20%**
Expenditures:			
Salaries and Wages	$ 1,930,000	$ 1,901,137.68	98.50%
Payroll Related Costs	$ 662,000	$ 670,185.06	101.24%
Professional Fees and Services	$ 36,000	$ 25,474.98	70.76%
Professional Fees and Services - IT/IS	$ 109,000	$ 16,037.94	14.71%
Board Travel	$ 30,000	$ 23,059.79	76.87%
Staff Travel	$ 33,000	$ 25,901.38	78.49%
Materials and Supplies	$ 14,000	$ 12,410.75	88.65%
Materials and Supplies - Postal	$ 14,000	$ 15,302.64	109.30%
Materials and Supplies - IT/IS	$ 74,000	$ 48,370.03	65.36%
Communication and Utilities	$ 81,000	$ 62,229.63	76.83%
Repairs and Maintenance	$ 3,000	$ 895.00	29.83%
Rentals and Leases - Equipment and Space	$ 16,200	$ 14,631.52	90.32%
Rentals and Leases - Office Space	$ 156,000	$ 155,752.67	99.84%
Printing and Reproduction	$ 7,500	$ 5,938.35	79.18%
Membership Dues (Other)	$ 17,000	$ 17,191.00	101.12%
Board/Staff Training and Conference Fees (Other)	$ 36,000	$ 33,123.78	92.01%
Operating Expenditures (Other)	$ 24,000	$ 22,888.63	95.37%
Convenience Fees (Other)	$ 84,000	$ 86,269.81	102.70%
SWCAP Payment (Other)	$ 50,000	$ 34,008.00	68.02%
GR Payment (Other)	$ 510,000	$ 510,000.00	100.00%
Total Expenditures	**$ 3,886,700**	**$ 3,680,808.64**	**94.70%**
Excess/ (Deficiency) of Rev over Exp.	**(109,700)**	**$ 179,156.82**	**7.49%**
Estimated Fund Balance		**$ 3,973,832.92**	

Texas Board of Architectural Examiners
FY 2026 Q4 Income Statement
Scholarship Fund

	FY 2026 Income Statement Sept 1, 2025 - Aug. 31, 2026
ARE Grant Fund Beginning Balance	**147,832.13**
Revenues:	
ARE Grant Licensing Fees	$ 26,061.00
Interest	$ 5,304.79
Expenditures:	
ARE Grant Payments	$ (30,000.00)
Trust Fees	$ (204.40)
Fund Balance Available	**$ 148,993.52**

Number of Scholarships Awarded **60**

Frequency per Fiscal Year----September 30, January 31, and May 31

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

For The Year Ended August 31, 2026

Lance Brenton,
Executive Director

TEXAS Board of
Architectural Examiners
Architects • Landscape Architects • Registered Interior Designers

505 E. Huntland Dr., Suite 350 • Austin, TX 78752
P.O. Box 12337 • Austin, TX 78711-2337
PH 512.305.9000 • www.tbae.texas.gov

October 1, 2026

Honorable Greg Abbott, Governor
Honorable Don Huffines, Texas Comptroller
Phillip Ashley, Director, Legislative Budget Board
Lisa Collier, State Auditor

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are pleased to submit the annual financial report of the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners for the year ended Aug. 31, 2026, in compliance with Texas Government Code Annotated, Section 2101.011, and in accordance with the requirements established by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

In accordance with statewide requirements associated with **Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 103**, the Comptroller of Public Accounts does not require this annual financial report to adhere fully to all provisions of the statement. This report will be subject to consideration by the State Auditor as part of the audit of the State of Texas Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). As a result, no audit opinion has been issued on the financial statements or related information included in this report.

If you have any questions, please contact Nelly Clayton at (512) 305-9041.

Sincerely,

Lance Brenton,
Executive Director

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Combined

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UNAUDITED

Texas Board of Atchitectural Examiners (459)
Exhibit I — Combined Balance Sheet/
Statement of Net Position—Governmental Funds
August 31, 2026

Combined Balance Sheet/Statement of Net Position	General Funds	Governmental Funds Total	Capital Assets Adjustments	Long-Term Liabilities Adjustments	Statement of Net Position
ASSETS					
Current Assets:					
Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 3)	-	-			-
Cash in State Treasury	222,726.36	222,726.36			222,726.36
Short Term Investments (Note 3)	4,194,275.81	4,194,275.81			4,194,275.81
Capital Assets (Note 2):					
Non-Depreciable or Non-Amortizable					
Depreciable or Amortizable, Net			668,515.42		668,515.42
Other Non-Current Assets					
Total Assets	4,417,002.17	4,417,002.17	668,515.42		5,085,517.59
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES					
Deferred Outflows of Resources (Note 28)					
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources					
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES					
Current Liabilities:					
Payables from:					
Accounts	$ 41,893.93	$ 41,893.93	$	$	$ 41,893.93
Investment Trade					
Other Intergovernmental					
Payroll	221,111.80	221,111.80			221,111.80
Due To Other Agencies (Note 12)	1,120.00	1,120.00			1,120.00
Unearned Revenues	1,600.00	1,600.00			1,600.00
Employees' Compensable Leave (Note 5)				139,054.40	139,054.40
Right to Use Lease Obligations (Note 5, 8)				153,014.54	153,014.54
Other Current Liabilities				682.41	682.41
Non-Current Liabilities					
Interfund Payable					
Employees' Compensable Leave (Note 5)				144,376.95	144,376.95
Right to Use Lease Obligations (Note 5, 8)				500,738.00	500,738.00
Assets Held for Others					
Other Non-Current Liabilities					
Total Liabilities	265,725.73	265,725.73		937,866.30	1,203,592.03
Fund Financial Statement					
Fund Balances (Deficits):					
Nonspendable					
Restricted					
Committed	3,884,846.01	3,884,846.01			3,884,846.01
Assigned					
Unassigned	266,430.43	266,430.43			266,430.43
Total Fund Balances	4,151,276.44	4,151,276.44			4,151,276.44
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	4,417,002.17	4,417,002.17			
Government-Wide Statement of Net Position					
Net Position					
Net Investment in Capital Assets			668,515.42		668,515.42
Unrestricted				(937,866.30)	(937,866.30)
Total Net Position			668,515.42	(937,866.30)	3,881,925.56

UNAUDITED

Texas Board of Architectural Examiners (459)
Exhibit II — Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances/ Statement of Activities — Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2026

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances/Statement of Activities - Governmental Funds	General Funds	Governmental Funds Total	Capital Assets Adjustments GAAP Fund 9998	Long-Term Liabilities Adjustments GAAP Fund 9997	Statement of Activities
REVENUES*					
License, Fees & Permits (PR)	3,677,989.82	3,677,989.82			3,677,989.82
Interest and Other Investment Income (GR)	153,398.24	153,398.24			153,398.24
Sales of Goods and Services (PR)	4,625.00	4,625.00			4,625.00
Other (GR)	86,796.97	86,796.97			86,796.97
Total Revenues	3,922,810.03	3,922,810.03	0	0	3,922,810.03
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	1,901,137.68	1,901,137.68		20,664.42	1,921,802.10
Payroll Related Costs	670,185.06	670,185.06			670,185.06
Professional Fees and Services	41,512.92	41,512.92			41,512.92
Travel	48,961.17	48,961.17			48,961.17
Materials and Supplies	76,083.42	76,083.42			76,083.42
Communication and Utilities	61,109.63	61,109.63			61,109.63
Repairs and Maintenance	895.00	895.00			895.00
Rentals and Leases	14,625.15	14,625.15			14,625.15
Printing and Reproduction	5,938.35	5,938.35			5,938.35
Other Expenditures	236,029.68	236,029.68		(152.86)	235,876.82
Debt Service:					
Principal - Leases	146,443.76	146,443.76		(146,443.76)	
Principal - Subscriptions					
Principal - Other General Long Term Debt					
Interest					
Other Financing Fees					
Capital Outlay					
Depreciation and Amortization Expense			167,812.94		167,812.94
Total Expenditures/Expenses	3,202,921.82	3,202,921.82	167,812.94	(125,932.20)	3,244,802.56
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	719,888.21	719,888.21	(167,812.94)	125,932.20	678,007.47
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfer In	$ 3,697,350.41	3,697,350.41			3,697,350.41
Transfer Out	(4,208,470.41)	(4,208,470.41)			(4,208,470.41)
Increase in Obligations - Leases					
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(511,120.00)	(511,120.00)	0	0	(511,120.00)
Net Change in Fund Balances/Net Position	208,768.21	208,768.21			166,887.47
Fund Financial Statement - Fund Balances					
Fund Balances, September 1, 2025	3,942,508.23	3,942,508.23			3,942,508.23
Restatements					
Fund Balances, September 1, 2025, as Restated	3,942,508.23	3,942,508.23			3,942,508.23
Appropriations Lapsed					
Fund Balances, August 31, 2026	$ 4,151,276.44	$ 4,151,276.44			$ 4,109,395.70
Government-Wide Statement of Net Position					
Net Position/Net Change in Net Position			(167,812.94)	125,932.20	
Net Position, September 1, 2025			836,328.36	(1,063,798.50)	(227,470.14)
Restatements					
Net Position, September 1, 2025, as Restated			836,328.36	(1,063,798.50)	(227,470.14)
Net Position, August 31, 2026		$ 0	$ 668,515.42	$ (937,866.30)	$ 3,881,925.56

Notes

To The

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 2: CAPITAL ASSETS

The Summary of Changes in **Capital Assets** and **Intangible Right to Use (RTU)** for the year ended August 31, 2026, is presented below.

Capital Assets – Governmental Activities

PRIMARY GOVERNMENT					
Category	Balance 9/1/2025	Adjustments	Additions	Deletions	Balance 8/31/2026
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES					
Depreciable Assets					
Furniture and Equipment	214,713.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	214,713.69
Total Depreciable Assets at Historical Cost	214,713.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	214,713.69
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:					
Furniture and Equipment	(115,010.41)	0.00	(20,488.44)	0.00	(135,498.85)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(115,010.41)	0.00	(20,488.44)	0.00	(135,498.85)
Depreciable Assets, Net	99,703.28	0.00	(20,488.44)	0.00	79,214.84
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	**99,703.28**	**0.00**	**(20,488.44)**	**0.00**	**79,214.84**

Intangible Right to Use Assets – Governmental Activities

PRIMARY GOVERNMENT					
Category	Balance 9/1/2025	Adjustments	Additions	Deletions	Balance 8/31/2026
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES					
Intangible Right to Use (RTU) Assets – Amortizable:					
Building and Building Improvements	1,325,923.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,325,923.08
Total Amortizable Intangible RTU Assets	1,325,923.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,325,923.08

Less Accumulated Amortization for:					
Building and Building Improvements	(589,298.00)		(147,324.50)		(736,622.50)
Total Accumulated Amortization RTU Assets	(589,298.00)	0.00	(147,324.50)	0.00	(736,622.50)
Amortizable RTU Assets, Net	736,625.08	0.00	(147,324.50)	0.00	589,300.58
Governmental Activities RTU Assets, Net	736,625.08	0.00	(147,324.50)	0.00	589,300.58

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 3: DEPOSITS, INVESTMENTS, & REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS

Deposits of Cash in Bank
As of August 31, 2026, the carrying amount of deposits was zero.

Governmental Activities	
Cash in Bank – Carrying Value	$0.00
Cash in Bank per AFR	$0.00
Governmental Funds Current Assets Cash in Bank	$0.00
Cash in Bank per AFR	$0.00

Investments
As of August 31, 2026, the carrying value and fair value of investments are as presented below.

Governmental Activities	Carrying Value	Fair Value
Miscellaneous Investments:		
Repurchase Agreements (Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust)	$ 4,194,275.81	$ 4,194,275.81
Totals	$ 4,194,275.81	$ 4,194,275.81

Both cash in bank balances and repurchase agreements are held in the Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust, where minimal risks are assumed by the agency.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 5: SUMMARY OF LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

The following changes occurred in liabilities during the fiscal year ended August 31, 2026:

Governmental Activities	Balance 09/01/2025	Additions	(Reductions)	Other Changes	Balance 08/31/2026	Amounts Due Within One Year	Due Thereafter
Right to Use Lease Obligations	800,196.30		146,443.76		653,752.54	153,014.54	500,738.00
Employees Compensable Leave	262,766.93	218,148.85	168,399.51	(29,084.92)	283,431.35	139,054.40	144,376.95
Total Governmental Activities	1,062,963.23	218,148.85	314,843.27	(29,084.92)	937,183.89	292,068.94	645,114.95

Employees' Compensable Leave

If a state employee had continuous employment with the state for at least six months, the state employee is entitled to be paid for all unused vacation time accrued in the event of the employee's resignation, dismissal, or separation from state employment. Expenditures for accumulated annual leave balances are recognized in the period paid or taken in governmental fund types. For these fund types, the liability for unpaid benefits is recorded in the statement of net position. Both an expense and a liability for business-type activities are recorded in the proprietary funds as benefits accrued to employees. No liability is recorded for non-vesting employees accumulating rights to receive sick pay benefits. This obligation is usually paid from the same funding source(s) from which the employee's salary or wage compensation was paid.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 8: LEASES/SBITAs

Leases – Lease Liability

Included in the expenditures reported in the financial statements are the following amounts of lease rent paid or due under noncancelable lease liability for our building space lease for 10 years:

Fiscal 2026

Fund Type	Amount
Local Operating	$ 155,759.04

Future Lease Payments Year Ended August 31, 2026

Primary Government			
Governmental Activities			
Year	Principal	Interest	Total Future Min. Lease Payments
2027	$ 153,014.54	$ 7,417.30	$ 160,431.84
2028	$ 159,795.49	$ 5,449.31	$ 165,244.80
2029	$ 166,837.74	$ 3,364.38	$ 170,202.12
2030	$ 174,104.77	$ 1,203.37	$ 175,308.14
Totals	**$ 653,752.54**	**$ 17,434.36**	**$ 671,186.90**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 12: INTERFUND BALANCES

As explained in Note 1 on Interfund Activities and Balances there are numerous transactions between funds and agencies. At year-end amounts to be received or paid are reported as:

- Interfund Receivables or Interfund Payables
- Due From Other Agencies or Due to Other Agencies
- Due From Other Funds or Due to Other Funds
- Transfers In or Transfers Out.
- Legislative Transfers In or Legislative Transfers Out

The agency experienced routine transfers with other state agencies, which were consistent with the activities of the fund making the transfer. Repayment of interfund balances will occur within one year from the date of the financial statement.

Individual balances and activity at August 31, 2026, follows:

Total Operating Transfers	Operating Transfers-In	Operating Transfers-Out
GAAP Fund 1010, Fund 1010		
Agy 902, GAAP Fund 0001, Fund 0001		$ 510,000.00
Agy 459, GAAP Fund 1010, Fund 2859	$ 3,677,914.59	
GAAP Fund 1010, Fund 2859		
Agy 459, GAAP Fund 1010, Fund 1010		$ 3,677,914.59
Agy 459, GAAP Fund 1010, Fund 3859		$ 30,000.00
GAAP Fund 1010, Fund 3859		
Agy 459, GAAP Fund 1010, Fund 2859	$ 30,000.00	
Total Transfers	$ 3,707,914.59	$ 4,217,914.59

Due From/Due To Other Agencies	Due From Other Agencies	Due To Other Agencies
To Agency 457, D23 Fund 2858		$ 1,120.00 (1)
Total Due From/To Other Agencies		$ 1,120.00

(1) Due to other agencies consists of DIR circuit charge reimbursements owed to Texas State Board of Public Accountancy (agency 457).

NOTE 13: CONTINUANCE SUBJECT TO REVIEW

The Texas Board of Architectural Examiners is subject to Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act). Unless continued in existence as provided by that chapter, the Board is abolished and this Act expires September 1, 2033. If abolished, the Board may continue until September 1, 2034 to close out its operations.

Combining

Financial

Statements

UNAUDITED

Texas Board of Architectural Examiners (459)
Exhibit A-1 — Combining Balance Sheet—
All General and Consolidated Funds
August 31, 2026

Combining Balance Sheet	Operating Fund GAAP Fund 1010 Agy Fund 1010	Local Fund TTSTC GAAP Fund 1010 Agy Fund 2859	Operating Fund GAAP Fund 1010 Agy Fund 8070	Total
ASSETS				
Current Assets:				
Cash and Cash Equivalents				
Cash in State Treasury	221,126.36		1,600.00	222,726.36
Short Term Investments		4,194,275.81		4,194,275.81
Other Non-Current Assets				
Total Non-Current Assets				
Total Assets	221,126.36	4,194,275.81	1,600.00	4,417,002.17
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Deferred Outflows of Resources				
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources				
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities:				
Payables from:				
Accounts	$ 41,893.93	$	$	$ 41,893.93
Payroll	221,111.80			221,111.80
Due To Other Agencies	1,120.00			1,120.00
Interfund Payable				
Unearned Revenues			1,600.00	1,600.00
Employees' Compensable Leave				
Claims and Judgments				
Pollution Remediation Obligations				
Asset Retirement Obligations				
Right to Use Lease Obligations				
Right to Use Subscription Obligations				
Notes and Loans Payable				
Revenue Bonds Payable				
General Obligation Bonds Payable				
Pensions				
OPEB				
Liabilities Payable from Restricted Assets				
Funds Held For Others				
Total Current Liabilities	264,125.73		1,600.00	265,725.73
Non-Current Liabilities:				
Interfund Payable				
Employees' Compensable Leave				
Claims and Judgments				
Pollution Remediation Obligations				
Asset Retirement Obligations				
Right to Use Lease Obligations				
Right to Use Subscription Obligations				
Derivative Instruments				
Notes and Loans Payable				
Revenue Bonds Payable				
General Obligation Bonds Payable				
Pensions				
OPEB				
Liabilities Payable from Restricted Assets				
Assets Held for Others				
Other Non-Current Liabilities				
Total Liabilities	264,125.73		1,600.00	265,725.73
Fund Balances (Deficits):				
Nonspendable				
Restricted				
Committed		3,884,846.01		3,884,846.01
Assigned				
Unassigned	(42,999.37)	309,429.80		266,430.43
Total Fund Balances	(42,999.37)	4,194,275.81		4,151,276.44
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	221,126.36	4,194,275.81	1,600.00	4,417,002.17

* GAAP Fund is noted as (XXXX), USAS D23 U/F (XXXX)

UNAUDITED

Texas Board of Architectural Examiners (459)
Exhibit A-2 — Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances — All General and Consolidated Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2026

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances	Operating Fund GAAP Fund 1010 Agy Fund 1010	Local Fund-Operating GAAP Fund 1010 Agy Fund 2859	Scholarship Fund GAAP Fund 1010 Agy Fund 3859	Total
REVENUES**				
License, Fees & Permits (PR)		3,677,989.82		3,677,989.82
Interest and Other Investment Income (PR)		153,398.24		153,398.24
Sales of Goods and Services (PR)		4,625.00		4,625.00
Other		86,796.97		86,796.97
Total Revenues	0	3,922,810.03	0	3,922,810.03
EXPENDITURES				
Salaries and Wages	1,901,137.68			1,901,137.68
Payroll Related Costs	670,185.06			670,185.06
Professional Fees and Services	41,512.92			41,512.92
Travel	48,961.17			48,961.17
Materials and Supplies	76,083.42			76,083.42
Communication and Utilities	61,109.63			61,109.63
Repairs and Maintenance	895.00			895.00
Rentals and Leases	14,625.15			14,625.15
Printing and Reproduction	5,938.35			5,938.35
Other Expenditures	202,796.50	3,233.18	30,000.00	236,029.68
Debt Service:				
Principal - Leases	146,443.76			146,443.76
Principal - Subscriptions				
Interest				
Other Financing Fees				
Capital Outlay				
Total Expenditures	3,169,688.64	3,233.18	30,000.00	3,202,921.82
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	(3,169,688.64)	3,919,576.85	(30,000.00)	719,888.21
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfer In (into USAS)	$ 3,677,914.59	$	$ 30,000.00	$ 3,707,914.59
Transfer Out	(511,120.00)	(3,707,914.59)		(4,219,034.59)
Increase in Obligations - Leases				
Legislative Financing Sources				
Other Financing Sources				
Legislative Financing Uses				
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	3,166,794.59	(3,707,914.59)	30,000.00	(511,120.00)
Net Change in Fund Balances	(2,894.05)	211,662.26	0	208,768.21
Fund Financial Statement - Fund Balances				
Fund Balances, September 1, 2025	(40,105.32)	3,982,613.55		3,942,508.23
Restatements				
Fund Balances, September 1, 2025, as Restated	(40,105.32)	3,982,613.55	0	3,942,508.23
Appropriations Lapsed				
Fund Balances, August 31, 2026	$ (42,999.37)	$ 4,194,275.81	$ 0	$ 4,151,276.44

Texas Board of Architectural Examiners
FY 2027 October Income Statement

	FY2027 Budget	FY2027 Income Statement Sept 1, 2026 - Oct 31, 2026	FY2027 Percentage Earned/Spent Sept 1, 2026 - Oct 31, 2026
Total Beginning Fund Balance		**$ 4,006,665.92**	
Revenues:			
Licenses & Fees	$ 3,315,000	$ 532,559.12	16.07%
Business Registration Fees	$ 177,000	$ 26,328.81	14.88%
Late Fee Payments	$ 188,000	$ 31,691.50	16.86%
Other	$ 4,000	$ 505.00	12.63%
Interest	$ 145,000	$ 24,335.70	16.78%
Convenience Fees	$ 86,200	$ 14,157.77	16.42%
Draw on Fund Balance			
Total Revenues	**$ 3,915,200**	**$ 629,577.90**	**16.08%**
Expenditures:			
Salaries and Wages	$ 2,168,000	$ 366,213.68	16.89%
Payroll Related Costs	$ 720,000	$ 111,740.85	15.52%
Professional Fees and Services	$ 28,000	$ 8,777.34	31.35%
Professional Fees and Services - IT/IS	$ 105,000	$ 3,689.24	3.51%
Board Travel	$ 31,200	$ 497.45	1.59%
Staff Travel	$ 29,500	$ 8,095.90	27.44%
Materials and Supplies	$ 9,500	$ 402.70	4.24%
Materials and Supplies - Postal	$ 16,000	$ 6,002.24	37.51%
Materials and Supplies - IT/IS	$ 85,400	$ 29,404.29	34.43%
Communication and Utilities	$ 63,500	$ 9,799.36	15.43%
Repairs and Maintenance	$ 2,000	$ -	0.00%
Rentals and Leases - Equipment and Space	$ 15,800	$ 1,480.19	9.37%
Rentals and Leases - Office Space	$ 160,500	$ 35,972.97	22.41%
Printing and Reproduction	$ 6,000	$ 145.00	2.42%
Membership Dues (Other)	$ 17,000	$ 3,974.00	23.38%
Board/Staff Training and Conference Fees (Other)	$ 34,500	$ 3,995.00	11.58%
Operating Expenditures (Other)	$ 24,000	$ 1,490.63	6.21%
Convenience Fees (Other)	$ 86,200	$ 7,416.86	8.60%
SWCAP Payment (Other)	$ 50,000	$ -	0.00%
GR Payment (Other)	$ 510,000	$ -	0.00%
Total Expenditures	**$ 4,162,100**	**$ 599,097.70**	**14.39%**
Excess/ (Deficiency) of Rev over Exp.	**(246,900)**	**$ 30,480.20**	**1.69%**
Estimated Fund Balance		**$ 4,037,146.12**	

Texas Board of Architectural Examiners
FY 2027 October Income Statement
Scholarship Fund

	FY 2027 Income Statement Sept 1, 2026 - Oct 31, 2026
ARE Grant Fund Beginning Balance	**144,610.52**
Revenues:	
ARE Grant Licensing Fees	$ 4,074.00
Interest	$ 921.16
Expenditures:	
ARE Grant Payments	$ (13,000.00)
Trust Fees	$ (34.18)
Fund Balance Available	**$ 136,571.50**

Number of Scholarships Awarded **26**

Frequency per Fiscal Year----September 30, January 31, and May 31

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**150-24N**
Respondent:	**Anlarr Designs, LLC**
Location of Respondent:	**Austin, TX**
Instrument:	**Revised Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Anlarr Designs, LLC (hereafter "Respondent") is not, and has never been, registered as a firm which may be lawfully held out to the public as offering or providing architectural services in the state of Texas. Additionally, Rahul Reddy Guduru, Registered Agent, is not and has never been registered as an architect in the state of Texas.
- On or about August 8, 2022, Guduru entered into an AIA Standard Form Agreement between Owner and Contractor on behalf of Anlarr Construction, LLC, for the construction of the project "Dr. Patel's Clinic," also known as "Patel Offices," located in Live Oak, Texas. The Patel Offices project is a new 27,000 square foot, three-story commerical building located in Live Oak, Texas ("Project").
- On or about April 20, 2023, Respondent entered into contract to provide permit plans for three interior architectural buildout projects (Hillside Lab, Healthway Pharmacy, and Physical Therapy of SA) and spec lease in the Patel Offices building.
- On or about July 12, 2023, Respondent entered into contract to provide "architectural" services and permit plans for the CPL Labs interior buildout project in the Patel Offices building.
- On or about October 17 and October 31, 2023, Respondent engaged in unregistered pratice of architecture, in that Respondent issued architectural plans for five projects in the Patel Office building collectively referred to as the *Patel Office Buildout* project ("the Project").
- On or about March 18, 2024, Respondent utilized a business website, anlarr.com, which improperly used the terms "architect" and "architectural" to describe Respondent and/or services offered by Respondent in Texas, in that the website identified Respondent as an "architectural design company" and the website described Respondent as a "team of architects."

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By preparing and issuing architectural plans for the Project and offering to provide architectural services, while improperly using the term "architect," and "architectural" to describe Respondent and/or services offered or provided by Respondent in Texas, Respondent violated Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.701(a) and Tex. Admin Code 1.123(c).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of $**6,000**, and which orders the Respondent to cease and desist any and all violations of Texas Occupational Code, Chapter 1051 and Board rules, as set forth in the Revised Report and Notice of Violation dated September 28, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**003-26N**
Respondent:	**Efren Estrada**
Location of Respondent:	**Dallas, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Efren Estrada (hereafter "Respondent") is not and has never been registered as an architect in the state of Texas.
- At all times relevant to this matter, Respondent was the managing member of ESTRADA'S HOME CONSTRUCTION LLC aka eHome Construction LLC (hereafter "EHC"). EHC is not, and has never been, registered as a firm which may be lawfully held out to the public as offering or providing architectural services in Texas.
- On or about September 26, 2026, and November 26, 2026, while acting on behalf of EHC, Respondent utilized a Facebook.com profile which improperly used the terms "architecture," and "architectural" to describe Respondent/Respondent's firm and/or services offered by Respondent/Respondent's firm in Texas. Additionally, the profile identified Respondent/Respondent's firm as an "architectural designer" and the name of the firm listed as "EHC Architecture."
- On or about September 26, 2026, and November 26, 2026, while acting on behalf of EHC, Respondent utilized an Instagram.com profile which improperly used the terms "architecture," and "architectural" to describe Respondent/Respondent's firm and/or services offered by Respondent/Respondent's firm in Texas. The profile described Respondent/Respondent's as offering services including "architecture", and "arquitectonicos/architectural."
- On or about September 26, 2025, while acting on behalf of EHC, Respondent utilized a homeadvisor.com profile which improperly used the terms "architecture" and "architectural" to describe Respondent/Respondent's firm and/or services offered by Respondent/Respondent's firm in Texas. The profile identified Respondent/Respondent's firm as an "architectural service" and listed "architecture" under services offered.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By improperly using the terms "architecture" and "architectural" to describe Respondent and/or Respondent's firm and/or to describe services offered by Respondent and/or Respondent's firm in Texas, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.123(c).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$3,000**, and which orders the Respondent to cease and desist any and all violations of Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1051 and Board rules, as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated August 7, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**074-23I**
Respondent:	**Michele Hurst**
Location of Respondent:	**Austin, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Michele Hurst (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an interior designer in Texas with registration number 9897.
- Respondent is not and has never been registered as an architect in the state of Texas.
- At all times relevant to this matter, Respondent was the sole member of Ninety 8 Ninety 7, LLC d/b/a Studio 9897. Ninety 8 Ninety 7, LLC is a registered interior design firm with registration number BR 4636. Ninety 8 Ninety 7, LLC is not and has never been registered as a firm which may be lawfully held out to the public as offering or providing architectural services in Texas.
- On or about June 1, 2021, while acting on behalf of Ninety 8 Ninety 7, LLC, Respondent offered to engage in the practice of architecture, in that Respondent issued an Interior Design Proposal and Agreement for a project identified as *Lagniappe Tutoring Texas* located in Frisco, Texas. In the proposal, Respondent offered to provide "interior architectures [*sic*] services," "to define architectural/construction elements," and "coordinate…approved architectural furnishings."
- On or about August 20, 2021, Respondent engaged in the practice of architecture, in that Respondent prepared and issued architectural plans and specifications for *Lagniappe Tutoring Texas* pursuant to the offer to provide architectural services.
- On or about December 15, 2022, while acting on behalf of Ninety 8 Ninety 7, LLC, Respondent maintained a website which improperly used the term "architecture" to describe services offered by Respondent/Respondent's firm in Texas, in that the website described Respondent's services as "interior architecture."

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By preparing and issuing architectural plans pursuant to an offer to provide architectural services while improperly using the terms "architecture" and "architectural" to describe services offered or provided by Respondent's firm in Texas, Respondent violated Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.701(a).
- By improperly using the term "architecture" to describe services offered by Respondent's firm in Texas, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.123(c).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$4,000** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated October 13, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Numbers:	**102-23N & 110-25N**
Respondent:	**Carson Ka-Shun Leung**
Location of Respondent:	**Missouri City, TX**
Instrument:	**Agreed Order**

Findings:

- See attached proposed Agreed Order.

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter the attached Agreed Order, which adopts the findings of facts, conclusion of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$9,000**, and which further orders the Respondent to cease and desist any and all violations of the Texas Occupations Code Chapter 1051, and Board rules.

Docusign Envelope ID: 6BF24DB7-E1C8-8CCC-8095-C858F05239E8

TBAE CASE NOS. 102-23N & 110-25N

IN THE MATTER OF	§	**BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD**
CARSON KA-SHUN LEUNG	§	
	§	
	§	**OF**
	§	
CANDIDATE FOR	§	
REGISTRATION BY EXAMINATION	§	**ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS**

AGREED ORDER

On this day the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners (hereafter TBAE or "Board") considered the matter of Carson Ka-Shun Leung (hereafter "Respondent").

Information received by the Board revealed evidence that Respondent may be subject to discipline pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1051, and Texas Administrative Code, Title 22, Part 1, Chapter 1. Prior to the institution of agency proceedings, Respondent was given the opportunity to respond to these matters.

Respondent waived notice and hearing and consented to the entry of this Agreed Order, as approved by Lance Brenton, Executive Director. Upon recommendation of its Executive Director, the Board adopts the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and enters this Agreed Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is not, and has never been, registered to engage in the practice of architecture in Texas.
2. On or about August 9, 2011, Respondent submitted an Application for Architectural Registration in Texas. Pursuant to this application, Respondent is an approved candidate for registration by examination, although Respondent has not completed the examination.

Findings of Fact: TBAE Case No. 102-23N

Docusign Envelope ID: 6BF24DB7-E1C8-8CCC-8095-C858F05239E8

3. At all times relevant to this matter, Respondent was associated with KADS, LLC a/k/a KA Design Studio. KADS, LLC is not, and has never been, registered as a firm which may be lawfully held out to the public as offering or providing architectural services in Texas.

4. On or about June 12, 2021, while acting on behalf of KADS, LLC, Respondent offered to engage in the practice of architecture, in that Respondent issued a Project Service Contract for a project identified as *New Medical Clinic / Office*, also identified as *Community Clinic*, located at 10279 Algiers Road in Houston ("Contract").

5. In the Contract, Respondent agreed to "Issue construction document package for various city permitting," including architectural construction documents (Architectural, Structural, Disability Access, Site Plat, etc.). Additionally, under the contract "general architectural … services" were included as part of the general fee to be paid by the client. Further, Respondent agreed to provide a "Design Package" that included "all design floor plans" and "building elevations."

6. Subsequently, on or about August 25, 2021, Respondent engaged in the practice of architecture, in that Respondent prepared and issued architectural plans for the project pursuant to the offer to provide architectural services. Later, on or about February 2, 2022, the plans were "issued for permit."

7. Respondent applied for a permit from the City of Houston. Plan review information reveals the plans were last submitted on August 16, 2022, and were returned to the applicant on September 26, 2022. The plans were not approved for permitting.

8. During the course of this project, Respondent accepted four payments from New Age Medical Clinic, PA, totaling $19,500 as follows:

    a. $7,500 payment on or about June 12, 2021, for a "down payment for architecture";

Docusign Envelope ID: 6BF24DB7-E1C8-8CCC-8095-C858F05239E8

b. $4,000 payment on or about September 8, 2021, for an "architectural fee";

c. $4,000 payment on or about February 15, 2022, for an "architectural fee, 3rd payment"; and

d. $4,000 payment on or about March 25, 2022, for an unspecified product or service.

9. On or about October 29, 2024, Respondent utilized a LinkedIn.com profile which improperly used the term "architectural" to describe Respondent. Specifically, the profile identifies Respondent as a "Senior Technical Professional – Architectural" at KBR, Inc. in Houston, Texas and as an "Architectural Designer" at Wood in Katy, Texas.

Findings of Fact: TBAE Case No. 110-25N

10. On or about September 13, 2024, Respondent submitted a building permit application to the city of Houston for a project identified as *Zwita Food LLC*. Respondent had been hired by the project's owner to provide design services on the project, including securing a building permit.

11. In support of the building permit application, Respondent included an asbestos certification letter certifying that "material safety data sheets (MSDS) for the materials used in the original construction, the subsequent renovations or alternations of all parts of the building affected by the planned renovation or demolition have been reviewed; and in the architect's professional opinion, all parts of the building affected by the planned renovation or demolition do not contain asbestos." The letter was purported to have been drafted by R.W.B., a retired architect with an surrendered registration, and included a copy of R.W.B.'s signed architect's seal.

12. R.W.B. voluntarily surrendered his architect registration on April 3, 2024. Furthermore, R.W.B. was unaware of the existence of the project, in no way participated in the

Docusign Envelope ID: 6BF24DB7-E1C8-8CCC-8095-C858F05239E8

preparation of the asbestos certification letter, and did not consent to the use of his seal on the letter.

13. Subsequently, the Board opened an investigation into this matter and contacted Respondent to inquire about the circumstances surrounding the use of R.W.B.'s seal on the asbestos letter.

14. Respondent refused to provide a straightforward, full statement surrounding the circumstances of the use of R.W.B.'s seal. In Respondent's limited response, Respondent said that he received a physical copy of the asbestos letter from Lily Dunhuang, but did not provide any additional information about when or how the request for the letter was made or the content of any discussions with Ms. Dunhuang. Respondent stated that he did not have knowledge of the project owner hiring a licensed asbestos contractor to perform an asbestos survey of the property or whether materials safety data sheets existed for the property. Respondent said that he never met with R.W.B. or anybody else at the property to review asbestos conditions or materials safety data sheets. Respondent said that he never had any contact with R.W.B. during the project and expressed no knowledge of who created the letter with R.W.B.'s seal on it or who placed the seal on the letter. When asked whether he believed that R.W.B. had sealed the document, Respondent stated, "Frankly, I did not consider the authenticity of the letter . . . It was my mistake to do so without questioning the authenticity of the letter. This is my mistake to submit."

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Texas Board of Architectural Examiners has authority and jurisdiction over this case and the Respondent. The Board may, after notice and hearing, impose an administrative penalty upon a person who is not registered to engage in the practice of architecture if the

Docusign Envelope ID: 6BF24DB7-E1C8-8CCC-8095-C858F05239E8

person has violated Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1051. *See* Tex. Occ. Code §§ 1051.451, 1051.501, 1051.503, 1051.504, 1051.701, 1051.751, 1051.752 and 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.173.

2. The findings of fact and conclusions of law constitute grounds to impose disciplinary action against Respondent pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.752(1).

3. A person who is not registered by the Board as an architect may not offer, engage in, or attempt to engage in, the practice of architecture, as defined in Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.701(a).

4. A firm may engage in the practice of architecture, represent to the public that the entity is engaged in the practice of architecture or is offering architectural services, or use the word "architect" or "architecture" in any manner in its name only if any practice of architecture or architectural service performed on behalf of the entity is performed by or through a person registered as an architect under Chapter 1051 of the Texas Occupations Code. Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.701(b).

5. A person who is not registered as an architect, whether acting independently or on behalf of the person's firm, commits an offense in violation of Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1051, if the person: engages in the practice of architecture, or offers or attempts to engage in the practice of architecture; prepares architectural plans or specifications for and observes or supervises the construction, enlargement, or alteration of a building for another person; or advertises or puts out a sign, card, or drawing designating the person as an architect or architectural designer or uses another business or professional title that uses a form of the word "architect." Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.801(a).

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6. Only architects and businesses registered by the Board may use any form of the words "architect" or "architecture" to describe themselves or to describe the services they offer or perform in Texas. 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 1.123(a), (b).

7. By issuing Project Services Contract and offering to provide architectural services for *New Medical Clinic / Office* in Houston, Respondent violated Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.701(a).

8. By preparing and issuing architectural plans *New Medical Clinic / Office* in Houston, pursuant to an offer to provide architectural services, while improperly using the term "architectural" to describe services offered or provided by Respondent and/or Respondent's firm in Texas, Respondent violated Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.701(a).

9. By improperly using "architectural" in titles to describe Respondent on Respondent's LinkedIn profile, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.123(c).

10. Respondent is currently a candidate, a person approved to take the Architectural Registration Examination, as defined by 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.5(18).

11. Senate Bill 509 (77th Regular Session, 2001), subsequently codified as Tex. Occ. Code §1954.259, prohibits a municipality that requires a person to obtain a permit before renovating or demolishing a public or commercial building from issuing the permit unless the applicant provides:

> "(1) evidence acceptable to the municipality that an asbestos survey, as required by this chapter, of all parts of the building affected by the planned renovation or demolition has been completed by a person licensed under this chapter to perform a survey; or
>
> (2) a certification from a licensed engineer or registered architect, stating that:

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(A) the engineer or architect has reviewed the material safety data sheets for the materials used in the original construction, the subsequent renovations or alterations of all parts of the building affected by the planned renovation or demolition, and any asbestos surveys of the building previously conducted in accordance with this chapter; and

(B) in the engineer's or architect's professional opinion, all parts of the building affected by the planned renovation or demolition do not contain asbestos."

12. Under the circumstances of the submission of the asbestos letter to the city of Houston, including the surrendered status of R.W.B.'s architectural registration, Respondent's receipt of the letter from an unrelated individual, Respondent's lack of any contact or communication with R.W.B., and Respondent's inability or unwillingness to provide basic information about the request for or creation of the letter, the Board finds that Respondent knew or should have known that the letter was not written or sealed by R.W.B.

13. By submitting a demolition permit application to the City of Houston utilizing a fraudulently obtained Texas architect's seal, Respondent aided and abetted a person not registered under this subtitle in violating Occupations Code Chapter 1051, in violation of Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.752(8).

ORDER

1. It is AGREED and ORDERED, subject to the approval of the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners, that Respondent shall pay to the Board an administrative penalty in the amount of Nine Thousand Dollars ($9,000). The administrative penalty is due within 30 days from the date this Order is ratified by the Board. Failure to timely pay the administrative penalty shall be considered a violation of this Board Order, subject to a penalty of up to, and

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including, denial, suspension, or revocation of Respondent's architectural registration. Respondent shall pay the administrative penalty regardless of whether Respondent continues to seek registration as an architect in Texas.

2. It is AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL cease and desist any and all violations of the Texas Occupations Code Chapter 1051 and Board rules.

3. It is AGREED and ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL ensure that for his firm *KADS, LLC*, or any other firm owned by Respondent and registered by the Board to offer or provide architectural services in Texas, any practice of architecture or architectural service performed on behalf of the firm is performed by or through a person registered as an architect. Furthermore, it is ORDERED that RESPONDENT SHALL ensure that any and all architectural plans issued by such firm shall be produced by or under the supervision and control of an architect and sealed, signed, and dated by the architect in accordance with the laws and rules of the Board.

4. It is further AGREED and ORDERED, subject to the approval of the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners, that Respondent shall retain his status as an approved candidate for the Architect Registration Examination. Provided that Respondent does not engage in violations of this Order or the Board's laws or rules occurring after the date of entry of this Order, neither the violations of law addressed in this Agreed Order, nor any other violation of law relating to the unauthorized practice of architecture occurring prior to the entry of this order, shall be used by the Board as a ground for denial of Respondent's registration as an architect.

5. If Respondent is found to have violated this Order or the laws or rules governing the practice of architecture based on conduct occurring after the date of this Order, the

Docusign Envelope ID: 6BF24DB7-E1C8-8CCC-8095-C858F05239E8

violations addressed by this Order and any other act may be considered in any action to deny architectural registration to Respondent. Under all circumstances, Respondent shall be required to comply with this Order and satisfy all generally applicable licensure eligibility requirements prior to becoming registered as an architect.

6. Upon approval by the Board, the Chair of the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners is authorized to sign this Agreed Eligibility Order on behalf of the Board.

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I, Carson Ka-Shun Leung, have reviewed the foregoing Agreed Order issued by the Executive Director of the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners. I understand I may contest the findings and proposed administrative penalty and waive all such rights. I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Agreed Order.

I understand and agree that Board staff and counsel for the Board will communicate directly with the adjudicating members of the Board during the meeting regarding this disciplinary action without participation by me or my counsel should I choose not to appear at the meeting. I understand that the Board is free to accept or reject this Agreed Order, and if rejected by the Board, a formal disciplinary hearing on this matter may be scheduled. I understand the Board members who consider this Agreed Order may be the same members who later consider the Proposal for Decision resulting from the disciplinary hearing, if this Agreed Order is not accepted. I hereby waive any argument that any Board member considering this Agreed Order is disqualified from future consideration of a Proposal for Decision in this case.

By my signature on this agreement, I agree to the entry of this Agreed Order with the terms outlined above. I waive judicial review of the Agreed Order. I understand that when the Agreed Order becomes final and the terms become effective, a copy will be mailed to me. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of the Agreed Order, I may be subject to further disciplinary action as a consequence of my noncompliance. My signature below signifies that I will comply with all terms and conditions of the Agreed Order following the Board's approval.

Signature: Signed by: Carson Leung A99209BA2F7B4E9... **Date:** 10/16/2026

CARSON KA-SHUN LEUNG

STATE OF TX **§**

COUNTY OF Travis **§**

16 **SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me, the undersigned Notary Public, on the** 16 **day of** October**, 20**26 **by Carson Ka-Shun Leung.**

By: Signed by: Siobhan Kennon BF58AA80E1804EB...

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF TX

SIOBHAN KENNON
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF TEXAS
Commission #131828717
My Comm. Expires December 14, 2026

RATIFICATION BY TEXAS BOARD OR ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ratifies and adopts the Agreed Order that was signed on October 16**, 2026, by Carson Ka-Shun Leung, Respondent. This Agreed Order is final.**

Ratified and adopted November 19**, 2026.**

_____
DARREN L. JAMES, FAIA
Chair
TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**161-24A**
Respondent:	**Jose Ignacio Perezanta**
Location of Respondent:	**Houston, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Jose Ignacio Perezanta (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 27220.
- The Patel Offices building is a new, 27,000 square foot, three-story commercial building located in Live Oak, Texas.
- At all times relevant to this matter, Respondent was associated with Anlarr Design, LLC ("Anlarr"). Anlarr is not and has never been registered as a firm which may be lawfully held out to the public as offering or providing architectural services in Texas.
- On or about October 17 and October 31, 2023, Anlarr issued construction documents for five projects in the Patel Office building collectively referred to as the *Patel Offices Buildout* project) project ("the Project").
- Subsequently, the construction documents were submitted to the City of Live Oak for permitting or regulatory approval. Respondent did not participate in the drawing or design process at any time prior to the date the documents were submitted for permitting or regulatory approval.
- On or about February 15, 2024, Anlarr contracted with Respondent to provide architectural services for the Project. Anlarr provided Respondent with a copy of the plans that had previously been issued and submitted to the City of Live Oak.
- On or about February 17, 2024, Respondent affixed his architectural seal to the construction documents for the Project.
- On or about February 20, 2024 the plans were resubmitted to the City of Live Oak for the purpose of regulatory approval. The plans that were sealed by Respondent were identical to those that had been previously issued and submitted for permitting on October 17 and October 31,2023 prior to Respondent's involvement in the project.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- Respondent did not prepare, or exercise supervision and control of the preparation of the construction documents for the *Patel Offices Buildout* project. By authorizing the affixation of his seal to the project construction documents that were submitted to the City of Live Oak on February 20, 2024, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.104(a).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of $**5,000** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated July 28, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**171-25A**
Respondent:	**Frank Weir Ragland**
Location of Respondent:	**Dallas, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Frank Weir Ragland (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 14769.
- On or about February 29, 2024, Respondent issued architectural plans and specifications for *Verizon 5444 Westheimer Downsize* in Houston, Texas, a nonexempt project which is subject to the requirements of Tex. Gov't Code § 469.101. However, Respondent did not submit the plans for accessibility review until May 17, 2024.
- On July 2, 2025, Board staff sent a written Notice of Inquiry concerning this matter to Respondent's email address on record. Respondent was asked to a provide written response and to complete a TDLR Referral Response Form. Respondent did not timely respond to the July 2 inquiry.
- On September 9, 2025 and December 5, 2025, Board staff sent follow-up inquiries to Respondent, requesting a written response to the Notice of Inquiry and informing him that his failure to respond could result in violation of 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.171. Respondent did not timely respond to the September 9 and December 5 inquiries.
- Respondent has not responded to a written inquiry from Board staff regarding this matter as of the date of this notice.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- A design professional with overall responsibility for the design of a nonexempt building or facility shall submit plans and specifications to a registered accessibility specialist no later than 20 days after issuance. Tex. Gov't Code §§ 469.101-102.
- By failing to submit plans and specifications on a project for accessibility review no later than 20th day after issuance, Respondent violated Tex. Gov't Code § 469.102(b) and 16 Tex. Admin Code § 68.50, which provide grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.752(2) and 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.170(a).
- By failing to respond to the written inquiries from Board staff dated July 8, 2025, September 9, 2025, and December 5, 2025 within 30 days, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code. § 1.171.

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$2,500** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated June 17, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**075-25N**
SOAH Docket No.:	**459-26-13657**
Respondent:	**Brandon Layne Wilbois**
Location of Respondent:	**Conroe, TX**
Instrument:	**Notice of Hearing with Formal Charges**

Findings:

- See attached Notice of Hearing with Formal Charge**s**

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which incorporates the Staff's Notice of Hearing, Formal Charges, SOAH Order Granting Motion for Reconsideration Granting Default Dismissal issued by Administrative Law Judge Sheldon Wayne on August 24, 2026, and SOAH's letter dated September 9, 2026.
- The Order imposes an administrative penalty of **$6,000** and orders Respondent to cease and desist from engaging in any conduct that violates Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1051, or 22 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 1.

SOAH DOCKET NO. 459-26-13657
TBAE CASE NO. 075-25N

IN THE MATTER OF	§	BEFORE THE TEXAS BOARD OF
	§	
BRANDON LAYNE WILBOIS	§	ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: BRANDON LAYNE WILBOIS
2477 FM 1488 RD. #523
CONROE, TX 77384

At the regularly scheduled public meeting on November 19, 2026, the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners (Board) heard the above-styled case, based on Brandon Layne Wilbois' (Respondent) failure to appear at a previously scheduled hearing at the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH).

The Board finds that notice of the facts or conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action in this matter was provided to the Respondent in the form of a Notice of Hearing and Formal Charges, attached and incorporated herein. The Board finds that the matter was originally scheduled for a video conference hearing on July 1, 2026. The Board finds that after proper and timely notice was given, a videoconference hearing was held in this matter before Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Sheldon Wayne on July 1, 2026. Respondent failed to appear at the hearing, and on August 24, 2026, ALJ Wayne entered an Order Granting the Motion for Reconsideration of the Default Dismissal, which is attached and incorporated by reference as a part of this Order of the Board. The Board adopts the Order Granting the Motion for Reconsideration of the Default Dismissal and all findings therein. The Order Granting the Motion for Reconsideration of the Default Dismissal was properly served on all parties, and Respondent was given an opportunity to file a motion and set aside the default not later than 15 days from the date of the Order signed on August

24, 2026. No motion to set aside the default was filed by Respondent, and SOAH sent a letter of remand to the Board on September 9, 2026. The Board finds that it is authorized to enter a default order pursuant to Texas Government Code § 2001.056.

The Board, after review and due consideration of the Order Granting the Motion for Reconsideration of the Default Dismissal and Respondent's presentation during the open meeting, if any, adopts the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law as stated in the Notice of Hearing and Formal Charges, which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference for all purposes. Additionally, the Board adopts the recommended penalty in the Notice of Hearing and Formal Charges.

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED THAT RESPONDENT SHALL cease and desist from engaging in any conduct that violates Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1051, or 22 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 1.

RESPONDENT SHALL NOT engage in or offer to engage in the practice of architecture as defined by Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1051, unless and until Respondent becomes registered by the Board as an architect. This Order does not prohibit Respondent from acting within any exception set out in Tex. Occ. Code §§ 1051.601-1051.606, provided that Respondent complies with all limitations of the exceptions.

RESPONDENT SHALL NOT use any form of the word "architect" or "architecture" to describe Respondent or services provided by Respondent in the state of Texas unless and until Respondent becomes registered by the Board as an architect.

RESPONDENT SHALL NOT accept employment with, knowingly provide services for or on behalf of, or hold any ownership or managerial authority in any firm, partnership, corporation or association that represents to the public that the entity is engaged in the practice of architecture

or is offering architectural services, or otherwise uses any form of the word "architect" or "architecture" in any manner in its name, unless any practice or architecture or performance of architectural services on behalf of the entity if performed by and through a duly registered architect and the entity is duly registered as a firm which may practice architecture in Texas.

RESPONDENT SHALL pay the Board an administrative penalty in the amount of Six Thousand Dollars ($6,000). The administrative penalty must be postmarked or delivered to the Board's office within thirty days (30) days after the date on which this Order becomes final.

Entered this 19th day of November 2026.

_____

DARREN L. JAMES, FAIA
CHAIR
TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS

Attachments:

Notice of Hearing filed March 5, 2026 and Formal Charges filed February 27, 2026;
SOAH Order Granting Motion for Reconsideration Granting Default Dismissal signed August 24, 2026; and
SOAH Letter of Remand dated September 9, 2026.

SOAH Docket No. 459-26-13657

Texas Board of Architectural Examiners, *Petitioner*	§ §	STATE OFFICE
v.	§ §	OF
Brandon Layne Wilbois, *Respondent*	§ §	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

NOTICE OF HEARING

In accordance with Section 2001.051 et seq., Texas Government Code, you are hereby notified that a **videoconference hearing will be held on July 1, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.** central time before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) with the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) regarding the Formal Charges filed by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners and attached and incorporated by reference as a part of this notice.

In the Order Scheduling Hearing on the Merits dated February 27, 2026, the Administrative Law Judge provided instructions on how to join the hearing. The hearing will be held remotely via Zoom videoconference. 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 155.405(c). The audio portion of the hearing will be recorded, and it will be the official record of the proceeding. Attend the hearing in one of these ways:

- Join by computer or smart device:
  Go to https://soah-texas.zoomgov.com and enter the following:
  Meeting ID: 160 916 1521
  Video Passcode: BAE3657

- Join by telephone (audio only):
  Call +1 669 254 5252, and then enter the following:
  Meeting ID: 160 916 1521
  Telephone Passcode: 0281379

The hearing is to be held under the legal authority and jurisdiction of the Administrative Procedures Act, Texas Government Code § 2001 et seq; SOAH Procedural Rules, Texas Administrative Code Chapter 155; Architects' Registration Law, Texas Occupations Code §§ 1051.401, 1051.451-1051.455, 1051.504; and Rules and Regulations of the Board, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 1.173, 1.231 and 1.232.

The particular sections of statutes and rules involved in determining the charges are stated in the attached Formal Charges in connection to the facts or conduct alleged.

You are requested to enter an appearance in this proceeding by filing a written answer or other responsive pleading with the State Office of Administrative Hearings, P.O. Box 13025,

Austin, Texas, 78711-3025, with a copy to Andrew VanDyke, Assistant General Counsel (andrew.vandyke@tbae.texas.gov). Continuances are set by the Administrative Law Judge.

You have the right to appear at this hearing and to have legal representation at the hearing at your own expense. **FAILURE TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING IN PERSON OR BY LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER AN APPEARANCE HAS BEEN ENTERED, WILL RESULT IN THE ALLEGATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FORMAL CHARGES BEING ADMITTED AS TRUE AND THE PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION OF STAFF SHALL BE GRANTED BY DEFAULT**.

PARTIES THAT ARE NOT REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY MAY OBTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING CONTESTED CASE HEARINGS ON THE PUBLIC WEBSITE OF THE STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AT www.soah.texas.gov, OR IN PRINTED FORMAT UPON REQUEST TO SOAH.

Additional information on the SOAH website includes a Guide for Self-Represented Litigants, instructions for Electronic Filing at SOAH, and a form to Request Service by Email.

If it is determined that the Formal Charges are substantiated, then any prior disciplinary action that has been taken against you will be considered when determining the appropriate sanction for these violations.

Issued, dated, and mailed this, the 5th day of March, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS

By: _____
Lance Brenton
Executive Director

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Notice of Hearing and Formal Charges were sent on March 5, 2026:

Brandon Layne Wilbois
2477 FM 1488 Rd. #523
Conroe, TX 77384
via USPS CM/RRR No. 9214 8901 9403 8360 3561 53
also sent via USPS First Class Mail

Brandon Layne Wilbois
via eFile to: bwilbois@charter.net

State Office of Administrative Hearings
via eFile



Andrew VanDyke
Assistant General Counsel

STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS RECEIVED ON 2/27/2026 9:40 AM

FILED
459-26-13657
2/27/2026 9:40 AM
STATE OFFICE OF
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
Amy Tippie , CLERK

459-26-13657

SOAH Docket No. 459-26-_____

ACCEPTED
459-26-13657
2/27/2026 9:45:17 am
STATE OFFICE OF
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
Amy Tippie , CLERK

Texas Board of Architectural Examiners, *Petitioner*	§	STATE OFFICE
v.	§	OF
Brandon Layne Wilbois, *Respondent*	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

FORMAL CHARGES

This is a disciplinary proceeding under Tex. Occ. Code §§ 1051.451 and 1051.455. Respondent, BRANDON LAYNE WILBOIS, is not and has never been registered as an architect with the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners.

On or about May 8, 2020, the Board issued a written warning to Respondent in TBAE Case No. 009-20N based on findings that Respondent improperly used the term "architectural design." The written warning notified Respondent that any future violation could result in formal disciplinary action.

Written notice of the facts and conduct alleged to warrant disciplinary action in the current matter was sent to Respondent at Respondent's address of record and Respondent was given an opportunity to show compliance with all requirements of the law prior to commencement of this proceeding.

CHARGE I.

On or about January 17, 2025, Respondent utilized a Facebook.com profile, which improperly used the term "architect" to describe Respondent and/or to describe services offered and/or performed by Respondent in Texas.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.752(1) and is a violation of Tex. Occ. Code §§ 1051.701, 1051.801 and/or 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.123.

CHARGE II.

On or about March 11, 2025, Respondent utilized a Facebook.com profile, which improperly used the term "architect" to describe Respondent and/or to describe services offered and/or performed by Respondent in Texas.

The above action constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.752(1) and is a violation of Tex. Occ. Code §§ 1051.701, 1051.801 and/or 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.123.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that Petitioner will rely on its laws and rules relating to disciplinary sanctions found in Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1051, and Texas Administrative Code, Title 22, Part 1, Chapter 1.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that Petitioner will present evidence in support of the recommended administrative penalty of $6,000 and issuance of a cease and desist order, pursuant to Texas Occupations Code Chapter 1051 and Board rules, specifically 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 1.141, 1.172, 1.173, 1.177, and 1.232.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that all statutes and rules cited in these Formal Charges are incorporated as part of this pleading and can be found at http://www.tbae.texas.gov/statutes-rules/.

Filed this February 27, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew VanDyke
Assistant General Counsel
Texas Board of Architectural Examiners
State Bar No. 24096741
505 E. Huntland Dr., Ste. 350
Austin, TX 78752
(512) 305-8519
andrew.vandyke@tbae.texas.gov

SOAH Docket No. 459-26-13657 **Suffix: TBAE**

BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS,
PETITIONER
V.
BRANDON LAYNE WILBOIS,
RESPONDENT

ORDER NO. 3: GRANTING MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION, GRANTING DEFAULT DISMISSAL, AND CANCELING HEARING

NOTICE TO PARTIES: This Order CANCELS the hearing set for August 25, 2026.

On July 1, 2026, the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) convened a hearing on the merits in this matter via Zoom videoconference. Attorney Andrew VanDyke appeared on behalf of the staff (Staff) of the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners (Board). Brandon Layne Wilbois (Respondent) did not appear and was

not represented at the hearing. Staff Exhibits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 were admitted,[1] and the ALJ took official notice of the State Office of Administrative Hearing's (SOAH) file in this case, including specifically Staff's Notice of Hearing and the Order Scheduling Hearing on the Merits, which set the hearing by Zoom videoconference and provided instructions for participating in the hearing.

Staff moved for a default dismissal, which the ALJ took under advisement. After review of the case file and admitted exhibits, the ALJ found the documents contained adequate information regarding the details of the hearing. However, the ALJ concluded that Staff had not shown adequate notice to Respondent, and issued Order No. 2, denying Staff's request for a default dismissal.[2]

Staff had previously attempted to support its request for a default dismissal by showing its Notice of Hearing had been served on Respondent via mail at 2477 FM 1488 Rd., Apt. 523, Conroe, Texas, and via electronic mail at bwilbois@charter.net. However, neither address has been shown to be sufficiently connected to Respondent for purposes of establishing notice. The email address utilized by Staff was particularly problematic because the automated certificate of service indicates that its attempted use resulted in an error.

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[1] Staff exhibits consisted of: (1) Petitioner's Notice of Hearing and Formal Charges; (2) Business Records Affidavit of TBAE Registration History; (3) TBAE Certified Copy of the Notice of Inquiry for Case No. 017-25N; (4) TBAE Certified Copy of the TBAE follow up to the Notice of Inquiry; (5) January 17, 2025 Facebook profile for Brandon Layne Wilbois; and (6) March 11, 2025 Facebook profile for Brandon Layne Wilbois (Charge II).

[2] *See* 1 Texas Administrative Code § 155.501(b)(3)(B).

Prior to sending the Notice of Hearing, Staff had sent its Notice of Inquiry to Respondent via axialdesign@icloud.com, an email address obtained from Respondent's Facebook profile, and also mailed a copy to 2477 FM 1488 Rd., Apt. 523, Conroe, Texas, an address obtained from a background search of Respondent. Following its transmittal, a Staff investigator sent an email to Respondent at the axialdesign@icloud.com address, which noted that Respondent had confirmed receipt of the Notice of Inquiry.

Based on the exhibits admitted at the hearing, the ALJ was able to reasonably conclude that Respondent received the Notice of Inquiry, but it was unclear whether he received it via email at axialdesign@icloud.com, at the physical address on FM 1488 Rd., or both. Therefore, when Staff provided evidence that it used both the bwilbois@charter.net email address and FM 1488 Rd. address to serve the Notice of Hearing, the ALJ was unable to conclude that notice had been adequately established.

On August 14, 2026, Staff filed a Response to SOAH Order No. 2 and Motion for Reconsideration of Default Dismissal (Motion).[3] In its filing, Staff provided additional explanation and evidence of its attempts to serve Respondent. It explained that on March 9, 2026, it had sent the Notice of Hearing to bwilbois@charter.net and axialdesign@icloud.com, and additionally mailed the

[3] Staff's Response and Motion was filed August 5, 2026, but, because of a filing error on Staff's part, it was rejected and was only accepted by SOAH's filing system on August 14, 2026.

notice to the address on FM 1488 Rd. As evidence, Staff attached the email and attachments it sent to Respondent.[4]

The ALJ interprets Staff's Motion to include an implicit request that the exhibit attached to it be considered as evidence in this matter. Therefore, given that Staff served its Motion to Respondent on August 14, 2026, and to date, Respondent has not filed a response, Staff's Exhibit No. 7, consisting of an email with the Notice of Hearing attached to it, is hereby **ADMITTED**.

In light of this additional evidence, and considering that Staff utilized both the axialdesign@icloud.com email address and the FM 1488 Rd. address to serve Respondent with the Notice of Hearing, the undersigned ALJ now concludes that Staff has shown proof of adequate notice to Respondent.[5] Therefore, Staff's Motion to reconsider and the underlying motion for a default dismissal are **GRANTED**, and the factual allegations detailed in the Notice of Hearing and the documents incorporated within that notice are deemed admitted.[6] As such, the hearing currently set for **August 25, 2026**, is **CANCELED**.

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[4] Staff Ex. No. 7, Bates p. 0037-0044.

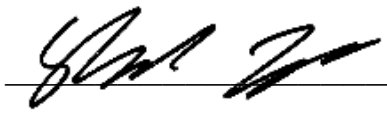
[5] 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 155.501(b).

[6] 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 155.501(d)(1).

Respondent may file a motion to set aside the default within 15 days of the date of this order.[7] The motion must show good cause for resetting a hearing or show that the interests of justice require setting aside the default. If Respondent does not file a timely motion, or if the ALJ finds that a filed motion should be denied, the contested case will be remanded to the Board for informal disposition on a default basis in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.[8]

SIGNED August 24, 2026.

ALJ Signature:



Sheldon Wayne

Presiding Administrative Law Judge

[7] 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 155.501(e).

[8] Tex. Gov't Code §§ 2001.056, .058(d-1).

State Office of Administrative Hearings

Kristofer S. Monson
Chief Administrative Law Judge

September 9, 2026

Andrew VanDyke, TBAE Staff Attorney **VIA EFILE TEXAS**

Brandon Layne Wilbois **VIA EFILE TEXAS & REGULAR MAIL**
2477 FM 1488 Rd., #5
Conroe, TX 77384

RE: SOAH Docket Number 459-26-13657;
Texas Board of Architectural Examiners No. 075-25N;
Texas Board of Architectural Examiners v. Brandon Layne Wilbois

Dear Parties:

Please be advised that the time period to file a motion to set aside the default order that was issued in the above-referenced hearing has expired and no set aside motion was filed. *See* 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 155.501. Therefore, the State Office of Administrative Hearings has concluded its involvement in the matter, and the case is remanded to the referring agency.

CC: Service List

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**129-26A**
Respondent:	**Michael Clay Adams**
Location of Respondent:	**Eugene, OR**
Instrument:	**Revised Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Michael Clay Adams (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 19071.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent could not produce a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- Respondent claimed 12 hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after the audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $100 per hour of deficiency.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.165(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$600** as set forth in the Revised Report and Notice of Violation dated October 28, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**131-26A**
Respondent:	**Jack Black**
Location of Respondent:	**Tempe, AZ**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Jack Black (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 29734.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent could produce a detailed record of continuing education activities for only seven hours of qualifying continuing education credit for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- Respondent claimed five hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after the audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities is $100 per hour of deficiency.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.165(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$250** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated September 22, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**137-26L**
Respondent:	**Charles Cooper**
Location of Respondent:	**Austin, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Charles Cooper (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as a landscape architect in Texas with registration number 3770.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent completed only four hours of qualifying continuing education credit for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- When renewing their annual registration, Respondent falsely certified compliance with continuing education requirements when they had not completed sufficient continuing education to make this certification.
- Respondent claimed eight hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after the audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to timely complete 12 hours of qualifying continuing education credit hours during the audit period of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 3.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $100 per hour of deficiency.
- By falsely certifying compliance with continuing education requirements when renewing their annual registration, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 3.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $500.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 3.165(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$900** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated October 13, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**136-26L**
Respondent:	**Aileen Dryden**
Location of Respondent:	**Austin, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Aileen Dryden (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as a landscape architect in Texas with registration number 2999.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent could produce acceptable documentation for the completion of only five hours of qualifying continuing education credit during the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- Respondent claimed seven hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after the audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 3.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $100 per hour of deficiency.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 3.165(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$350** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated October 13, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**128-26A**
Respondent:	**Mark Steven Epstein**
Location of Respondent:	**San Antonio, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Mark Steven Epstein (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 29791.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent completed only four hours of qualifying continuing education credit during the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- Previously, on May 23, 2024, the Board issued an Order to Respondent in TBAE Case No. 114-24A based on findings that the Respondent failed to timely complete continuing education requirements. Under the terms of the Order, Respondent was ordered to pay an administrative penalty of $600.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to timely complete 12 hours of qualifying continuing education credit hours during the audit period, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $100 per hour of deficiency.

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Since Respondent has previously been subject to discipline for failure to comply with continuing education requirements, Respondent is subject to increased penalties under 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 1.177(5) and 1.232(k). Therefore, the Executive Director recommends that the Board enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$1,500** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated July 14, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**150-26A**
Respondent:	**Will Howard Fox**
Location of Respondent:	**Austin, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Will Howard Fox (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 29763.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined Respondent could produce acceptable documentation for the completion of only seven hours of qualifying continuing education credit during the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- Respondent claimed five hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after the audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $100 per hour of deficiency.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.165(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$250** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated October 13, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**126-26I**
Respondent:	**Elizabeth Lynne Franklin**
Location of Respondent:	**Richardson, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Elizabeth Lynne Franklin (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an interior designer in Texas with registration number 12944.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent could produce acceptable documentation for the completion of only 10 hours of qualifying continuing education credit during the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- Respondent claimed two hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after the audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 5.79. The standard administrative penalty for failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities is $100 per hours of deficiency.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 5.175(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$100** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated July 14, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**149-26A**
Respondent:	**Christine Hofnagel**
Location of Respondent:	**Philadelphia, PA**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Christine Hofnagel (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 29199.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent completed only four hours of qualifying continuing education credit during the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- When renewing their annual registration, Respondent falsely certified compliance with continuing education requirements when they had not completed sufficient continuing education to make this certification.
- Respondent claimed eight hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after the audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to timely complete 12 hours of qualifying continuing education credit hours during the audit period, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $100 per hour of deficiency.
- By falsely certifying compliance with continuing education requirements when renewing their annual registration, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $500.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.165(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$900** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated October 13, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**123-26A**
Respondent:	**Matthew Kustusch**
Location of Respondent:	**Deerfield, IL**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Matthew Kustusch (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 30865.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent could produce acceptable documentation for the completion of only seven hours of qualifying continuing education credit during the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- Respondent claimed 5.25 hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after the audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities is $100 per hour of deficiency.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.165(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$250** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated July 14, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**151-26I**
Respondent:	**Megan Bailey Luera**
Location of Respondent:	**Houston, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Megan Bailey Luera (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as a interior designer in Texas with registration number 13048.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent could produce acceptable documentation for only nine hours of qualifying continuing education credit for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 5.79. The standard administrative penalty for failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities is $100 per hour of deficiency.

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$300** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated October 13, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**159-26I**
Respondent:	**Suzanne McHenry**
Location of Respondent:	**Irving, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Suzanne McHenry (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as a registered interior designer in Texas with registration number 10945.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent could produce acceptable documentation for the completion of only eight hours of qualifying continuing education credit during the audit period of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.
- Previously, on November 19, 2020, the Board issued an Order to Respondent in TBAE Case No. 076-20I based on findings that the Respondent failed to timely complete continuing education requirements. Under the terms of the Order, Respondent was ordered to pay an administrative penalty of $700.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 5.79. The standard administrative penalty for failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities is $100 per hours of deficiency.
- Under 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 5.187(5) and 5.242(k) a registrant who has previously been found to have violated the Board's laws and rules is subject to increased administrative penalties.

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Since Respondent has previously been subject to discipline for failure to comply with continuing education requirements, Respondent is subject to increased penalties under 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 5.187(5) and 5.242 (k). Therefore, the Executive Director recommends that the Board enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$800** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated October 13, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**130-26A**
Respondent:	**Kamran Mouzoon**
Location of Respondent:	**Houston, TX**
Instrument:	**Revised Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Kamran Mouzoon (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 13684.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent completed only four hours of qualifying continuing education credit for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- When renewing their annual registration, Respondent falsely certified compliance with continuing education requirements when they had not completed sufficient continuing education to make this certification.
- Respondent claimed eight hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after the audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to timely complete 12 hours of qualifying continuing education credit hours during the audit period of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $100 per hour of deficiency.
- By falsely certifying compliance with continuing education requirements when renewing their annual registration, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $500.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.165(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$900** as set forth in the Revised Report and Notice of Violation dated September 30, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**162-26A**
Respondent:	**Daniel J. Peterson**
Location of Respondent:	**Houston, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Daniel J. Peterson (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 12707.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent could not produce a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- Respondent claimed 12 hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after the audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $100 per hour of deficiency.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.65(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$600** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated October 13, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**152-26A**
Respondent:	**Paul Eric Reimer**
Location of Respondent:	**Tucson, AZ**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Paul Eric Reimer (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 28221.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent failed to complete qualifying continuing education during the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- When renewing their annual registration, Respondent falsely certified compliance with continuing education requirements when they had not completed sufficient continuing education to make this certification.
- Respondent claimed 12 hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to timely complete 12 hours of qualifying continuing education credit hours during the audit period, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $100 per hour of deficiency.
- By falsely certifying compliance with continuing education requirements when renewing their annual registration, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $500.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.165(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$1,100** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated October 13, 2026.

TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ENFORCEMENT ACTION

This is an internal document summarizing disciplinary action to be considered by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners ("the Board"). This document is prepared to inform, advise, and assist the Board in addressing this matter.

Case Number:	**135-26A**
Respondent:	**Kyle Vansice**
Location of Respondent:	**Austin, TX**
Instrument:	**Report and Notice of Violation**

Findings:

- Kyle Vansice (hereafter "Respondent") is registered as an architect in Texas with registration number 30734.
- Based upon the results of a continuing education audit, it was determined that Respondent could produce acceptable documentation for completion of only four hours of qualifying continuing education credit during the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.
- Respondent claimed nine hours of supplemental continuing education that were completed after the audit period ended.

Applicable Statutory Provisions and Rules:

- By failing to maintain a detailed record of continuing education activities for the audit period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, Respondent violated 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.69. The standard administrative penalty for this violation is $100 per hour of deficiency.
- Respondent's completion of supplemental continuing education has been considered as a mitigating factor in support of a reduced administrative penalty. 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 1.65(f)(6).

Action Recommended by Executive Director:

- Enter an Order which adopts the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommended administrative penalty of **$400** as set forth in the Report and Notice of Violation dated September 22, 2026.

NCARB

The Standards
for NCARB's Competency-Based Licensure Programs

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards
Customer Service: 202-879-0520 | Main: 202-783-6500
www.ncarb.org

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Executive Summary

This document is for policymakers, legislators, regulatory boards, professional organizations, individual advocates, and other stakeholders evaluating, developing, or amending architectural licensure requirements. The recommendations herein are advisory and serve as a resource to guide decision-making and support the adoption of regulations that evolve and enhance public protection.

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) is updating its licensure programs to align with a nationally recognized competency standard that reflects evolving practice while continuing to ensure public protection. A "competency standard" is a clearly defined description of the knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors that a person must demonstrate to perform a role, task, or responsibility successfully. The updates will build upon and modernize a longstanding approach to architect licensure programs. The term "architect" is defined by law in each state or territory, and a license granted by a state or territory is required to provide architectural services. Jurisdictions regulate architecture and other professions to protect the public health, safety, and welfare. NCARB's competency-based licensure programs will simultaneously advance public protection, expand access to the profession, and continue to provide professional mobility.

Rather than replacing the foundational elements of architectural licensure, the proposed system represents the next evolution of NCARB's education programs, the Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®), and the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®), aligning each component to a nationally recognized competency standard.

NCARB's competency-based licensure programs preserve commitment to rigorous standards and public protection while creating more accessible and responsive pathways to licensure. For decades, architectural licensure has relied on three complementary mechanisms to prepare candidates for independent practice: education, experience, and examination. These elements have served the profession well by providing structured opportunities to acquire and demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to protect the public. The proposed competency-based licensure programs build on these proven foundations by focusing more directly on the underlying competencies that education, experience, and examination have always been intended to develop and assess.

At the center of competency-based licensure programs is the *NCARB Competency Standard for Architects*. Adopted in 2024, it represents a nationally validated benchmark developed through extensive research, engagement with regulators, practitioners, and educators, and rigorous psychometric analysis. The *Competency Standard* identifies the knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors required for safe and effective independent practice and establishes a common national standard against which all licensure candidates are assessed.

NCARB's educational programs will evolve to recognize architecture-related education of all forms as well as recognizing demonstrated achievement of competencies through accredited degree programs or approved coursework. The AXP will evolve from broad experience areas to a program that emphasizes demonstrating and applying focused professional competencies across work settings, while maintaining

the important role of supervised employment and time in practice. The ARE will evolve from a large-format model of six divisions into a suite of more focused assessments that include traditional standardized assessments and guided learning with a standardized assessment component.

This evolution reflects a simple but important principle: all candidates should meet the same standard of professional competence, regardless of how they acquire it. By measuring outcomes rather than prescribing a single pathway, NCARB's competency-based licensure programs enable licensure candidates to develop competencies through education, professional practice, military service, apprenticeships, alternative educational experiences, and other validated learning, while ensuring every individual meets the same minimum threshold for independent practice.

Historically, policymakers and regulators have often viewed rigor and accessibility as competing objectives. NCARB's competency-based licensure programs demonstrate they can be achieved together. The proposed programs build on existing rigorous standards by evaluating individuals on demonstrated competency, improving confidence that individuals are truly prepared for independent practice. At the same time, the proposed programs create a more accessible licensure process that will allow all qualified individuals the opportunity to demonstrate competence and become licensed as architects.

Ultimately, NCARB's competency-based licensure programs represent the natural progression of NCARB's longstanding focus on removing unnecessary barriers to licensure. By integrating and updating the principles embodied in current education, experience, and examination programs, the licensing boards can preserve their commitment to public protection while creating a more accessible licensure process that evolves alongside architectural practice.

1. Introduction and Overview

1.1 Purpose of This Document

This document provides a comprehensive overview of the planned full integration of the *NCARB Competency Standard for Architects* (hereafter, the *Competency Standard*) into the existing licensure framework. This document provides details about the requirements, programs, and policies for updating architectural licensure statutes, regulations, and administrative policies related to initial licensure requirements. It establishes standards and guiding principles intended to support the consistent regulation of granting a license to practice architecture that protects public health, safety, and welfare.

The standards presented in this document reflect a commitment to protecting the public through rigorous yet accessible pathways to licensure. They are intended to promote consistency among jurisdictions while preserving the authority of individual licensing boards and legislative bodies to address local legal, regulatory, and public policy considerations.

As the practice of architecture continues to evolve in response to advances in technology, project delivery methods, and societal needs, regulatory systems must adapt to remain relevant and effective. This document provides jurisdictions with an overview of policy recommendations and implementation considerations that support regulatory modernization while maintaining the fundamental competencies necessary for the independent practice of architecture.

By promoting greater uniformity in licensure requirements and regulatory practices, this document seeks to advance mutual recognition among jurisdictions, reduce unnecessary licensure barriers, and support national professional standards that benefit regulators, practitioners, and the public.

1.2 Scope and Applicability

This document is designed for policymakers, legislators, regulatory boards, professional organizations, individual advocates, and other stakeholders engaged in developing, evaluating, or amending architectural licensure requirements. The recommendations herein are intended to help jurisdictions align with contemporary standards of professional practice, licensure, education, experience, examination, and mobility.

Approved by the NCARB Board of Directors, this document serves as an advisory resource. Its recommendations do not supersede existing statutory authority. Like all NCARB policy and program documents, it is intended to inform decision-making and encourage regulatory approaches that protect the public, promote professional mobility, and strengthen the architectural profession.

1.3 Public Protection

Public protection is the primary purpose of architectural licensure and the foundation for all regulatory requirements governing the profession. Any modernization of licensure laws, regulations, or administrative processes also can serve to preserve and strengthen safeguards that ensure architects possess the competencies necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of building occupants and the public.

Consistent with its underlying mission to protect the public, regulation focuses on validating the knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors required for independent practice, while ensuring licensure standards remain responsive to changes in technology, project delivery methods, and society's evolving needs.

Competency-based licensure models strengthen public protection by focusing regulatory requirements on those key elements of knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors necessary for the safe and independent practice of architecture. However, rather than relying solely on fixed requirements such as required educational degrees or broad experience area requirements, competency-based approaches assess whether an individual has demonstrated the capabilities required to perform professional responsibilities in a manner that protects the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

NCARB's competency-based licensure programs enable regulators to evaluate individuals against clearly defined professional outcomes and performance expectations. This approach ensures that licensed architects possess the competencies necessary to exercise professional care, coordinate complex building systems, address regulatory requirements, and manage risks inherent in the design and construction process. By emphasizing demonstrated competence, jurisdictions can maintain rigorous standards while supporting pathways to licensure that reflect the wide-ranging educational and professional experiences individuals have acquired.

The *Competency Standard* establishes a nationally recognized benchmark for the minimum competencies required to enter the profession. Developed through a psychometrically rigorous process that included surveys of thousands of professionals and ongoing engagement with regulators, practitioners, educators, and subject matter experts, the standard identifies the core competencies necessary for the safe and effective practice of architecture at the point of initial licensure.

The *Competency Standard* serves as the foundation for NCARB's competency-based updates to existing licensure programs. By aligning existing programs with validated competency expectations, NCARB will provide jurisdictions with an improved, defensible, and data-driven mechanism for assessing whether individuals have achieved the minimum threshold for independent practice.

Importantly, a competency-based approach has been shown to not lower licensure standards. Rather, it provides as good as, or potentially even stronger, public protection by ensuring licensure decisions are based on demonstrated readiness to practice in addition to completing procedural requirements. The *Competency Standard* safeguards minimum competency thresholds by setting consistent expectations and giving jurisdictions reliable programs to evaluate qualifications. This approach lets jurisdictions support modernization and flexibility in licensure pathways while preserving the rigorous standards needed to protect the public and maintain confidence in the profession.

1.4 Enhanced Access

A competency-based approach enables regulators to evaluate all individuals against the same professional standards while providing flexibility in how those competencies are acquired. The integration of competency-based standards for architectural licensure into existing programs currently under development by NCARB is grounded in transparency, consistency, and accountability.

Licensure requirements, competency expectations, and evaluation criteria are clearly defined and readily accessible to applicants, regulators, employers, educators, and the public. Transparent standards promote confidence in the regulatory process by ensuring that qualification decisions are based on objective, measurable, and professionally validated criteria. Likewise, accountability mechanisms will enable jurisdictions to monitor outcomes, assess the effectiveness of licensure requirements, and make data-informed adjustments when necessary. A transparent, accountable regulatory framework supports public trust while ensuring licensure decisions are fair and defensible.

This updated framework will enable licensing boards to remove unnecessary impediments to licensure while also providing a valid pathway for qualified individuals pursuing non-traditional routes to licensure, including those with alternative educational backgrounds, military experience, apprenticeship-based learning, or other forms of validated professional development. By expanding access to licensure opportunities without compromising competency expectations, jurisdictions can strengthen workforce development, widen the pool of qualified candidates, and better position the architectural workforce to meet the needs of the communities it serves.

1.5 Enhanced Opportunities

The proposed updates to current licensure programs represent a logical evolution from a focus on educational pre-requisites, prescribed broad experience areas, and large-format standardized assessments to a more accessible process inclusive of substantially equivalent options that are psychometrically sound and equally rigorous.

Current national model approaches rely on completing specific academic degrees and accumulating prescribed experience as stand-ins for actual proof of skill. These measures support skill development, but there is an opportunity to move beyond this less flexible approach. NCARB's approach better recognizes that individuals acquire professional competencies through a variety of educational, experiential, and developmental pathways. NCARB's approach supports enhanced opportunity by allowing individuals to develop required competencies through multiple forms of learning, including accredited education, professional practice, alternative educational experiences, military service, apprenticeship models, and other forms of professional development.

The competency-based updates to architectural licensure programs currently under development by NCARB will ensure all individuals are evaluated against consistent competency expectations and professional standards. This approach expands access to the profession, supports workforce development, and accommodates the diverse ways in which aspiring architects acquire the capabilities necessary for safe and effective practice, while maintaining consistent standards for public protection.

1.6 The Development Process

NCARB's competency-based updates to its licensure programs result from a multi-year, data-driven, psychometrically validated effort to modernize architect licensure programs and expand access and opportunities to demonstrate qualification to be a licensed architect.

NCARB's 2022 Analysis of Practice, one of the most comprehensive studies of the architectural profession ever conducted, provided initial research findings that guided the development of the *Competency Standard*. The study engaged nearly 20,000 architects and other stakeholders to examine how architecture is practiced, the knowledge and skills required for professional performance, emerging trends affecting the profession, and the competencies necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare. The findings provide empirical evidence regarding the capabilities required at the point of initial licensure and serve as the basis for the ongoing evolution of NCARB's licensure programs and standards.

Building upon the Analysis of Practice, NCARB convened a Competency Task Force composed of licensing board members, practitioners, and educators from across the profession. This task force conducted extensive research into professional competency frameworks, reviewed licensure models used by other regulated professions, evaluated emerging workforce and educational trends, and identified the competencies necessary for independent practice. Nearly 5,000 licensed architects further validated the draft competencies. This work resulted in the *Competency Standard*, developed in 2024, which establishes a nationally validated standard of the knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors required for initial licensure.

To determine the most effective way to integrate the *Competency Standard* into NCARB's licensure programs fully, NCARB convened a multi-year Licensure Process Research and Development Task Force composed of licensing board members, practitioners, and educators from across the profession. This task force researched licensing best practices in other U.S. professions and how other countries license architects. In collaboration with several NCARB committees, the task force refined a proposed update to the licensure process that would allow for individual assessment of each competency as defined in the *Competency Standard*. In addition, this task force researched a variety of assessment options and developed a preliminary set of potential assessment methods that could effectively assess architectural competencies.

Through further work by NCARB's program committees, multiple external consultants, and several iterations of licensing board and stakeholder feedback, the resulting proposed competency-based programs establish a common, rigorous competency-based licensure process that applies across multiple routes to licensure. Regardless of the pathway pursued, all individuals must demonstrate the same minimum level of competency required for independent practice, ensuring that modernization in licensure pathways does not compromise the rigor of the licensure process or the profession's responsibility to protect the public.

NCARB's competency-based licensure programs reflect a commitment to maintaining high standards of public protection while creating a licensure system that is more accessible, adaptable, and responsive to the needs of future generations of architects.

2. Alignment With the *NCARB Competency Standard for Architects*

The *Competency Standard* establishes a nationally recognized framework describing the minimum competencies necessary for safe and effective professional practice. These competencies provide a consistent benchmark against which NCARB programs can evaluate individuals, ensuring that licensure decisions are grounded in demonstrated capability rather than assumptions based solely on credentials or time spent completing requirements.

2.1 Overview of NCARB's Competencies

The *Competency Standard* is organized into three broad domains that reflect architects' primary responsibilities throughout the project lifecycle: Design & Documentation, Construction Administration, and Practice & Project Management. Together, these domains encompass the technical knowledge, professional care, and management capabilities necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

Within these domains, the *Competency Standard* identifies 16 distinct competencies, each defining the professional capabilities required. These competencies are further supported by detailed criteria that describe the specific knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors necessary to practice independently. These criteria clarify the abilities and the level of proficiency required for independent practice.

2.2 Required Competency Outcomes for Licensure

By organizing licensure requirements around validated competencies rather than solely educational credentials or fixed experience areas, NCARB gives jurisdictions a consistent, ability-based method for evaluating readiness for professional practice. The competencies establish a common standard against which all individuals are assessed, ensuring consistent expectations for professional competence and public protection while maintaining flexibility in licensure pathways.

2.3 Updating Competency Standards Over Time

As the profession evolves, the competency standard provides a scalable structure for updating licensure requirements to reflect emerging technologies, project delivery methods, and practice responsibilities while maintaining the fundamental competencies necessary for the independent practice of architecture. Through this approach, the *Competency Standard* supports regulatory modernization and NCARB's mission of safeguarding the public through rigorous, consistent standards for initial licensure, while ensuring professional mobility.

3. Governance and Administrative Structure

3.1 Role of the Jurisdictional Licensing Board

The jurisdictional licensing board serves as the regulatory authority responsible for administering and enforcing the jurisdiction's architectural licensure laws and regulations to protect public health, safety, and welfare. In some cases, the board's function is advisory to a jurisdictional agency or other entity. Acting under authority granted by statute, the board either establishes or provides advice regarding licensure procedures, evaluates applicant qualifications, issues licenses, investigates allegations of misconduct, and takes disciplinary action when necessary. The board's primary responsibility is not to advance the profession's interests, but to ensure that only individuals who have demonstrated the minimum competency required for the independent practice of architecture are authorized to offer professional services to the public. Through effective oversight and administration, the licensing board gives the public confidence that licensed architects have the qualifications to practice safely, ethically, and independently.

3.2 Board Oversight Responsibilities

Through NCARB, architect licensing boards shape and adopt nationally recognized standards that ensure consistent, rigorous evaluation of initial candidates for architectural licensure, as well as licensed architects seeking reciprocal licensure in their jurisdiction. While NCARB develops, administers, and maintains national competency standards and assessment programs, the jurisdictional licensing board retains the authority to grant, deny, renew, suspend, revoke, or otherwise regulate a license to practice architecture.

Where applicable, licensing boards will continue to establish jurisdiction-specific licensure requirements, issue licenses, enforce professional conduct standards, investigate complaints, adjudicate disciplinary matters, and oversee continuing competency requirements. Where applicable, Boards will also retain authority over matters related to practice regulation, firm registration, reciprocal licensure, and compliance with state statutes and administrative rules.

Jurisdictional licensing boards retain ultimate responsibility for ensuring that any assessment used to support architectural licensure decisions adequately protects the public health, safety, and welfare. Such approval is best based on proof that assessments are developed through accepted psychometric practices, informed by current analyses of professional practice, and designed to evaluate the competencies required for safe and effective independent practice.

This approach preserves the traditional balance between national standards and state regulatory authority while enabling greater consistency, mobility, and flexibility in pathways to licensure.

4. Eligibility Requirements

4.1 Education Requirement

To gain access to NCARB's licensure programs, an individual needs a high school diploma or its equivalent (such as a General Educational Development, or GED, credential). Unlike the current educational requirement, obtaining a specific college degree will no longer be the national model for commencing the journey through the licensure process.

Instead, individuals seeking entry into NCARB's competency-based licensure programs shall establish a record with NCARB and provide documentation acceptable to NCARB demonstrating successful completion of secondary education or an equivalent or greater credential. Acceptable documentation may include a high school diploma, general educational development (GED) credential, recognized secondary school equivalency certificate, or other documentation determined by NCARB to represent substantially equivalent or greater achievement.

Establishing a minimum educational threshold supports the integrity of the licensure system while providing a clear and accessible point of entry for all individuals who may be pursuing a variety of educational and professional pathways toward architectural licensure.

NCARB shall maintain policies and procedures for reviewing and validating education documentation and may establish standards for accepting domestic and international credentials. Jurisdictional licensing boards can rely upon NCARB's verification of this requirement in determining an individual's eligibility to participate in NCARB's competency-based licensure programs.

4.2 Approval Requirement

An individual must receive approval from the jurisdiction where they are seeking initial architectural licensure before participating in any NCARB-administered competency assessment. If an individual is undecided on a jurisdiction in which to seek initial licensure, the individual must receive approval from NCARB before participating in any competency assessment. Anyone approved by NCARB must still choose a jurisdiction before NCARB sends their results to a jurisdictional board.

The jurisdictional approval process recognizes the authority of architectural licensing boards to determine participation in the licensure process within their respective jurisdictions. By allowing individuals to select their preferred jurisdiction for initial licensure, the licensure system promotes appropriate regulatory oversight. In addition, allowing undecided individuals to be approved by NCARB to begin taking NCARB-administered assessments facilitates initial access to the licensure process. Undecided individuals must select a jurisdiction for initial licensure before NCARB transmits any competency information to a board of architecture, therefore maintaining jurisdiction-appropriate regulatory oversight.

This approval requirement establishes a consistent national entry point into the assessment process while preserving jurisdictional licensing boards' authority to oversee access to licensure within their respective jurisdictions.

5. Competency Assessments and Licensure Program Requirements

The assessment methods utilized in NCARB's competency-based licensure programs evaluate an individual's ability to apply professional competency in practice-relevant contexts. The system prioritizes performance-based measures that assess an individual's capacity to integrate technical knowledge, regulatory requirements, ethical responsibilities, risk management principles, and professional decision-making. Assessment outcomes will provide reliable and defensible proof that an individual can perform at the minimum level necessary to protect the public.

NCARB's competency-based licensure programs include education, experience, and examination components that validate readiness for licensure. The three primary components are evolving from today's requirements to an integrated system that allows applicants options for demonstrating their qualifications for licensure. As all assessments are being measured against the same competency standard, jurisdictional licensing boards can have confidence in each assessment decision, regardless of which assessment was used to demonstrate competency.

Using multiple assessment approaches allows NCARB to evaluate competencies in the most appropriate manner aligned with the knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors being measured. Regardless of the assessment method used, every individual must demonstrate achievement of the same minimum competencies established by the *Competency Standard*. The validity of the licensure system is grounded not in a single assessment instrument, but in the consistent application of a common competency threshold for all individuals.

By focusing on demonstrated competence and measurable outcomes, the system provides jurisdictions with confidence that all licensure candidates have met a common standard for entry into professional practice, regardless of the pathway through which those competencies were acquired and demonstrated.

5.1 Education Program Requirements: NCARB's Education Programs

Education plays a critical role in developing the knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors required for the safe and independent practice of architecture. Consistent with a competency-based approach to licensure, NCARB will evaluate educational preparation based on demonstrated achievement of validated competencies that align with the *Competency Standard*. Rather than serving solely as a prescribed credential requirement, education functions as a mechanism through which individuals may acquire and demonstrate professional competencies necessary for licensure. Accreditation standards, program learning outcomes, and/or validated assessment practices provide evidence that graduates have achieved specific competencies and may therefore be awarded competency credit toward licensure requirements. This approach preserves the important role of architectural education in protecting the public while creating a more transparent, outcomes-focused system that recognizes demonstrated competency as the primary measure of readiness for professional practice.

5.1.1 Competency Credit for Completion of a Degree from a NAAB-accredited Program

This program lets a candidate earn competency credit for an earned degree from a National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB)-accredited program, rather than needing to redemonstrate those competencies again through a separate assessment. An accredited architecture degree still

carries value, as it can earn competency credit and develop candidates' abilities toward competency, but the lack of that specific educational credential is no longer a barrier to entry. A "competency credit" is official recognition, recorded by NCARB, that a person has proven one required competency.

NCARB shall recognize the successful completion of a NAAB-accredited professional degree program as confirmation of achievement of certain competencies within the *Competency Standard*. NAAB reviews and accredits professional architecture degree programs; a degree from a NAAB-accredited program meets nationally recognized quality standards. Competency credit awarded for completion of a degree from a NAAB-accredited program shall apply only to those competencies that have been determined to be adequately addressed and assessed through the accredited educational program.

As the NAAB updates its accreditation standards, NCARB will evaluate those standards to determine the specific competencies for which competency credit will be awarded to individuals graduating from programs accredited under the corresponding standards. Such validation shall be based on input from the NAAB and demonstrated alignment between program learning outcomes, accreditation criteria, and the *Competency Standard*.

Individuals seeking competency credit for completion of a NAAB-accredited degree program shall register their degree completion with NCARB. The candidate shall authorize the submission of an official transcript, degree verification, or other documentation to confirm the successful award of the degree and the accreditation status of the program at the time of graduation.

Upon receipt and verification of the required documentation, NCARB shall evaluate the degree for eligibility under applicable competency credit policies and record any associated competency credit(s) within the candidate's NCARB Record. An "NCARB Record" is a secure, official online file NCARB keeps for each candidate—approvals, competency credits, and results. NCARB shall maintain administrative procedures for transcript submission, credential verification, record maintenance, and periodic auditing to ensure the accuracy and integrity of degree-based competency determinations.

5.1.2 Pre-approved Course(s) with an Integrated Competency Assessment

Separate from degree-based competency, this NCARB program lets a candidate earn competency credit through a specific course or training program once NCARB has reviewed and approved that course as teaching and testing the relevant competency(ies). NCARB shall grant competency credit for the successful completion of a pre-approved course, pre-approved courses, or an educational program that includes an integrated competency assessment aligned with one or more competencies contained within the *Competency Standard*. To qualify for competency credit, NCARB or its designee must review and validate the educational curriculum and its associated assessment to ensure the learning objectives, instructional content, assessment methodology, and performance standards adequately measure the identified competency or competencies.

Competency credit shall be awarded only upon satisfactory demonstration through the integrated assessment and shall be limited to those competencies specifically approved by NCARB. Neither educational participation nor a passing course grade alone shall constitute achievement of a competency.

NCARB will require all pre-approved course(s) with integrated assessment to be completed through a post-secondary institution that holds accreditation recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. NCARB shall establish criteria for course approval, assessment validation, performance thresholds, quality assurance, and periodic review to ensure that competency credits awarded through approved coursework remain reliable, consistent, and aligned with current licensure standards.

Individuals seeking competency credit for completion of an NCARB-approved course that includes an integrated competency assessment shall supply documentation of competency completion to NCARB in accordance with procedures established by NCARB.

NCARB will maintain requirements for provider reporting, candidate documentation, identity verification, record retention, auditing, and quality assurance to ensure the accuracy and integrity of competency credit awards. Registration of a pre-approved course completion shall result in the award of competency credit only for the approved competencies successfully demonstrated through the integrated assessment and shall not, by itself, satisfy all requirements for architectural licensure.

5.2 Experience Program Requirements: Architectural Experience Program (AXP) 2.0

Professional experience plays a critical role in developing and demonstrating one's competence for the safe and independent practice of architecture. NCARB will evaluate one's competency based on documented hourly requirements and evidence of practice-level performance through associated and aligned standardized assessments.

This approach recognizes that meaningful competency development occurs across a wide range of professional, educational, military, research, public-sector, and practice environments while ensuring that all experience-based competency determinations are measured against consistent national standards. By focusing individual's development on demonstrating the underlying competency criteria requirements, the experience requirement encourages development of professional ability, creates greater alignment with required competency assessments, provides a more direct and transparent measure of readiness for independent architectural practice, and strengthens public protection.

5.2.1 Required Experience

This program provides a structured experience-based pathway through which individuals may demonstrate the development and application of specific competencies contained within the *Competency Standard*. This program recognizes the value of supervised experience in guiding competency development as well as the use of standardized assessments in validating an individual's competence.

Individuals seeking competency credit through this program shall document and report professional-level experience aligned to applicable competencies. In addition, to earn competency credit, the individual will need to pass an associated standardized assessment.

A candidate may begin demonstrating the minimum period of supervised employment at any time after they complete the secondary education required for eligibility in NCARB's competency-based

licensure programs, as outlined in Section 4. NCARB shall establish procedures to document, validate, and verify compliance with these requirements.

Experience reported under this program shall reflect activities that directly relate to the competency criteria established for the applicable competency. A minimum number of experience hours will be required from employment in an architecture firm that engages in the lawful practice of architecture under the direct supervision of a U.S. licensed architect. Additional experience hours can be acquired through public-sector employment, military service, academic or research activities, design-build organizations, or other qualifying environments approved by NCARB.

NCARB shall establish a minimum number of experience hours required for each competency. An individual seeking competency credit through this program shall record experience hours in accordance with NCARB-established procedures. When submitting experience hours, the individual must attest that the reported experience accurately reflects work performed by the individual and that the activities completed align with the applicable competency criteria. The attestation shall confirm that the candidate has personally participated in professional activities that contributed to the development and application of the identified competency.

To ensure the integrity and reliability of reported experience, all experience hours submitted by the individual shall be reviewed and approved by the individual's supervisor. The supervisor shall attest that the reported experience hours are accurate to the best of their knowledge and that the individual meaningfully participated in the activities being reported. The supervisor shall be responsible for providing oversight, mentorship, and for verifying that the individual has authentically participated in work involving the application of architectural competencies. Supervisory approval shall serve as verification of the authenticity of the reported experience but shall not, by itself, result in the award of competency credit. NCARB may establish additional validation, auditing, documentation, and review procedures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of reported experience.

This program will appropriately recognize how formal architectural education contributes to the development of professional competencies by providing experience credit for prior learning. The number of credited experience hours shall vary based on evaluation by NCARB of formal architectural education programs against the *Competency Standard*. NCARB shall establish a process and periodically review the applicable experience hour thresholds to ensure they remain aligned with formal architectural education programs and that all individuals, regardless of educational pathway, demonstrate the minimum competencies necessary for safe and independent architectural practice.

Individuals seeking experience credit for prior learning for completion of an architecture-related degree program shall register their degree completion with NCARB. The candidate shall authorize the submission of an official transcript, degree verification, or other documentation to confirm the successful award of the degree.

Competency credit shall be awarded only when the submitted documentation has fulfilled the required number of experience hours based on the candidate's education, and the candidate has

successfully completed an associated standardized assessment that has been developed, validated, and administered by NCARB.

Through this approach, the program recognizes multiple educational pathways while ensuring that all individuals demonstrate substantial experience applying critical professional competencies under appropriate supervision. The program promotes accessibility and flexibility while maintaining consistent standards for public protection and readiness for independent architectural practice.

5.3 Examination Program Requirements: Architect Registration Examination (ARE) 6.0

Assessment through examination remains an essential component of architectural licensure by providing a consistent, objective, and defensible means of verifying an individual's readiness for independent practice. Consistent with NCARB's competency-based approach to licensure, examination requirements are organized around the direct assessment of discrete competencies identified in the *Competency Standard* rather than solely through a broader comprehensive testing format.

NCARB is developing a modern competency assessment through a combination of standardized assessments and structured guided learning programs that culminate in validated standardized assessments. Standardized assessments provide reliable measures of an individual's ability to demonstrate the knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors required for safe and effective practice, while guided learning pathways support competency development through flexible educational resources, formative feedback, and independent study before a summative evaluation.

Together, these assessment methods create a comprehensive examination suite that maintains rigorous and consistent standards for public protection while expanding opportunities for individuals to develop and demonstrate competency. By focusing on validated assessment outcomes and demonstrated achievement of professional competencies, the examination requirement provides licensing boards with meaningful evidence that all candidates have satisfied the standard of readiness for architectural practice.

5.3.1 Standardized Assessments

This program is an NCARB-built exam that licensure candidates can take to prove competence, independent of any specific school or course. NCARB shall grant competency credit for the successful completion of a standardized assessment that has been developed, validated, and administered by NCARB to measure achievement of one or more competencies contained within the *Competency Standard*. Standardized assessments shall be designed to evaluate an individual's knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors using objective and defensible evaluation criteria aligned with the competency or competencies being assessed.

Competency credit shall be awarded when a candidate achieves or exceeds the established performance standard for the applicable assessment. Each standardized assessment shall undergo appropriate validation, quality assurance, and periodic review to ensure assessment results are reliable, fair, and representative of the minimum competency required for safe and independent architectural practice.

Using standardized assessments, NCARB can provide a consistent, scalable, and objective means of evaluating competency while ensuring that all individuals are held to the same minimum standard regardless of educational, experiential, or professional pathway.

Individuals seeking competency credit through a standardized assessment shall schedule their assessment through NCARB or an assessment administration provider authorized by NCARB and pay any applicable fees established by NCARB. NCARB shall maintain procedures for assessment registration, scheduling, rescheduling, cancellation, candidate identification, and examination security. Individuals shall be responsible for selecting an available assessment appointment and complying with all applicable scheduling policies and assessment administration requirements. NCARB may offer assessments through testing centers, remote proctoring platforms, or other approved delivery methods designed to ensure the integrity, security, and accessibility of the assessment process.

Upon successful scheduling, NCARB shall provide individuals with confirmation of their assessment appointment and any instructions necessary for participation. Assessment results and any associated competency credits shall be recorded in the candidate's NCARB Record following completion of applicable scoring, validation, and quality assurance procedures. Scheduling an assessment does not guarantee competency credit; NCARB will grant credit only upon achievement of the established performance standard for the applicable competency or competencies.

5.3.2 Guided Learning with a Standardized Assessment

This program allows a licensure candidate to study on their own schedule using NCARB-provided materials, then earn competency credit by passing a standardized test at the end. NCARB shall grant competency credit for the successful completion of an NCARB-developed and administered guided learning curriculum that includes a final summative assessment, a comprehensive test at the end of the curriculum.

Such curricula may include structured learning modules, readings, case studies, simulations, practice exercises, and other educational resources designed to support independent competency development. The curriculum will include formative assessments throughout the learning process that provide feedback, guide individuals on their progress, reinforce key concepts, identify areas requiring additional development, and support successful competency attainment. Formative assessments are intended to facilitate learning and preparedness but shall not, by themselves, result in the award of competency credit.

To receive competency credit, individuals must pass the final summative assessment validated by NCARB. The summative assessment shall evaluate the candidate's ability to demonstrate the required knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors at the minimum proficiency level established for licensure. Competency credit shall be awarded only upon successful completion of the summative assessment and achievement that meets or exceeds the established performance standard.

NCARB shall establish requirements for curriculum approval, assessment validation, candidate identity verification, quality assurance, and periodic program review to ensure that competency credits awarded through guided learning remain consistent, reliable, and defensible. Through this approach, individuals can develop competencies through flexible, accessible learning opportunities while demonstrating achievement through a rigorous, standardized assessment process.

Individuals seeking competency credit through a guided learning curriculum with an integrated standardized assessment shall register for the program through procedures established by NCARB. Registration shall include identifying the competency or competencies to be pursued, confirming eligibility requirements, and paying any applicable fees established by NCARB.

Upon registration, NCARB shall provide individuals with access to the approved learning materials, curriculum requirements, formative assessment activities, and instructions for completing the associated standardized summative assessment. Individuals shall complete all required learning activities and formative assessments designed to support competency development before attempting the final summative assessment.

NCARB shall maintain procedures governing enrollment, candidate identity verification, progress tracking, assessment access and security, completion deadlines, and record retention. Upon successful completion of the required curriculum and achievement of the established passing standard on the integrated summative assessment, NCARB shall award the applicable competency credit and record such credit within the candidate's NCARB Record.

5.4 The Assessment System and Potential Means of Demonstrating Competency

Figure 1 illustrates the assessment methods through which candidates may demonstrate achievement of the competencies required for architectural licensure. While all competencies are evaluated against the common benchmark established by the *Competency Standard*, a candidate may demonstrate competency through multiple assessment approaches depending on their preference. These approaches include competency credit awarded through completion of a NAAB-accredited degree program, pre-approved coursework with integrated competency assessments, experience assessments based on documented professional experience and accomplishments, standardized assessments, and guided learning programs that culminate in a standardized summative assessment.

The NCARB competency-based licensure programs include assessment methods that create a comprehensive system that recognizes the varied ways individuals acquire professional competence while ensuring every competency determination is based on validated assessment processes and consistent performance standards. The graphic provides an initial example of how multiple pathways and assessment formats will be integrated into NCARB's competency-based licensure programs, allowing all candidates to be evaluated against the same minimum standard for safe and independent architectural practice regardless of the path used to develop or demonstrate competency. The assessment methods available for each competency may evolve.

Figure 1. *Assessment methods through which candidates may demonstrate achievement of the competencies required for architectural licensure*



6. Administration of Assessments

6.1 Candidate Registration and Scheduling

To participate in NCARB's competency-based licensure programs, an individual must meet the eligibility requirements detailed in Section 4 and shall maintain an active NCARB Record in good standing. An active NCARB Record shall be required for registration, scheduling, administration, evaluation, and recording of any competency assessment.

Individuals are responsible for maintaining accurate, current information in their NCARB Record and for complying with all applicable NCARB policies governing eligibility, documentation, fees, conduct, and record maintenance. Failure to maintain an active NCARB Record in good standing will result in ineligibility to register for, complete, receive credit for, or otherwise participate in competency assessment activities.

NCARB shall use the NCARB Record as the official repository for candidate approval status, assessment registrations, acquired competencies, assessment results, and other licensure-related information. Maintaining a single, authoritative record promotes consistency, accountability, credential portability, and efficient communication among individuals, licensing boards, and NCARB throughout the licensure process.

6.2 Identity Verification and Anti-Fraud Measures

NCARB shall implement and maintain identity verification, security, and anti-fraud measures designed to preserve the integrity of the architectural licensure process and ensure that competency assessments accurately reflect the knowledge, skills, abilities, and behaviors of the individual seeking licensure. Such measures shall apply throughout the licensure process, including candidate registration, eligibility determination, assessment administration, submission of evidence, recording of competency credits, and maintenance of candidate records.

NCARB shall establish procedures for verifying candidate identity through approved methods, which may include government-issued identification, secure authentication technologies, proctoring protocols, identity validation services, and other measures deemed appropriate to ensure the authenticity of candidate participation. NCARB may require identity verification at multiple stages of the licensure process and will implement additional verification measures when warranted by risk, assessment type, or delivery method.

NCARB shall also maintain policies and procedures to prevent, detect, investigate, and respond to fraud, misrepresentation, misconduct, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of records, examination irregularities, and other actions that compromise the validity of competency determinations. Individuals found to have engaged in fraudulent or unethical conduct may face denial of competency credit, invalidation of assessment results, suspension of assessment privileges, disciplinary action, or other sanctions as determined by NCARB and applicable licensing boards.

Through ongoing monitoring, security reviews, auditing, and continuous improvement of its identity verification and anti-fraud controls, NCARB shall ensure that all competency credits and assessment

outcomes are earned through legitimate demonstration of competency and that jurisdictional licensing boards can rely on them when making licensure decisions.

6.3 Accessibility and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance

NCARB shall ensure that all components of the licensure process are accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities and are administered in compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws relating to accessibility and equal opportunity. All competency assessments, registration processes, candidate resources, learning platforms, technology systems, and related licensure services shall be designed and administered to provide eligible individuals with a fair opportunity to demonstrate competency.

NCARB shall maintain procedures through which individuals can request reasonable accommodation for disabilities or other qualifying conditions. NCARB shall review accommodation requests through a consistent, confidential, and timely process based on appropriate documentation and applicable legal requirements. NCARB will ensure approved accommodations to the assessment process without altering the competency being measured, the validity of the assessment, or the minimum standards required for licensure.

NCARB shall periodically evaluate its assessment programs, technologies, policies, and candidate services to identify and address accessibility barriers. This evaluation may include reviews of testing platforms, instructional materials, communication methods, identity-verification processes, and assessment delivery systems to ensure individuals can participate in the licensure process regardless of disability status.

Through its commitment to accessibility and reasonable accommodation, NCARB shall promote access to licensure opportunities while maintaining the validity, reliability, integrity, and public protection objectives of its competency-based licensure system.

6.4 Retake Policies and Remediation Requirements

NCARB shall establish and maintain policies related to retake and remediation requirements that support candidate success while preserving the integrity, validity, and public protection objectives of the licensure process. Individuals who do not meet the required competency threshold on an assessment may pursue additional attempts in accordance with policies established by NCARB. Retake policies may include reasonable waiting periods or other measures designed to maintain assessment integrity without unreasonably limiting an individual's access to the licensure process.

NCARB shall provide individuals with appropriate feedback regarding assessment performance to help identify areas requiring further development.

NCARB shall apply all retake and remediation requirements consistently and design them to ensure competency credit is awarded only upon successful demonstration of the applicable competency at the established performance standard. Through these policies, NCARB shall promote continuous learning, support candidate progression, and maintain confidence that all competency determinations reflect the minimum level of proficiency required for safe and independent architectural practice.

7. Evaluation, Review, and Quality Assurance

7.1 Setting the Passing Score

NCARB shall establish and maintain scoring methodologies and competency thresholds that provide valid, reliable, and defensible determination of whether a candidate has achieved the minimum level of competency required for safe and independent architectural practice. Scoring models will measure performance against established competency standards rather than relative performance among individuals. Assessments shall be criterion-referenced, graded against a fixed standard rather than ranked against other test-takers—everyone who meets the bar passes. Criterion-referenced assessments ensure that competency determinations are based on demonstrated achievement of defined performance expectations.

For each competency and assessment type, NCARB shall establish minimum performance thresholds that reflect the proficiency level necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare. NCARB shall develop competency thresholds using accepted standard-setting methodologies and informed by professional practice analyses, subject matter expert input, assessment performance data, and other relevant documentation. NCARB shall periodically review and adjust thresholds as necessary to ensure continued alignment with the *Competency Standard* and the evolving practice of architecture.

Where multiple assessment methods are used to evaluate competency, NCARB shall employ validation and quality assurance processes designed to support comparable and consistent competency determinations across assessment formats. NCARB may use scaled scores, performance ratings, rubric-based evaluations, or other validated scoring mechanisms appropriate to the assessment method used. NCARB shall document, standardize, and support all scoring procedures with quality assurance measures designed to promote consistency and accuracy.

A candidate shall receive competency credit only upon demonstrating performance at or above the established threshold for the applicable assessment. Through these measures, NCARB will give jurisdictions confidence that competency determinations are based on rigorous, objective, data-driven evaluation standards.

7.2 Psychometric Review and Quality Assurance

This section explains how NCARB makes sure its tests are fair, accurate, consistent, and legally sound, guided by specialists called psychometricians, experts in the science of testing and measurement.

NCARB shall maintain rigorous standards to ensure that all assessment methods used within the licensure system are valid, reliable, fair, and legally defensible. NCARB shall develop each assessment and periodically review it using established professional, educational, and psychometric principles to ensure it accurately measures the competency or competencies it is intended to assess. NCARB will directly align assessment content, performance standards, scoring methodologies, and evaluation criteria with the *Competency Standard*, and future updates shall be informed by ongoing analyses of professional practice.

NCARB shall implement quality assurance processes designed to promote consistency and reliability across all assessment types. Quality assurance measures shall include standardized evaluation criteria, assessor training, calibration procedures, periodic audits, and continuous monitoring of assessment outcomes to ensure consistent application of competency standards.

NCARB shall ensure all individuals have a fair opportunity to demonstrate competency. Assessment programs will be designed to minimize bias, provide reasonable accommodation when required by law, maintain transparency regarding assessment requirements and performance expectations, and offer appropriate mechanisms for review and appeal. Regardless of the assessment pathway utilized, NCARB will ensure all individuals are evaluated against the same competency expectations and minimum performance standards required for safe and independent architectural practice.

Through continuous validation, data analysis, stakeholder input, and periodic review, NCARB shall maintain an assessment system that gives jurisdictions, individuals, and the public confidence that competency determinations are accurate, consistent, and aligned with the profession's responsibility to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

7.3 Appeal and Review Processes

NCARB shall maintain fair, transparent, and consistent processes that allow individuals to appeal administrative decisions and receive meaningful feedback regarding their performance. These processes will promote confidence in the licensure system while ensuring that assessment results and competency determinations are administered in accordance with established policies, procedures, and professional standards.

Individuals shall have access to procedures for submitting appeals related to eligibility determinations, assessment administration irregularities, scoring concerns, accommodation decisions, disciplinary actions, and other licensure matters identified by NCARB policy. NCARB shall maintain clear requirements governing the grounds for appeal, submission timelines, documentation requirements, review procedures, and final disposition of appeals. Appeals shall be reviewed by qualified individuals who were not directly involved in the original decision whenever practicable.

NCARB shall administer all appeal and review processes in a timely, impartial, and consistent manner to ensure fairness, accountability, and confidence in the competency-based licensure system.

7.4 Annual Reporting and Public Transparency

NCARB will maintain a commitment to transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement by publishing annual reports and other publicly available information on the operation and effectiveness of its licensure programs. At a minimum, NCARB shall periodically report aggregate information on candidate participation, competency assessment outcomes, pass rates, trends, program enhancements, and other performance indicators relevant to administering the licensure system.

Reports shall be presented in a manner that protects candidate privacy and confidential assessment information while providing jurisdictional licensing boards, policymakers, individuals, and the public with meaningful insight into the effectiveness and integrity of NCARB's competency-based licensure programs.

NCARB will also make available information regarding competency standards, assessment methodologies, governance processes, program changes, and quality assurance activities to promote understanding and confidence in the licensure process.

Through regular reporting and public disclosure of program outcomes, NCARB shall support informed oversight by jurisdictional licensing boards, facilitate ongoing evaluation of licensure programs, and demonstrate continued accountability for maintaining standards that protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

7.5 Data Governance, Privacy, and Security Requirements

NCARB will establish and maintain systems and processes to collect, store, transmit, and protect sensitive candidate and licensure information. NCARB will establish and maintain a formal data classification framework and apply controls commensurate with the sensitivity of the information maintained. In working with third-party providers, NCARB will require providers to establish and maintain controls of equal or greater magnitude. These functions will support the efficient administration of licensure programs while promoting consistency and mobility across jurisdictions.

As an assessment and credentialing provider, NCARB maintains comprehensive data governance, privacy, and cybersecurity controls, including the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework, NIST 800-53, ISO 27001, and SOC 2 principles. NCARB will require all assessment providers to maintain appropriate information security, privacy, operational resilience, and business continuity controls, and will subject them to periodic review.

Such controls include safeguards for data confidentiality, integrity, availability, access management, records retention, auditability, and incident response. NCARB employs appropriate technical, administrative, and operational measures to protect candidate information and assessment records from unauthorized access, disclosure, alteration, or loss.

8. Licensure Decision Process

Nothing within NCARB's competency-based licensure programs shall be construed as assuming the authority to grant, deny, renew, suspend, revoke, or otherwise regulate a license to practice architecture. The jurisdictional licensing board, acting under the laws and regulations of its jurisdiction, retains exclusive authority to make licensure decisions.

NCARB's role, in consultation with jurisdictional licensing boards, is to develop, administer, and maintain competency standards, assessment programs, credentialing services, and related licensure support functions that help jurisdictions evaluate applicant qualifications. Successful completion of NCARB's competency-based licensure program assessments, achievement of competency credits, or satisfaction of NCARB program requirements shall not, by themselves, entitle an individual to licensure. Final determination of an applicant's readiness for licensure, including compliance with all jurisdiction-specific requirements, shall remain the responsibility of the jurisdictional licensing board.

This structure preserves each jurisdiction's full authority over licensing while enabling nationally consistent competency standards and assessment processes. By maintaining jurisdictional authority over licensure decisions, the system ensures that accountability for public protection remains with the governmental entity charged by law with regulating the practice of architecture.

8.1 Transparent Criteria for Granting Licenses

NCARB shall support jurisdictional licensing boards by maintaining clear, objective, and publicly available standards for all NCARB's competency-based licensure programs, assessments, competency requirements, and credentialing processes.

NCARB shall maintain transparent criteria for the award of competency credits, assessment outcomes, program completions, and other qualifications included within an individual's NCARB Record. NCARB shall make information regarding licensure pathways, competency expectations, assessment requirements, policies, procedures, and program changes readily accessible to individuals, licensing boards, and other stakeholders.

NCARB shall also communicate any substantive changes to competency standards, assessment programs, or qualification requirements that may affect licensure decisions.

8.2 Verification of Competency Achievement

The NCARB Record will serve as the repository of an individual's verified qualifications, competency achievements, assessment results, and other licensure-related credentials maintained by NCARB. NCARB will document competency credits awarded through NCARB-approved assessments within the candidate's NCARB Record and maintain it as the authoritative record of the candidate's qualifications for licensure.

NCARB shall provide jurisdictional licensing boards with secure access to, or transmittal of, candidate record information necessary to evaluate applications for licensure. Information contained within the

NCARB Record shall constitute verified documentation that the candidate has successfully satisfied the applicable competency requirements and other qualification standards validated by NCARB.

Maintaining and transmitting competency information through the NCARB Record is intended to promote consistency, accuracy, efficiency, and portability within the licensure process. Jurisdictional licensing boards can rely on this information to determine whether an applicant has met the licensure qualifications established by the jurisdiction.

8.3 Transitioning to NCARB's Competency-Based Licensure Programs

NCARB recognizes that implementation of these changes will require thoughtful consideration of each jurisdiction's unique statutory, regulatory, and administrative framework. While the overarching objectives are national in scope, the specific actions needed to adopt and administer the changes may vary by state based on jurisdictional requirements and legislative or regulatory processes.

Drawing on its successful management of previous national licensure program transitions, including the evolution of the Intern Development Program (IDP) to the Architectural Experience Program (AXP) and the transition of its examination offerings from ARE 4.0 to ARE 5.0, NCARB will implement future competency-based licensure programs through a deliberate and candidate-responsive process. In each of these prior transitions, NCARB preserved candidate progress through clearly defined transition policies, extensive stakeholder engagement, comprehensive guidance resources, and sustained support for licensing boards, candidates, educators, and practitioners, while providing sufficient time for the transition.

Building on this proven approach, NCARB will develop a detailed credit model that maintains a consistent national standard allowing licensure candidates to receive appropriate competency credit based on their current progress toward licensure. NCARB will dedicate the necessary staff, technical expertise, and outreach resources to support boards, candidates, and policymakers throughout the transition, including communication materials, policy guidance, candidate transition plans, and ongoing consultation. The Council's objective is to ensure that existing candidates receive appropriate recognition for progress already achieved, that jurisdictions have the flexibility to address local requirements, and that the transition occurs thoughtfully, efficiently, and effectively to maintain public protection while ensuring candidate progress toward licensure.

NCARB

The Standards
for NCARB's Competency-Based Licensure Programs

SUMMARY

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) is updating its licensure programs to align with a nationally recognized *Competency Standard* that reflects evolving practice while continuing to ensure public protection and the jurisdiction's role as the regulating authority.

- NCARB's competency-based licensure programs preserve **commitment to rigorous standards and public protection** while creating more accessible and responsive pathways to licensure.
- The proposed updated programs build on the existing foundations by **focusing more directly on the underlying competencies** that the current architectural licensure process has always been intended to develop and assess.

ALIGNMENT WITH THE *NCARB COMPETENCY STANDARD FOR ARCHITECTS*

- The *Competency Standard* establishes a framework describing the minimum competencies necessary for safe and effective professional practice.
- By organizing licensure requirements around competencies, NCARB gives jurisdictions a consistent method for evaluating readiness for professional practice.

EVOLUTION OF EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND EXAMINATION FOR INITIAL LICENSURE

- NCARB's educational programs will evolve to **recognize architecture-related education of all forms**, including demonstrated achievement of competencies through accredited degree programs or approved coursework.
- The Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®) will evolve from broad experience areas to a program that emphasizes **demonstrating and applying focused professional competencies** across work settings, while maintaining the important role of supervised employment and time in practice.
- The Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) will evolve from a large-format model of six divisions into a suite of **more focused assessments** that include traditional standardized assessments and guided learning with a standardized assessment component.

By measuring outcomes, NCARB's competency-based licensure programs enable licensure candidates to develop competencies through education, professional practice, military service, apprenticeships, alternative educational experiences, and other validated learning, while ensuring every individual meets the same minimum threshold for independent practice.

This evolution reflects a simple but important principle: All candidates should meet the same standard of professional competence, regardless of how they acquire it.

Read the *Standards for NCARB's Competency-Based Licensure Programs*.

Pathways Myths and Facts

OCTOBER 2026

General

Providing additional pathways to licensure doesn't guarantee increased diversity within the profession or more architects in the licensure pipeline.

True. The goal of Pathways to Practice is to increase access to licensure for all qualified applicants based on competence. While Pathways to Practice may impact diversity or the number of architects in the profession, NCARB is not using specific numbers or quotas as a measure of success.

Pathways to Practice could increase or decrease the time to licensure.

True. The goal of Pathways to Practice is not to increase or decrease time to licensure, but to create accessibility to licensure while maintaining validity and rigor of the licensure process. Under Pathways to Practice, candidates will be able to demonstrate competency at their own pace.

Candidates licensed through different pathways cannot equally protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

False. All future assessments will be tied to the *NCARB Competency Standard for Architects* published in 2024. By applying consistent assessment criteria based on the *Competency Standard*, NCARB can make sure that all candidates are required to demonstrate the same level of competency, regardless of what path they take to earn a license.

Changing education requirements does not necessarily impact the overall cost of licensure.

True. NCARB expects most candidates to continue to pursue higher education. However, NCARB recognizes that extensive higher education is not attainable for all licensure candidates due to financial or other barriers. Additional pathways to licensure must be accessible to all applicants, including those with four-year undergrad degrees and community college degrees, as well as individuals who didn't have the opportunity to pursue higher education.

NCARB is using Pathways to Practice to increase revenue.

False. NCARB is planning to ensure that exam and Record fees continue to be roughly equivalent to today's fees through Pathways to Practice, allowing for some increases related to the cost of delivery and economic inflation. NCARB plans to continue to run its candidate programs in the red, subsidized by revenue from NCARB Certificate holders.

Assessments

Under Pathways to Practice, community colleges, four-year degree programs, and NAAB-accredited programs will all support licensure progress.

True. NCARB intends to provide pathways to licensure from a variety of educational pathways—including four-year degree programs and community colleges. Individuals who

don't have the opportunity to demonstrate a competency through education will be able to demonstrate it through experience, guided learning, and assessments.

Pathways to Practice will still require candidates to work under a licensed architect.

True. Several of the competencies will require the candidate to gain experience working under a licensed architect, with the amount of time required dependent on the level of education the candidate attained.

Pathways to Practice will shift an additional burden to firms and practitioners.

False. Under the evolved experience program, practitioners will continue to act in a role similar to today's supervisors. Supervisors will continue to attest that a candidate's work is valid through reported experience hours.

Pathways to Practice will require candidates to complete a standardized exam.

True. All future licensure pathways will include assessments of a candidate's competence. Several competencies will require the candidate to pass a standardized exam. NCARB is evolving the delivery method for some assessments so that they are more accessible to candidates, but all candidates will need to complete assessments that validate their competency for licensure.

Timeline and Adoption

Candidates who have already made licensure progress will continue to have a pathway to licensure.

True. NCARB is planning to overlap the current and future licensure programs for at least two years, with clear transition pathways from today's AXP and ARE to the evolved versions of each of these programs.

NCARB will support Member Boards in adopting and implementing this future licensure model.

True. NCARB is committed to ensuring that licensing boards have the necessary communication and advocacy support and resources. NCARB is developing jurisdiction-specific strategies to engage with policymakers and advocate for any necessary legislative or regulatory changes that need to be made to ensure boards can adopt Pathways to Practice..

As with past evolutions in the licensure process, NCARB will also work collaboratively to develop and support an appropriate process that allows Member Boards and licensure candidates to smoothly transition.