



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

ARCHITECTURAL LICENSING BOARD

Tel. No. (860) 713-6135

February 21, 2013

SPRING 2013- JOINT REGIONAL MEETING OF NCARB REGIONS ONE, TWO, AND SIX

Dates: Thursday, March 14, 2013 through Saturday, March 16, 2013

Location: Renaissance Providence Downtown Hotel
5 Avenue of the Arts
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Region 1 Report

Connecticut - Mr. S. Edward Jeter, Chairman, Architect Member

Board Members and Officers

Current members include: S. Edward Jeter, Chairman, Architect Member; Robert B. Hurd, Architect Member; David H. Barkin; Architect Member; Carole W. Briggs, Public Member; Pauline S. Morales, Public Member.

<u>Statistics</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013 (to date)</u>
Total Licenses (Individual)	4,190	4,303	4,308
Resident	1,480	1,513	1,514
Non Resident	2,710	2,790	2,794
Corporate Licenses	173	185	187

<u>New for Year</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>January 2013</u>
Licensed By Exam	25	1
Licensed By Reciprocity	190	21

New Approvals this current reporting period March 2012 to January 2013

Licensed By Exam	26
Licensed By Reciprocity	181
Individual Licenses reinstated	0
Corporate Licenses	21
Corporate Licenses reinstated	0

ARE Timing

The Board requires ARE candidates to finish their IDP process prior to sitting for the exam.

Board Composition

Our Board does not include Interior Designers. The State registers individuals for the use of the title *Registered Interior Designer*. All Connecticut Licensed Architects automatically qualify for this title and may obtain the Certificate of Registration.

Newsletter

We do not publish a newsletter.

Board Issues

1. The Board finalized its work on drafting a letter concerning use of the term "Architect". This action is in response to a request from the American Institute of Architects - Connecticut Chapter asking the Board for clarification on this issue. The purpose of this letter is to provide individuals who have legitimate misunderstandings guidance on the limitations of the use of the title. The letter is now posted on the Department of Consumer Protection's website.

2. In response to an inquiry from a local Building Official asking if an architect can stamp Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing, or other Mechanical type drawings, or do those types of plans have to be stamped by an engineer. In their discussions on this matter, the statement from Connecticut's former State Building Official was considered. This statement read,

"If it requires engineering it must be stamped by a PE, but if it's just an electrical plan or plumbing layout FOR A BUILDING THEY DESIGNED it can be stamped by an architect as incidental to the building design"

The Board agrees with this statement in general terms. The Board also assumes that these engineering drawings are mainly graphic in nature and not detailing specific engineering. It was noted that the discretion of whether or not a Professional Engineer is required on the design of a particular project is up to the Building Official and very much depends on the nature of the project. The non-specific use of the term "incidental" currently in the statutes is intentional and should leave room for discussion on a case-by-case basis.

3. The Board discussed the Licensing Law for and One and Two Family Homes as currently written in the Statutes relative to an apparent conflict.

“It appears that the “notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 390” clause in C.G.S. 29-276c(a) seems to require that any "non-transient residential dwellings having more than sixteen units or twenty-four thousand square feet total gross area per building...." comply with 29-276c (a) and (b), which would require an Architect or Engineer of Record to prepare, sign and seal the documents as well as review of shop drawings and provide observation of construction. It would also require the statement of substantial compliance to be issued by the Architect or Engineer prior to issuance of a C. of O. This would apply to one and two family dwellings or additions 24,000 g.s.f. area per building.

This is contrary to Statute Section **20-298. Exempted activities which states, in part,**

“The following activities are exempted from the provisions of this chapter: (2) the construction or alteration of a residential building to provide dwelling space for not more than two families,”

The Board’s Attorney noted that legislative history may yield the intent of how this language was derived and, as such, the Board can arrive at a directive that can be given to the public. After research into this area, it was determined that the intent of the law was to apply only to structures used by the public, in general, and not single family residences, regardless of their size.

4. The Board is, again, attempting to pass regulations permitting the use of an electronic seal by architects. Existing regulations were adopted at a time when seals were placed only on hardcopy documents by stamping or embossing. With the development of electronic documents, there is now a need for regulations permitting an electronic seal.

This regulation permits and regulates the use of electronic seals. The regulation requires that electronic seals have certain protections to prevent the alteration of the document after it has been sealed.

Connecticut General Statutes, Section 20-293 requires an architect to place his or her seal on working drawings that are required to be completed by a licensed architect. These amendments permit architects to apply electronic seals to drawings that are prepared in electronic form.