

NEWSWATCH

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Members of the Board of Professional Engineers

John C. Burke, P.E., Chair (*Electrical*)
1/9/04 – 10/31/10

David O. Charland, P.E., Vice Chair (*Structural*)
4/20/05 – 10/31/08

Zafar Hyder, Ph.D., P.E. (*Civil*)
6/22/07-10/31/10

Paul Tomasino, P.E. (*Civil*)
2/11/02-10/31/10

Christian S. Bauer, Ph.D., P.E. (*Industrial*)
4/20/05 – 10/31/08

Jonathan F.K. Earle, Ph.D., P.E. (*Educator*)
2/12/08 – 10/31/09

Nola Garcia de Quevedo (*Public Member*)
2/12/08 – 10/31/10

Henn Rebane, P.E. (*Electrical*)
11/29/99 – 10/31/07

Vacant (*Civil*)
Vacant (*Mechanical*)
Vacant (*Public Member*)

Counsel to the Board
Michael Flury, Esquire
Assistant Attorney General

**Board of Directors
Florida Engineers Management Corporation**

Roger Jeffery, P.E., Chair
Robert J. Lombardo, P.E., Vice Chair
Melvin W. Anderson, Ph.D., P.E.

Ernest Cox, III, P.E.,
Robert H. Hosay, Esquire
Bert Combs, Esquire
Gary Kuhl, P.E.

Officers of Florida Engineers Management Corporation And Staff to the Board of Professional Engineers

- Carrie A. Flynn.....Executive Director and
FEMC President
- Patrick CreehanChief Prosecuting Attorney and
FEMC Vice President
- Vacant..... Assistant Executive Director
- Deborah Head.....FEMC Comptroller
- Frances IngramCoordinator of Applications/Licensure
- John H. Rimes, III.....Prosecuting Attorney
- Jerry OngleyFBPE Senior Investigator
- Jack BeamishFBPE Investigator
- Wendy GregoryFBPE Legal Assistant
- July TomasiFBPE Legal Assistant
- Brian LynchLicensure Analyst
- Andrea Becraft Licensure Analyst
- Alan Levin.....Licensure Analyst
- Amanda Day-JanecekLicensure Analyst
- Sean Benjamin.....Licensure Analyst
- Kathy Coleman.....Licensure Analyst
- Lisa Simmons Licensure Analyst Assistant
- Leigh Ann DollarExecutive Assistant
- Striker Langston IT Specialist
- Sharon LoweFEMC Accountant
- Bill Flynn.....Administrative Assistant
- Claudia BelenReceptionist

CHARLIE CRIST, GOVERNOR



CHUCK DRAGO,
INTERIM SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

A Message from the Chair

Rulemaking, Licensing Challenges Ahead

In December of 2007, I was elected as Chair of the Board of Professional Engineers for the year of 2008. I would like to express my appreciation to my fellow Board members for their confidence in my abilities to take on this role of leadership.

I look forward to many challenges facing the Board with regards to rulemaking, licensing and disciplinary actions. One of the major tasks carried over from 2007 was the rewrite of Chapter 61G15-30, Responsibility Rules Common to All Engineers; Chapter 61G15-32, Responsibility Rules of Professional Engineers Concerning the Design of Fire Protection Systems; Chapter 61G15-33, Responsibility Rules of Professional Engineers Concerning the Design of Electrical Systems; and Chapter 61G15-34, Mechanical Systems.

The Rules rewrite reflect building code revisions and provide uniformity in language between disciplines. This monumental task was accomplished through coordinated efforts of our past Chair Henn Rebane and the Florida Engineering Society.

At the request of the Board, FES took on the task, appointed teams and completed a final rule draft that was presented to the Board. The Board accepted the drafts and continued the process of allowing public input by conducting a rules workshop on January 22, 2008.

Comments from the workshop are now under consideration and rulemaking should be completed in the very near future. The Board recently initiated efforts for the rewrite of Chapter 61G15-31.003 through 31.009, Florida Administrative Code, pertaining to structures.



John Burke, PE
FBPE Chair, 2008

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From the Desk of the Executive Director

FEMC begins tenth year of service to the profession of engineering

In 1997, after several years of seeking the ability to privatize the operation of the Board of Professional Engineers, the legislature passed a law that allowed the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to contract with the Florida Engineers Management Corporation to administer operation of the functions for the Board of Professional Engineers. The transfer of operation was official on July 1, 1998.

The Florida Engineers Management Corporation was first located at 1208 Hays Street, Tallahassee, Florida. In 2000, to accommodate the increasing workload, staff and space required, FEMC acquired new office space at 2507 Callaway Road, Conservation Centre, Tallahassee, Florida 32303.

A number of changes have occurred in the past 10 years. Of significance is an increase in Board membership, implementation of mandatory continuing education,

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Carrie A. Flynn
Executive Director

Message from the Chair (cont'd)

The Board would like to recognize the following participants from FES for their work in the committees.

Hamid R. Bahadori, PE
Edward J. Eng, PE (*General Revisions Leader*)
Ricco Longo
Warren G. Hahn, PE
Ronald M. Forney, PE
Steven C. Bassett, PE (*Chair*)
Robert W. Lea, PE
Ed Riley
Tim R. Larson, PE
Rodney Carrero-Santana, PE
Christopher Banbury, PE
John M. Kennelly, PE
Yassi M. Myers, PE
Samantha R. Hobbs
Brian R. Foster, PE (*Fire Revisions Leader*)
E. Allen Bottorff, II, PE
Fernando Vazquez, PE
Daniel E. Thompson, PE
William M. Baldwin, PE
Raymond Patenaude, PE
Roger L. Jeffery, PE
Douglas R. Barkley, PE
Lindsay Ambler, PE (*HVAC Revisions Leader*)
Henn Rebane, PE
David L. Rice, PE
John W. Wells, III, PE
Robert F Formica, PE
Jeffrey J. Basiaga, Jr., PE
Bruce Coward, PE
Bruce Ciarlariello, PE
Nicholas J. Theiss, PE
Norman R. Mugford
Ruben J. Gonzalez, PE
Robert A. Rolley, PE
Miguel Nieto, PE
KC Clem, PE
Randy Kissell
Bernard L. Steiger, PE
Joshua B Smith, PE (*Electrical Revisions Leader*)
Anthony Phillips, PE
John Jones
Scott McCoy
Steven M. Feller, PE

From the Executive Director (cont'd)

transfer of unlicensed activity enforcement to the Board, and amendments to Chapter 471, F.S. to provide for protective title language.

The goal of FEMC is to be recognized by the engineering profession as an outstanding management organization providing quality service with consistency and continuity to the engineering profession.

Board Elects Officers for 2008

At the December 5, 2007 meeting in Tallahassee, the Florida Board of Professional Engineers elected the following slate of officers for the year of 2008: **John Burke, PE**, Chair for 2008, and **David Charland, PE, SI**, Vice-Chair.

FBPE Board Appointments

The Florida Board of Professional Engineers received confirmation of two appointments to the Board by Governor Charlie Crist. The Board extends a welcome to **Nola Garcia**, Consumer Member, and **Dr. Jonathan Earle, PE**, Educator. The Board of Professional Engineers is comprised of 11 members, nine of whom are Professional Engineers and two of whom are laypersons who are not and have never been engineers or members of any closely related profession or occupation. Of the nine who are Professional Engineers, three must be civil engineers, one must be an electrical engineer, one must be a mechanical engineer, one must be in engineering education, one must be a structural engineer, one must be an industrial engineer and one must be from any discipline of practice other than civil engineering. All members are appointed by the Governor for terms of four years each. With the new appointments, Dr. Earle fills the educator position, Ms. Garcia fills one consumer position, and we have three remaining vacancies at this time.

Board Recognizes Retired PEs

The Board of Professional Engineers recognizes the following Professional Engineers who applied and were approved for "Retired Status": **Noray Sarkisian, P.E.**, **Ronald Caton, P.E.**, **H. Ray Bailey, P.E.**, **James R. Howey, P.E.** and **Pedro O. Martinez, P.E.**. Special recognition is given to Pedro O. Martinez, P.E. Mr. Martinez served as a member of the Board of Professional Engineers from May of 1987 through October of 1999. He served as Chair of the Board in 1995 and during his tenure he served on numerous committees. He will be especially remembered for his outstanding work on developing the first responsibility rules. Mr. Martinez is a credit to the profession and we wish him well in his retirement.

New FEMC Board of Directors Appointments

The Florida Board of Professional Engineers appointed **Ernest Cox, III, PE** to the Board of Directors for the Florida Engineers Management Corporation. Mr. Cox will replace **John Springstead, PE**.

With Mr. Cox's appointment, the Board of Professional Engineers then presented a plaque to Mr. Springstead in recognition of his years of service on the Board of Directors for the Florida Engineers Management Corporation. Mr. Springstead served a four year term on the FEMC Board of Directors. The FEMC Board of Directors is comprised of seven members. Five members are appointed by the Board of Professional Engineers and two members are appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

DISCIPLINARY ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

Alfredo M. Carbonell, P.E. *PE 14170*

Licensee was charged with four counts of engaging in negligence in the practice of engineering. Based on a counterstipulation and Mr. Carbonell's appearance before the Board to explain how he has improved his quality control and his understanding of the need to sign and seal only accurate and complete plans, the Board dismissed three of the counts and imposed an administrative fine of \$4,000.00 and costs of \$750.00, probation of two years, completion of a Board approved course in Engineering Professionalism and Ethics, project review and completion of the Board's Study Guide.

Miller Cooper, P.E. *PE 15284*

Licensee was charged with two counts of practicing on a delinquent license. Based on a stipulation, the Board imposed a

suspension of license which will be stayed if Licensee pays an administrative fine of \$2,000.00 and costs of \$750.00 within 30 days of the Final Order, completion of a Board approved course in Engineering Professionalism and Ethics, project review and completion of the Board's Study Guide.

Alberto L. Ribas, P.E. *PE 14452*

Licensee was charged with one count of engaging in negligence in the practice of engineering. Based on his failure to timely file an Election of Rights form and the allegations in the Administrative Complaint, FEMC filed a Motion for Determination that Respondent has waived Respondent's right to an Administrative Hearing under the provisions of Section 120.569, Florida Statutes, and the entry of a Final Order as a result of such waiver. The Board imposed a \$3,000.00 fine and costs of \$1,274.52, two year probation with plan

review at six and 18 months, completion of a Board approved course in Engineering Professionalism and Ethics, completion of the Board's Study Guide and an appearance before the Board to discuss his training, experience, resources indicating his competence and his understanding and training in HVAC and electrical design.

J.S. Nagamia, P.E. *PE 19241*

Licensee was charged with one count of engaging in negligence in the practice of engineering and one count of aiding or assisting an unlicensed person to utilize the term "civil engineer" in violation of Section 471.031(1)(b), Florida Statutes, by sealing and signing plans that an unlicensed person plainly utilized the term. Based upon a stipulation, the Board imposed a suspension of license that will be stayed if Licensee agrees to pay an administrative fine of \$1,000.00 and costs of \$935.29 within 30 days of the Final Order, a reprimand, completion of a Board approved course in Engineering Professionalism and Ethics and completion of the Board's Study Guide.

Paul Tomasino, P.E. **2007 Tampa Bay Engineer of the Year**

Tampa native and Professional Engineer **Paul Tomasino** graduated in 1960 with a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree from the University of Florida. On June 1, 1971, he founded Tomasino & Associates. For more than 35 years he served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the firm and was responsible for all company operations.

Today Engineer Tomasino is semi-retired and currently serving as an advisor to IBI Group, Inc., the firm that acquired Tomasino & Associates, Inc. in 2006. He is the "go to" person for problem solving and is responsible for marketing all of the firm's professional services. He was appointed Senior Managing Principal of the Tampa office of IBI Group, Inc. and is now responsible for all engineering activities in the office. He was also appointed senior affiliate of the firm and serves as a senior advisor.

Mr. Tomasino has been active in local city government throughout his career and participated in many civic endeavors to beautify the city and improve the quality of life. He has served the business, government, and education communities

throughout Hillsborough County. Paul Tomasino has exhibited a life-long dedication to professional engineering and has worked tirelessly to improve the profession.

Mr. Tomasino has been a member of The Florida Board of Professional Engineers since February 2003.

He was recently reappointed by Governor Charlie Crist to serve until October 2009. During his tenure on the Board, Paul has been actively involved with the Legislative Committee, the Probable Cause Committee, the Rules Committee, and the Application Committee. He has served as liaison between the Professional Engineering and Land Surveying boards.



FAQs

Answers to your Professional Engineer licensure questions.

Question: Once plans are filed for public record, can the signature and seal of the Engineer of Record be withdrawn.

Answer: Once plans are filed, they are public record and the plans cannot be withdrawn. The Board's statute and rules do not provide for withdrawal of plans. However, that being the case, an engineer could possibly submit a letter to the permitting authority and to the client to withdraw as engineer of record. This wouldn't obviate the responsibility of the engineer of errors in the plans, however, any changes to the plans from there on out would have to be done by another engineer, who would have to adopt the plans and make the changes.

In providing this question and answer it is not the intent to take into account any contractual or civil provisions or penalties between parties.



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If your mailing address contains red stars, you need to check the status of your license.

Make Sure of Your Future Plans Before Entering Retired Status

The Board has received several letters from Professional Engineers who applied and received "Retired Status." After receiving approval of the application, the licensees wanted to return to active status.

Once the Board approves the application for "Retired Status" future active practice of engineering, in Florida, will require an application for licensure by endorsement. The applicant must complete the application in its entirety. There is no provision for simply renewing to active status.

We offer the wording of the statute and rule as follows:

Section 471.005 (10), Florida Statutes defines "Retired Professional Engineer" or "professional engineer, retired" means a person who has been duly licensed as a professional engineer by the Board and who chooses to relinquish or not to renew his or her license and applies to and is approved by the Board to be granted the title "Professional Engineer Retired."

Based on authority of the statute, the Board adopted Rule 61G15-20.0017, F.A.C., that states as follows:

A person wishing to apply for Retired Status shall submit a completed application to the Board. The instructions and application Form FBPE/05(06-01), entitled "Application for Retired Status," which is incorporated by reference, effective 9-27-01, copies of which may be obtained from the Board office. The Board shall certify as eligible for Retired Status any applicant who has completed the application form and who has chosen to relinquish or not to renew his or her license. Engineers who have been approved for Retired Status shall be carried on the records of the Board as PE, Retired. Engineers on Retired Status may use the term "Professional Engineer, Retired" or "P.E. Retired;" however, such engineer shall refrain from the active practice of engineering and the use of his or her seal. Any engineer in Retired status who wishes to become active shall make application for licensure and meet the licensure criteria in effect at the time of application.

We offer this information so you may consider exactly what your future requires in the active practice of engineering.