



**FBPE**  
FLORIDA BOARD OF  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

# Connection

Volume 2 - Issue 3

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## FBPE'S DETERMINATION ON ENGINEER OF RECORD VS. DELEGATED ENGINEER VS. SPECIALTY ENGINEER VS. DESIGN ENGINEER

Submitted by: William C. Bracken, PE, SI, CFM

Recently the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE) was asked to provide clarification and guidance regarding the respective roles of the Engineer of Record (EOR) versus that of a Delegated Engineer, a Specialty Engineer or in the case of prefabricated wood trusses, a Truss Design Engineer. Given the complexity and extent of the opinions rendered by the FBPE, this article provides the FBPE's rationale and responses in their entirety.

### **Design Utilizing Prefabricated Wood Trusses**

In response to the request for clarification and guidance, FBPE has reviewed Chapter 471 of the Florida Statute as well as Chapter 61G15 of the Florida Administrative Code with respect to design utilizing prefabricated wood trusses and offers the following understandings and interpretations:

- > The process begins when the *Engineer of Record* (EOR) [61G15-30.002(1)] designs and issues *Structural Engineering Documents* [61G15-31.002(5)] that also serve as *Engineering Documents Prepared for Public Record* (Permit Plans) [61G15-30.002(7)]. These Permit Plans while required to depict among other things the location, orientation, shape, layout, support and structural connections of the prefabricated wood trusses [61G15-30.003], do not always depict the design of the trusses themselves. Therefore, when the EOR indicates within the Permit Plans that the prefabricated wood trusses are to be "designed by others," the EOR is choosing to delegate their design to a *Delegated Engineer* [61G15-30.002(3)].

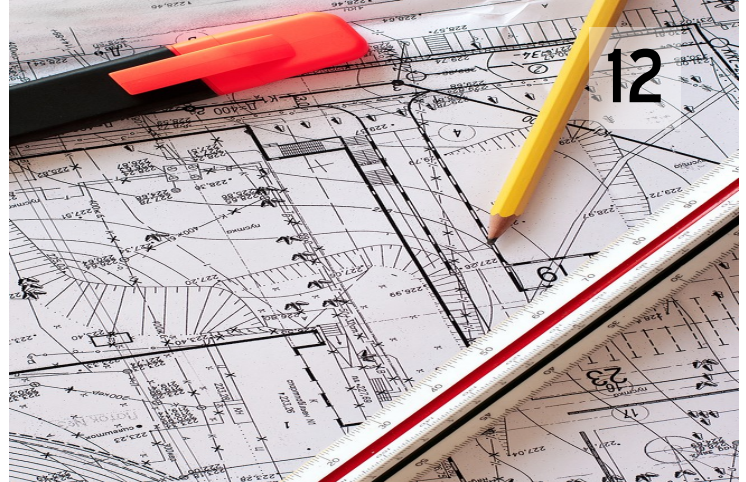
**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that rule 61G15-30.005 *Delegation of Engineering Documents: Obligations of the Engineer of Record* requires the EOR, among other things, to communicate in writing all of the engineering requirements to the *Delegated Engineer*.



- > The Permit Plans are then typically turned over to a prefabricated wood truss manufacturer. At this point a truss layout plan is developed based on the written engineering requirements within the Permit Plans. Provided the truss layout plan matches what is shown in the Permit Plans this truss layout plan can be considered a *Structural Submittal* [61G15-31.002(6)].

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that rule 61G15-31.002(6) *Structural Submittals* DO NOT require the signature, date or seal of a professional engineer when the *Structural Submittals* require no engineering input and are simply used as a guide for fabrication and installation or provide catalog information on standard products. **It is also the opinion of the FBPE** that rule 61G15-31.002(6) DOES NOT

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# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## *To Regulate or Not to Regulate... Is it Really a Question?*

**F**BPE Investigator, *Wendy Anderson*, and I recently attended the 33rd Annual CLEAR Educational Conference and both of us returned with some thought provoking information on the topic of regulation and enforcement. The Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) is a resource for anyone involved in the licensure, non-voluntary certification or registration of the hundreds of regulated occupations and professions. Its membership includes representatives of all governmental sectors, the private sector, and many others with an interest in this field from all over the world, including the United States, Canada, Ireland, Scotland and the United Kingdom. CLEAR's goal is to promote regulatory excellence through conferences, educational programs, webinars, seminars and symposia. Operating as an international organization, CLEAR acts as a neutral forum to encourage and provide for the sharing of best practices, specifically via four core areas that include:

- 1) compliance and discipline;
- 2) testing and examination issues;
- 3) entry to practice issues; and
- 4) administration, legislation and policy.

*Wendy Anderson* was able to sharpen her investigative skills by attending discussion groups and seminars that addressed conducting top-tier investigations and collaborating with other boards. It is always helpful to learn techniques from other boards, as well as, from other professions.

Some of the seminars I attended covered topics such as regulators coming under fire, relationships between regulators and professional associations (how close is *too* close), and whether we should regulate to the lowest common denominator. Based on the views of a few conference speakers, there are undoubtedly some stakeholders who believe that less regulation – and maybe even none – is what is needed for professional license holders. And while an argument can be made that *some* professions may not require incredibly stringent oversight, I believe that protection of the public's health, safety and wealth is paramount in regulating the engineering profession.

Regulation should be concerned with risk management and risk mitigation. "Right-touch regulation" is an approach that has been adopted in the UK and is based on proper evaluation of risk, a focus that is proportionate and outcome focused, and creates a framework in which professionalism can flourish and organizations can be excellent. As stated by the Professional Standards Authority in the UK, "*It (Right-touch) builds upon the principles of good regulation, identified by the Better Regulation Executive: proportionate, consistent, targeted, transparent, accountable. To these we added a sixth principle of agility. Agility in regulation means looking forward to anticipate change rather than looking back to prevent the last crisis from happening again.*"



The bottom line: As long as the public is well-served by a regulated engineering community and those engineers can perform to the best of their ability within the context of that regulation, then oversight and governance of the profession should and must continue. Although it is a lofty idea to desire flexibility within regulation, it is easier to say than to do. Within the confines of regulation, it is critical to adhere to the governing statutes and rules while, hopefully, making fair and equitable decisions. This is of greater consequence than flexibility, in my view. Flexibility, or agility, can lead to discriminatory practices and does nothing to protect the public.

I encourage all licensed professional engineers and any engineer interns who might seek future licensure to attend a Board meeting sometime. It is a great opportunity to see how your appointed officials handle business and disciplinary matters. If you do plan to attend in the next year, please be advised that all meetings in 2014 will be held at the Tampa Marriott Westshore in Tampa, Florida.

As always we encourage you to visit our website at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org) and our Facebook page for the Board's latest information and activities in support of our commitment to promoting the practice of engineering here in the State of Florida.



Zana Raybon  
FBPE Executive Director

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Zana Raybon'.

For more information about CLEAR you can go to their website at [www.clearhq.org/](http://www.clearhq.org/).



## Governor Rick Scott Announces Appointments to FBPE

On July 22, 2013, Governor Rick Scott formally announced the re-appointment of two FBPE Board members and the addition of two new members. FBPE is pleased to have the following individuals serving on the Board and supporting its mission to protect the interest of public health and safety by properly regulating the practice of engineering in the State of Florida.

**John Pepper, PE, SI** is a licensed Florida Professional Engineer and Special Inspector whose practice focuses on Structural and Forensic Structural Engineering. He served as an officer in the US Army Corps of Engineers, was one of the first structural engineers to serve on an Urban Search and Rescue Team, and was the lead engineer with the Florida Task Force One before retiring from the team after returning from the World Trade Center disaster in 2001. He has designed hundreds of structures, including many high-rise buildings such as the 40-story Mystic Pointe Tower 400 in Aventura, Florida. Mr. Pepper graduated from the University of Miami with a degree in Architectural Engineering and is President of PEGroup, Consulting Engineers, Inc., formerly The Pepper Engineering Group, Inc. He is a fellow of the Florida Engineering Society and a past President of the Broward County Chapter. Mr. Pepper fills the vacant Structural seat on the Board and is appointed for a term beginning July 22, 2013 through October 31, 2016.

**Vivian Boza**, Controller at Infinite Energy, Inc. fills the Public seat vacancy succeeding Mary Young and is appointed for a term beginning July 22, 2013, and ending October 31, 2015. Ms. Boza, a graduate from the University of Florida, is a licensed Certified Public Account with over 30 years of experience that includes public accounting experience in both the audit and tax industry, health care, commercial property management, and retail sectors. She has served as an officer in the North Central Florida Chapter of the FICPA and has also served as a Guardian Ad Litem.

**John Burke, PE**, an electrical engineer with Hazen and Sawyer, has been reappointed for a term beginning July 22, 2013, and ending October 31, 2014. Mr. Burke possesses over 43 years of experience in planning, design and project management of power, control and instrumentation systems associated with water, and wastewater facilities. His capabilities range from concept through final design, and extend to construction management and power systems analysis.

**Christian Bauer, PhD, PE** is a retired industrial engineering professor at the University of Central Florida and has been reappointed for a term beginning July 22, 2013, and ending October 31, 2016. Dr. Bauer, possesses over 39 years in engineering having worked in Central Florida at the Martin-Marietta Corporation and the University of Central Florida College of Engineering. He has significant service with the Florida Engineering Society (FES) including having served as FES President (1998-99), as well as, holding all elected positions in the Central Florida Chapter.



For a full listing of the current FBPE and FEMC Board members go to [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org) and select *About FBPE* or *About FEMC*.

# SHARE AND SHARE ALIKE...

In the last two years FBPE has expanded its take on the process of engineering licensure and welcomed a sea of change. With advancements in technology, the desire to "go green," and take a more proactive stance to become more informative, communicative, and accessible, FBPE has taken the initiative to

become an instrument of change and innovation by making significant operational modifications and collaborate with those associations and councils involved with the engineering profession.

FBPE began its journey with an overhaul of its website; then implementation of Laserfiche® allowing automation of many processes and "going paperless"; and finally improving its methods and consistency with regular communications and outreach to the state's engineering schools and licensed professionals.

This "sea of change" has provided a number of opportunities for FBPE and its staff to work with other state licensing boards not only on its "paperless" and collegiate outreach efforts but also represent Florida by partnering with engineering societies and NCEES and its many subcommittees promoting the advancement of licensure and the profession of engineering.



*Pictured from left to right: Katherine Anderson, FBPE Scanning and Records Supervisor, Amanda Day-Janecek, FBPE Assistant to Controller, Joy Huff, LAPELS Licensing Coordinator and Records Manager, and Donna Sentell, LAPELS Executive Director*

Most recently, **Katherine Anderson**, Scanning and Records Supervisor, and **Amanda Day-Janecek**, Controller Assistant of FBPE/FEMC, visited the Louisiana Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (LAPELS). With the exception of the Louisiana's Board also being responsible for licensing surveyors, both FBPE and LAPELS purpose is basically the same: properly licensing and regulating the profession of engineering within their respective state. It is not a new notion to have businesses seek methods to streamline processes and "go paperless" and both FBPE and LAPELS currently use Laserfiche® as their record archival and imaging system. Whereas FBPE has implemented this application as a record retrieval system, we are also in the process of integrating the application process so it is fully automated and interactive. **Donna Sentell**, LAPELS Executive Director and **Joy Huff**, Licensing Coordinator and Records Manager, were able to share ideas and their internal processes so through our collaborative efforts we could both benefit from each other's experiences.

As writer/politician Jean-Nicolas Bouilly once said, "Whatever we possess becomes of double value when we have the opportunity of sharing it with others." That couldn't be more true as FBPE and its staff welcomes the opportunity to work and share our experiences and information with those within the profession to make for a better engineering tomorrow!



**NCEES**  
advancing licensure for  
engineers and surveyors

## 92nd ANNUAL Meeting

The NCEES 92nd Annual Meeting was held in San Antonio, Texas on August 21-24, 2013. The Florida Board of Professional Engineers was represented by **Vice Chair William Bracken, PE, SI, CFM** (Discipline Other than Civil member); **John Burke, PE** (Electrical member); **Anthony Fiorillo, PE, CGC, LEED AP** (Civil member); **Michelle Roddenberry, PhD, PE** (Educational member); **Kenneth Todd, PE** (Civil member); **Richard Wohlfarth, PE** (Civil member); **Michael Flury**, Board Counsel; **Zana Raybon**, Executive Director and **Rebecca Sammons**, Executive Assistant. Each year this meeting allows the Council and members to address a range of issues related to the organization and to engineering and licensure.

Mr. Bracken and Mr. Fiorillo represented FBPE as the voting delegates at this year's meeting and as such, made changes to Model Law, reduced the FE/FS exam prices, and elected the President-Elect for 2013-2014 and other zone officers. The new NCEES officers for 2013-2014 were installed and the NCEES Southern Zone conducted several meetings during the annual event of which all of the FBPE members participated.

FBPE was very well represented at this event and, for the first time, had nine (9) Board members in attendance. Their participation in NCEES activities and events, along with their involvement with numerous committees, is reflective of FBPE's commitment to the advancement of licensure and the engineering profession. We are proud to have a number of Board members representing FBPE on the Member Board Administrators (MBA), Public Outreach/Communications, Nominations, Education and Definition of Engineering committees. We also congratulate our most recent Board member's NCEES appointment, **Anthony Fiorillo, PE, CGC, LEED AP**, who was appointed to the NCEES MBA committee.



*Pictured from left to right: Anthony Fiorillo, PE, CGC, LEED AP, John Burke, PE, Zana Raybon, Rebecca Sammons, Vice Chair William Bracken, PE, SI, CFM, and Michael Flury, Esq.*

FBPE would like to acknowledge and thank these individuals for their dedication to their profession and to the State of Florida.

# CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

## HIRED GUN OR FORENSIC ENGINEER?

It has been estimated that approximately 5% of practicing professional engineers have, at one time or another in their careers, acted as forensic engineers or expert witnesses.

What is a forensic engineer? A forensic engineer generally consults with insurance adjusters and attorneys, analyzes cases (including site visits), provides expert reports, sworn testimony when being deposed, engineering facts for mediation and acts as an expert witness in a court of law or in front of an arbitration panel.

Attorneys retain forensic professional engineers to win cases for their clients. This puts forensic engineers in potentially compromising situations. A forensic engineer's task is not necessarily to win the case, but rather to state an opinion about what happened in a given incident based upon a "reasonable degree of engineering probability."

Some attorneys, in their opinion, have reported that some engineers are working as "Hired Guns" and instead of stating a reasonable degree of engineering probability facts, are parroting what their attorney and client want them to state to bolster their case.

Since conclusions and opinions stated by an expert witness are considered admissible evidence, it is incumbent upon the expert witness to ensure that statements made are accurate and based upon sound and unbiased professional judgment. Remember, the professional reputations and personal fortunes of parties to a dispute may be unfairly and permanently impacted by inaccurate statements.

Sooner or later in your professional engineering career you may be asked to act as an expert witness and provide forensic engineering duties.

If you do decide to become a forensic engineer and provide expert witness, keep in mind that most attorneys and insurance companies would generally want their experts to provide them with the facts of the case. After all, if an insurance company and attorney are defending an engineer accused of certain errors and omissions, they want to know the facts. If the facts show that the accused

engineer performed his professional engineering duties with the expected standard of care, then the insurance company and attorney will look to the best method to defend the engineer. However, if the facts indicate that there were errors and omissions, then the insurance company and attorney will look to the best method of quickly settling the dispute.

On the other hand, an owner and attorney may come to a professional engineer to act as an expert witness to outline as many defects and discrepancies as could possibly be found or alluded to, for instance, in the construction of a condominium. They may simply do this to build up the estimated dollar value of the proposed corrections for the supposed defects and deficiencies. This could lead to a forensic engineer acting as a "Hired Gun."



Warren G. Hahn, PE  
FBPE Chair



So, there is a careful balance that must be exercised by a forensic engineer to ascertain the facts as an expert witness and advocate for their client taking care that he or she determines a case is based on a "reasonable degree of engineering probability" and not on being a "Hired Gun" for the profit of himself or herself and their client.

Finally, be aware that **Florida Statute 471.025 Seals**, indicates in part that: "All final drawings, specifications, plans, reports or documents prepared or issued by the licensee and being filed for

public record and all final documents provided to the owner or owner's representative shall be signed by the licensee, dated and sealed with said seal."

By signing and sealing a report as an expert witness, you are putting your reputation as a forensic engineer on the line.

Do you want to be known as a Forensic Engineer or a "Hired Gun?"

**Warren G. Hahn, PE** is a registered engineer with Hahn Engineering, Inc. located in Tampa, Florida. He has over 50 years experience in engineering contracting and construction. Mr. Hahn's experience includes extensive involvement in heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. He provides engineering, design, analysis, construction supervision and inspection of mechanical, plumbing, fire sprinkler, security, network, lighting and electrical systems. Mr. Hahn also serves as an expert witness with forensic experience related to mechanical and electrical engineering.

Mr. Hahn is currently serving his first term as Chair of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers.

preclude *Structural Submittals* from being signed and sealed by a professional engineer.

- > This truss layout plan is then relied upon by the *Truss Design Engineer* **61G15-31.003(3)(c)** who, by way of delegation, serves as a *Specialty Engineer* [**61G15-31.002(8)**] and EOR for the prefabricated wood trusses depicted within the truss layout plan.

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that in the case of prefabricated wood trusses the *Truss Design Engineer* defined within rule **61G15-31.003(3)(c)** functions as a *Specialty Engineer* as defined in rule **61G15-31.002(8)**, as well as a *Delegated Engineer* as defined in rule **61G15-30.002(3)**. **It is also the opinion of the FBPE** that the *Truss Design Engineer* as a *Delegated Engineer* is subject to rule **61G15-30.006** among others.

- > During the design and engineering process, the *Truss Design Engineer* is required to contact the EOR for resolution of conflicts if and when there are details, features or unanticipated project limits that conflict with the written engineering requirements provided by the EOR in the Permit Plans.

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that rule **61G15-30.006** *Delegation of Engineering Documents: Obligations of the Delegated Engineer of Record* requires the *Delegated Engineer* or, in the case of prefabricated wood trusses, the *Truss Design Engineer*, to review the EOR's written engineering requirements to determine the appropriate scope of engineering and to contact the EOR for resolution of conflicts with the written engineering requirements.

- > Once the design and engineering process is completed, the *Truss Design Engineer* signs, dates and seals the prefabricated wood truss drawings making them *Delegated Structural Engineering Documents* [**61G15-31.002(7)**], which are then forwarded or copied to the EOR on the project.

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that *Delegated Structural Engineering Documents* defined within rule **61G15-31.002(7)** are to be treated the same as *Delegated Engineering Documents* defined within rule **61G15-30.002(5)** and, as such, are subject to the requirements of rule **61G15-30.002(4)** among others. **It is also the opinion of the FBPE** that rule **61G15-30.002(4)** requires that the *Truss Design Engineer* forward copies of the *Delegated Structural Engineering Documents* to the EOR for the project.

- > Upon receipt of the *Delegated Engineering Documents*, the EOR is to verify that the *Delegated Structural Engineering Documents* comply with the Permit Plans and the original intent of the project's EOR.

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that rule **61G15-30.005** *Delegation of Engineering Documents: Obligations of the Engineer of Record* requires the EOR, upon receipt of the documents prepared by the *Truss Design Engineer*, to review those documents for compliance with the written engineering requirements.

## **Use of Prefabricated Wood Trusses**

In response to the request for clarification and guidance regarding the use of prefabricated wood trusses, we offer the following insights as to when issues can occur:

- > The EOR delegates the design of the prefabricated wood trusses and fails to properly design the balance of the *Truss System* [**61G15-31.003(3)(a)**].

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that when issuing *Structural Engineering Documents* intended to serve as *Engineering Documents Prepared for Public Record* (Permit Plans) the EOR has the responsibility to describe, detail, label and define, among other things all of the *Structural Systems* [**61G15-31.002(4)**] including

those comprised of prefabricated wood trusses.

**It is also the opinion of the FBPE** that when an EOR chooses to delegate the design of prefabricated wood trusses, ONLY the design of the prefabricated wood truss or *Structural Component* [**61G15-31.002(2)**] is being delegated and NOT the design of the *Truss System* or *Structural System*.

- > The EOR calls for the truss layout plan to be signed, sealed and dated by a licensed professional engineer.

Often this requirement sparks objection from the *Truss Design Engineer* based on the belief that the EOR is attempting to delegate the design of the *Truss System* or force the *Truss Design Engineer* to become the *Truss System Engineer* [**61G15-31.003(3)(b)**]. While the EOR's responsibilities with respect to the *Truss System* are discussed above, one must also be aware of the following:

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that under rules **61G15-30.002(4)**, **(5)**, **(6)** & **(7)** if the *Delegated Engineer*, by the *Delegated Engineer's* professional judgment, by terms of a contract, or by regulatory direction, is required to or takes professional responsibility for the issuance of a *Structural Submittal*, which is prepared and/or filed for public record, then those documents would be required by rule to be signed and sealed by a professional engineer.

Accordingly, while the *Delegated Engineer* may be required to sign, seal and date a *Structural Submittal*, one must also consider the following:

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that under rule **61G15-30.003(3)** when an engineer does not intend to accept responsibility for



# Rule Change: Florida Building Code CEU Requirements

Submitted by: William C. Bracken, PE, SI, CFM

Over the last year the FBPE committee on Florida Building Code Continuing Education Unit (CEU) requirements has been evaluating the Florida Building Code CEU requirements for engineers found in FS 471.0195, Florida Building Code CEU Requirements.

## Background

In 2002, in the wake of creating the Florida Building Code, Florida's legislature created Florida Statute 471.0195 titled *Florida Building Code Training for Engineers*. In short, this statute required licensed engineers whose practice included structures or systems governed by the Florida Building Code to obtain training on the Florida Building Code. This statute also charged the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE) with tracking, reporting and enforcing these requirements. The legislature reportedly created FS 471.0195 to ensure that Florida's design community was properly trained regarding the building code.

## The Committee's Mission

The committee on Florida Building Code CEU requirements was created by the FBPE and tasked with investigating, evaluating and making recommendations regarding the availability of appropriate Florida Building Code CEU training, as well as the tracking, reporting and enforcement of the Florida Building Code CEU requirements for engineers found in FS 471.0195. The committee was made up of members of the Board, FBPE staff, the State Attorney's Office and representatives from the Florida Building Commission (FBC), the Building Officials Association of Florida (BOAF), and the Florida Engineering Society (FES). A number of interested parties have also attended and participated in the committee's meetings and deliberations.

## The Committee's Conclusion

Based on its investigations and deliberations, the committee determined:

- The FBPE COULD NOT eliminate the requirement for licensees to complete "Building Code Core" classes given that it exists in Florida Statute.
- The requirement to complete "Building Code Core" classes WOULD NOT result in an increase in the total number of CEU hours required of licensees.
- The title "Core" had been replaced by "Specialized." It was further verified that any classes designated as pertaining to the Building Code, and bearing the title "Advanced" as issued by the Florida Building Commission, would satisfy the "Specialized" requirement within Florida Statute.



- There exists a large number of CEU training classes that deal with updates and changes to the Florida Building Code. It was further verified that a number of these classes pertaining to the Florida Building Code have been designated as "Advanced" by the Florida Building Commission.
- Methods are currently available for the reporting and posting of licensee compliance but will require that the licensees submit proof of completion.
- The Florida Building Code is substantially updated and reissued every three (3) years in accordance with current statute. It was further verified that licensees would only be required to take classes when the Florida Building Code is reissued.
- Enforcement of non-compliance would be initiated by building department related complaints.

(Continued on page 9)



## Rule Changes

### 61G15-22.001 Continuing Education Requirements.

(1) Each licensee shall complete eight professional development hours during each license renewal biennium as a condition of license renewal. Four hours shall relate to the licensee's area(s) of practice and four hours shall relate to Chapter 471, F.S., and the rules of the Board, Chapter 61G15-22, F.A.C.

(2) All licensees actively participating in the design of engineering works or systems in connection with buildings, structures, or facilities and systems covered by the Florida Building Code, as identified within Chapter 553.72(1) F.S., shall:

(a) complete at least one "Advanced" Florida Building Code class, approved by the Florida Building Commission, within 12 months of the Florida Building Code being reissued by the State of Florida, and

(b) provide the FBPE with a copy of a certificate of completion which shows: Course Number, Course Hours, Florida Building Commission approval as "Advanced", Code Edition Year, and Code or Course Focus.

(3) No change.

(4) No change.

### 61G15-19.0071 Citations.

(1) – (2) No change.

(3) The following violations with accompanying fines may be disposed of by citation:

(a) – (d) No change.

(e) Failure to take a specialized or advanced continuing education course in the portion of the Florida Building Code applicable to the licensee's area of practice. The fine shall be \$100 for each month or fraction thereof. (See Section 471.0195, F.S., and Rule 61G15-22.001, F.A.C.).

(4) - (7) No change.

**These changes will be posted on our website and go into effect in early 2014.** To view the current laws and rules in effect that governs the practice of engineering within the State of Florida and the Florida Building Code, please visit the FBPE website at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org) and select *Statutes & Rules* under the *Legal* section. .

This article was submitted by FBPE Board Vice Chair **William C. Bracken, PE, SI, CFM**. Mr. Bracken is the President and Principal Engineer for Bracken Engineering located in Tampa, Florida. He is a licensed Special Inspector and Professional Engineer in the State of Florida. Mr. Bracken is currently serving his first term as Vice Chair of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers and also is the Chairman for the FBPE Florida Building Code CEU Requirement Committee..

If you have any questions regarding the information discussed in this article or about the committee's upcoming meetings and agendas please send an email to [board@fbpe.org](mailto:board@fbpe.org).



## FEMC 2012-2013 Annual Report

Section 471.038, Florida Statutes, adopted by the legislature in 1997 as H433, created the Florida Engineers Management Corporation (FEMC) for the purpose of providing administrative, investigative, and prosecutorial services to the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE) by contract with the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR). Section 471.038(3)(1), Florida Statutes, requires the Corporation to submit to the Secretary of the Department of Business & Professional Regulation, the Florida Board of Professional Engineers, and the Florida Legislature, on or before October 1 of each year, a report on the status of the corporation, including but not limited to, information concerning the programs and funds that have been transferred to the Corporation. That same section also requires certain specific information regarding licenses and complaints handled by the Corporation.

To view the FEMC Annual Report for 2012-2013 go to [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org) and select *Annual Reports* under the *Corporate* section.

elements of a project which are shown only for information or clarification, that engineer is to clearly note on the documents the extent of responsibility accepted.

- > The truss layout plan deviates from what is shown in the Permit Plans.

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that when the truss layout plan deviates from the written engineering requirements provided by the EOR in the Permit Plans, then the truss layout sheet is no longer a *Structural Submittal* and the prefabricated wood truss plans signed, sealed and dated by the *Truss Design Engineer* are no longer considered to be legitimate *Delegated Structural Engineering Documents*.

At this point, one of a number of options exists. First, the *Truss Design Engineer* could direct the truss layout to be corrected to match the written engineering requirements provided by the EOR in the Permit Plans. Second, the EOR could accept responsibility for the modified truss layout and then redesign those portions of the *Structure [61G15-31.002(3)]* and/or *Structural System [61G15-31.002(4)]* impacted by the modification. Next, the *Truss Design Engineer* could accept responsibility for the modified truss layout and become the *Truss System Engineer* by becoming a *Successor Engineer* as provided in rule **61G15-27.001**.

- > The *Truss Design Engineer* fails to properly design and engineer the truss to truss connections.

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that under rule **61G15-30.006(3)(a)** the *Truss Design Engineer* is responsible to specify structural framing connections when prefabricated wood trusses impose loads onto and/or are supported by other prefabricated wood trusses.

- > The *Truss Design Engineer* fails to forward copies of the *Delegated Structural Engineering Documents* to the EOR.

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that rule **61G15-30.006** *Delegation of Engineering Documents: Obligations of the Delegated Engineer of Record* requires the *Delegated Engineer* or, in the case of prefabricated wood trusses, the *Truss Design Engineer* to forward copies of the *Delegated Structural Engineering Documents* to the EOR for the project.

- > The EOR fails to properly verify compliance between the written engineering requirements provided within the Permit Plans and the *Delegated Structural Engineering Documents* issued by the *Truss Design Engineer*.

**It is the opinion of the FBPE** that rule **61G15-30.005** *Delegation of Engineering Documents: Obligations of the Engineer of Record* requires the EOR, upon receipt of the documents prepared by the *Truss Design Engineer*, to review those documents for compliance with the written engineering requirements.

To read the entire FBPE response please visit the *Statutes and Rules* page under the *Legal* section at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org). The letters are located at the bottom of the page.

For those licensees whose practice or designs involve specialty engineering, it is highly recommended that they should familiarize themselves with all of the statutory (**F.S. 471**) and administrative code (**F.A.C. 61G15**) requirements but especially those discussed within this response.

*This article was submitted by FBPE Board Vice Chair William C. Bracken, PE, SI, CFM. Mr. Bracken is the President and Principal Engineer for Bracken Engineering located in Tampa, Florida. He is a licensed Special Inspector and Professional Engineer in the State of Florida. Mr. Bracken is currently serving his first term as Vice Chair of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers.*

## KEEPING YOUR LICENSURE RECORD UP-TO-DATE

**D**id you know that whenever your contact information changes it is **YOUR** responsibility to update your licensure record? FBPE wants to remind you the importance of keeping your vital information accurate on your licensure record.

It is the responsibility of the licensee or certificate holder to notify the Board of any change of vital information previously submitted, such as a name or address change, change of employer, or change of PE in responsible charge for a firm.

This information should be provided **within 30 days** of when the change occurs to ensure proper delivery of licensure correspondence and uninterrupted Board service. We also encourage licensees to provide the most current email address as we routinely provide special notices, information and the quarterly newsletter electronically.

To submit your changes you can simply complete the interactive form located at the bottom of the *Other Forms* page located under the *Licensure* section at <http://fbpe.org/licensure/other-forms> or email the new information to [board@fbpe.org](mailto:board@fbpe.org).

For those individuals requesting to change their name and obtain a new copy of your license, **YOU MUST SUBMIT** new photo identification and a copy of a marriage certificate or divorce decree along with the appropriate order form and the \$25.00 fee. The order form can be downloaded from our website under "Order Form for Duplicate Licenses and Certificates" at <http://fbpe.org/licensure/other-forms>.

Additional forms can be located on this page such as requests to change license status, verification of licensure and delinquent renewal forms. If you have any questions feel free to contact the Board's office at (850) 521-0500.



# FBPE/FEMC Accomplishments

## 2012 – 2013

In support of FBPE's efforts to handle licensing engineers in the State of Florida and enforcing engineering licensing laws, FEMC accomplished the following during the July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013, contract year. You can find more information about our contract requirements, accomplishments, quarterly and annual reports in the [Corporate](http://www.fbpe.org) section of our website at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org).

### Licensure Statistics

**7,814** NEW APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR LICENSURE.

**2,298** APPLICATIONS PROCESSED, APPROVED AND REGISTERED FOR THE FUNDAMENTALS OF ENGINEERING (FE) EXAM.

**1,162** APPLICATIONS PROCESSED, APPROVED AND REGISTERED FOR THE PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE (PE) EXAM.

**1,055** ENGINEER LICENSURE VERIFICATIONS ISSUED.

**698** CERTIFICATIONS OF THRESHOLD SPECIAL INSPECTORS ISSUED.

### RENEWED

**35,954**

LICENSES.

(includes Professional Engineers and Certificates of Authorizations for engineering firms)

### PROCESSED

**140**

complaints regarding engineering practices, of which **123** were found to be legally sufficient.

### IMPOSED

**\$52,961.60**

in Fines and Costs.

### Legal Statistics

**19** ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS FILED IN CASES WHERE THE PROBABLE CAUSE PANEL FOUND PROBABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE A VIOLATION OF THE ENGINEERING PRACTICE ACT HAD OCCURRED.

**28** FINAL ORDERS WERE ISSUED AGAINST PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS.

**21** CASES WERE DISMISSED WITH A FINDING OF "NO PROBABLE CAUSE."

**20** CASES WERE DISMISSED WITH A "LETTER OF GUIDANCE."

**3** LICENSURE REVOCATIONS ORDERED.

**5** LICENSURE SUSPENSIONS ORDERED.

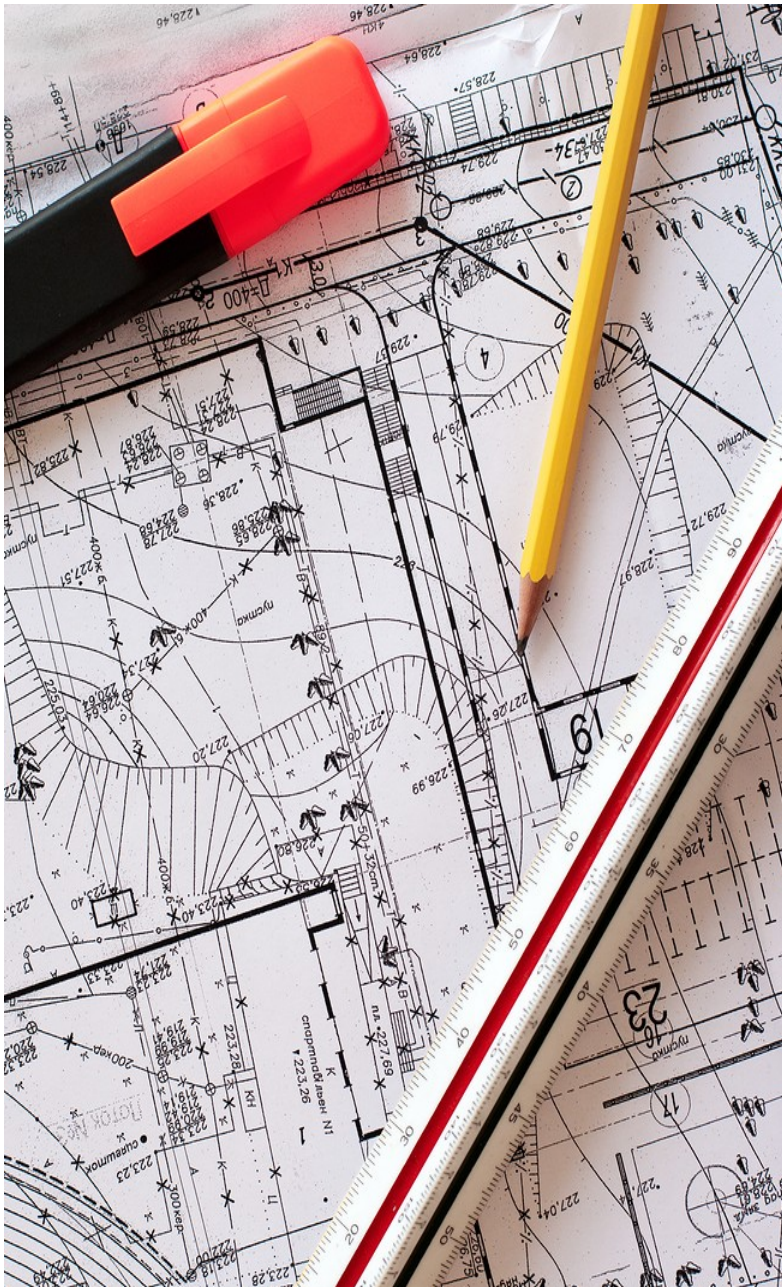
**2** VOLUNTARY RELINQUISHMENTS ISSUED.

**3** LICENSURE RESTRICTIONS ISSUED.

# FBPE Provides Clarification on Signing & Sealing Shop & Work Drawings

Submitted by: William C. Bracken, PE, SI, CFM

Recently the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE) was asked to provide guidance and clarification regarding: “requirements, or lack thereof, for an engineer to sign and seal shop drawings and/or working drawings” and whether or not an owner can require shop drawings and working drawings to be signed and sealed by a professional engineer. This article contains the pertinent excerpts from the FBPE’s response and offers them here as guidance to those whose practice includes the preparation or handling of shop drawings and working drawings.



In response to the request for clarification, the FBPE reviewed Chapter 471 of the Florida Statutes, as well as Chapter 61G15 of the Florida Administrative Code. Its review was conducted with respect to the rules regarding signing and sealing of shop drawings and/or working drawings.

In summary, the FBPE opined that rule **61G15-30.002 (8)** **DOES NOT** require shop drawings and working drawings to be signed, dated or sealed when they are simply used to depict installation means and methods, provide catalog information on standard products or are prepared based on engineering direction contained within engineering documents. The FBPE also opined that while not required by this rule, it **DOES NOT** preclude shop drawings and working drawings from being signed and sealed by a professional engineer.

The FBPE then went on to point out that rules **61G15-30.002 (4), (5), (6) & (7)**, **61G15-30.006 (3)** and **61G15-23.002 (1) (a), (b) & (d)** all provide cases in which shop drawings and working drawings may in fact be required by rule to be signed and sealed by a professional engineer. In other words, shop drawings and working drawings can, and in many cases, are required by rule to be signed and sealed by a professional engineer.

Finally, with respect to “whether or not an owner can require shop drawings and working drawings to be signed and sealed by a professional engineer,” the FBPE opined that **61G15-23.002 (1) (d)** **DOES** in fact afford an owner the ability to require shop drawings and working drawings to be signed and sealed by a professional engineer.

(Continued on page 13)

**It is the opinion of the FBPE that under rule 61G15-30.002 (8) shop drawings and working drawings DO NOT require the signature, date or seal of a professional engineer when they are simply used to depict installation means and methods, provide catalog information on standard products or are prepared based on engineering direction contained within Engineering Documents. **It is also the opinion of the FBPE that rule 61G15-30.002(8) DOES NOT preclude shop drawings and working drawings from being signed and sealed by a professional engineer.****

**It is the opinion of the FBPE that under rule 61G15-30.006 (3) if the shop drawings and working drawings represent Delegated Engineering Documents regardless of whether they are prepared and/or filed for public record or not, they ARE REQUIRED by rule to be signed and sealed by a professional engineer.**

**It is the opinion of the FBPE that under rules 61G15-30.002 (4), (5), (6) & (7) if the PE, by the PE's professional judgment, by terms of a contract, or by regulatory direction, is required to or takes professional responsibility for the issuance of shop drawings and working drawings that represent Engineering Documents or Delegated Engineering Documents and which are prepared and/or filed for public record then the documents WOULDBE REQUIRED by rule to be signed and sealed by a professional engineer.**

**It is the opinion of the FBPE that under rules 61G15-23.002 (1) (a), (b) & (d) if the shop drawings and working drawings are prepared and/or filed for public record by the PE then they WOULD BE REQUIRED by rule to be signed and sealed by a professional engineer. Further, **it is the opinion of the FBPE that shop drawings and working drawings can also be required to be signed and sealed by a professional engineer if that requirement is established by either a public entity or a contract provision irrespective of these rules.****

To read the entire FBPE response please visit the *Statutes and Rules* page under the *Legal* section at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org). The letters are located at the bottom of the page.

When it comes to signing and sealing shop drawings and working drawings, it is highly recommended that licensees should familiarize themselves with all of the statutory (F.S. 471) and administrative code (F.A.C. 61G15) requirements but especially 61G15-23, 61G15-30, and 61G15-31.

To view the current laws and rules in effect that govern the practice of engineering within the State of Florida and the Florida Building Code, please visit our FBPE website at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org) and select *Statutes & Rules*.

This article was submitted by FBPE Board Vice Chair **William C. Bracken, PE, SI, CFM**. Mr. Bracken is the President and Principal Engineer for Bracken Engineering located in Tampa, Florida. Mr. Bracken is currently serving his first term as Vice Chair of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers.

# Mark Your Calendar!

## November 2013

- 5** UWF Engineering & Technology Expo
- 11** FBPE Office Closed-Veteran's Day
- 12** Application Review & PCP Meeting
- 13** Rules Committee Meeting
- 13** FBPE SE Licensure Committee Meeting
- 15** FEMC Board Ops Conference Call
- 25** Ratification Conference Call
- 28-29** FBPE Office Closed-Thanksgiving

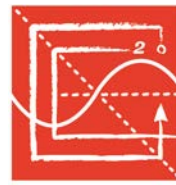
## December 2013

- 4-5** FEMC & FBPE Board Meeting
- 24-25** FBPE Office Closed-Christmas
- 31** FBPE Office Closed-New Year's Eve

## January 2014

- 1** FBPE Office Closed-New Year's Day
- 10** FEMC Board Ops Conference Call
- 14** Application Review & PCP Meeting
- 15** FBPE SE Licensure Committee Conference Call
- 24** Ratification Conference Call
- 28** FAMU/FSU College of Engineering-2014 Spring Engineering Day

Board meetings and other scheduled activities can also be found on our calendar located on the Home page of [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org).



## MAMOLA BEGINS TERM AS NCEES PRESIDENT

**P**atty Mamola, PE, began her term as 2013-14 NCEES President at the conclusion of the organization's annual meeting, held August 21-24, 2013, in San Antonio, Texas. She is the first woman to hold this position since the organization's founding in 1920.

Mamola has been a member of the Nevada State Board of Engineers and Land Surveyors since 2006. A resident of Reno, Nevada, she is one of the founding principals of the professional engineering firm Bowling Mamola Group. Licensed as a professional engineer in Nevada since 1993, Mamola has focused her career on transportation, construction management, and analytical problem solving. She replaces outgoing president **Gene Dinkins, PE, PLS**, of South Carolina, who will remain on the NCEES Board of Directors as immediate past president.

Mamola is a graduate of South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, where she earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. She is an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), and the American Public Works Association (APWA).

In her speech accepting the office of NCEES president, Mamola outlined three key focus areas for the year ahead: promoting the professions of engineering and surveying, encouraging diversity, and improving professional mobility for U.S. professional engineers and surveyors domestically and internationally. She said, "When you limit the idea of who can be an engineer or surveyor or what they do, you limit what can be achieved. We must challenge those perceptions to accelerate advances in engineering and surveying."

Also during the annual meeting, NCEES members elected **David Widmer, PLS**, of Pennsylvania as President-Elect for the 2013-14 term and **Gary Thompson, PLS**, of North Carolina as Treasurer for 2013-15.

NCEES welcomed **James Purcell, PE**, of New Jersey and **Daniel Turner, PhD, PE, PLS**, of Alabama to its board of directors as well. Purcell and Turner will serve two-year terms as vice presidents of the Northeast Zone and Southern Zone, respectively.

Rounding out the Board of Directors are two members serving the second year of their two-year terms: **Michael Conzett, PE**, of Nebraska returns as Central Zone Vice President, and **Von Hill, PS**, of Utah continues as Western Zone Vice President.

Detailed information about NCEES governance can be found at <http://ncees.org/about-ncees/>.

This page contains a brief overview of recent news releases by NCEES concerning items that may be of interest to our engineering community. Updates published here are intended to be only a brief description so we encourage you to visit [www.ncees.org](http://www.ncees.org) for full releases and their latest and most up-to-date information.

## FE CBT Registration is *Right Around the Corner* !!



**I**t's hard to believe that the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Exam transition is about to be official, but it is just around the corner! With the conclusion of the last paper FE exam on October 26, 2013, NCEES will begin registration for the FE CBT exam on **Monday, November 4, 2013**.

FBPE has steadily been processing applications for the FE CBT exam implementation that begins in January 2014, and continues to review and approve applications in preparation of the opening of registration with NCEES. Those applicants that have already submitted their applications and been approved have been notified of their application status and can register with NCEES for any of the exam windows beginning on that date.

Individuals seeking to sit for the FE CBT exam in 2014, should first apply and obtain approval with FBPE, then register with NCEES, followed by selecting a testing date and location at the Pearson Vue Testing Center of their choice. All information about how to apply and register can be found on our website at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org), on the *Application Process* and *Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Exam* page under the *Licensure* section. Information about the FE CBT exam transition and process can also be found on NCEES' website at <http://ncees.org/cbt>.



The NCEES *Engineering Award for Connecting Professional Practice and Education* was established to promote understanding of the value of licensure and to encourage partnerships between the engineering profession and education. In 2009, NCEES introduced this award to recognize college engineering programs for engaging their students in collaborative projects with licensed professional engineers.

NCEES invites EAC/ABET-accredited programs from all academic disciplines to submit collaborative projects that demonstrate a meaningful partnership between professional practice and education. Projects must be in progress or completed by **March 15, 2014**. The entry deadline for those interested in applying is **May 5, 2014**.

Projects submitted for consideration are evaluated on the following criteria:

- ⇒ Successful collaboration of faculty, students, and licensed professional engineers;
- ⇒ Benefit to public health, safety, and welfare;
- ⇒ Multidiscipline and/or allied profession participation;
- ⇒ Knowledge or skills gained; and
- ⇒ Effectiveness of display board, abstract, and project description.

The grand prize winner will be recognized at the NCEES annual meeting in August 2014. All award-winning submissions will be exhibited at the event and featured on the NCEES website, in NCEES publications, and in other related professional publications.

FBPE would like to encourage all of its EAC/ABET-accredited engineering schools to apply for this prestigious award. This is only the fifth award given by NCEES with the first award presented to the **FAMU-FSU Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering** in 2009 for a collection of projects with a featured *Everglades Restoration Project* and again in 2011 to the **Florida Atlantic University Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geomatics Engineering** for their *Dania Beach Nanofiltration Plant Expansion Project*. FBPE is especially proud to have had two Florida engineering schools earn this esteemed honor in a short span of five years.

Information about the Engineering Award along with current and past winners can be found on NCEES's website at <http://ncees.org/licensure/ncees-engineering-award/>. Entry Forms, instructions, project ideas and evaluation criteria can be found on <http://ncees.org/licensure/ncees-engineering-award/entry-instructions/>.

The NCEES Engineering Award includes six (6) cash awards.

**GRAND PRIZE**  
**\$25,000.00**

**FIVE AWARDS**  
**\$7,500.00 EACH**

Use of the funds awarded is at the discretion of the winning engineering department/colleges. NCEES encourages their use for the advancement of projects connecting professional practice and education.



# Recent Engineer Discipline

**I**n the last few months, the Board has formally approved the following enforcement cases based on the Florida Statutes and Rules applicable at the time of the violation. Included is a brief description of the licensee's violation and discipline imposed by the Board.

**Certified Drainage Inspections, Inc.**  
Case No. 2012031490

Licensee was charged with the unlawful practice of engineering, a violation of Section 455.2285(1), 471.031(1)(a), and 471.038(5), Florida Statutes. Licensee was hired to perform work to include: inspect the drainage on the property; prepare a drainage assessment report, advise as to the scope of the cleaning and/or repairs needed, submitting the above noted report to the County, perform a final inspection, and submit license renewal package to the County for five-year recertification. This company does not possess a Florida Certificate of Authorization. A Final Order was issued on September 13, 2013.

**Ruling:** The Board imposed a \$5,000 Fine.

**Violation:** Sections 455.2285(1), 471.031(1)(a), and 471.038(5), Florida Statutes

**Lee Charles Page, PE**  
PE 54179  
Case No. 2013008870

Licensee was charged with having his license to practice engineering acted against by the licensing

authority of another state, territory, or country, a violation of Section 471.033(1)(c), Florida Statutes. Licensee was the subject of a Consent Order entered by the Texas Board of Professional Engineers for stating in an engineering report that a structure met local building and zoning codes when the structure was not in compliance, and issued a report approving repairs done at a residence when the repairs were inadequate, and issued an inspection report which had been sealed and signed prior to the inspection being performed, and was issued without inspection ever occurring. A Final Order was issued on October 14, 2013.

**Ruling:** The Board imposed Costs of \$185.25, and a Reprimand. Additionally, Licensee will voluntarily place his engineering license on "inactive" status and shall remain on "inactive" status until Licensee wishes to resume the practice of engineering in Florida. At that time, Licensee shall appear before the Board at which time the Board may impose such conditions or probation as it deems appropriate prior to reactivating the license, must complete the Study Guide, and a Board Approved course in Engineering Professionalism and Ethics.

**Violation:** Sections 471.033(1)(c), Florida Statutes and 471.033(1)(a) and (d), Florida Statutes

*You can access the final orders for these cases and other recent engineer disciplines on our website under the Legal section at <http://fbpe.org/legal/disciplinary-actions>. If you are unsure if an engineer has been disciplined you can verify their license on [www.myfloridalicense.com](http://www.myfloridalicense.com). Information on public cases in which an engineer has been disciplined can be obtained by sending an email request to [publicrecords@fbpe.org](mailto:publicrecords@fbpe.org).*

**Disclaimer:** FBPE would like to note that every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of discipline information; however this should not be relied upon without verification from the Board office or website. It is possible that names of companies and individuals listed may be similar to the names of parties who **HAVE NOT** been disciplined or had compliant actions taken against them, so we encourage you to review licensee information on [www.myfloridalicense.com](http://www.myfloridalicense.com), contact our office or make a public records request should you have any specific questions regarding disciplinary actions. Public records requests can be sent to [publicrecords@fbpe.org](mailto:publicrecords@fbpe.org).



# 2014 FICE EEA Grand Receptor Award Wantman Group Inc.'s Dixie Highway Flyover Bridge

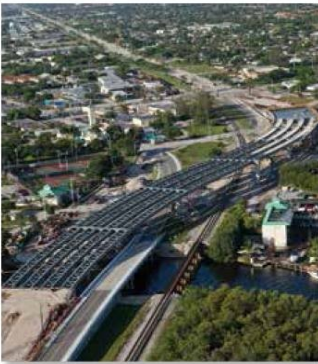
*Article Reprinted with Permission from FES-Journal Issue September 2013*

The Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers' (FICE) Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) program is designed to recognize outstanding contributions to the consulting engineering profession through a comprehensive evaluation of projects by a distinguished panel of experts in related fields. This year, one honor and nine grand awards were awarded at the *FES/FICE 97th Annual Summer Conference and Exposition's FICE Banquet*, held August 2, 2013, at The Breakers, in Palm Beach, Florida. One Grand Conceptor award winner was chosen from the nine grand awards as the overall best engineering project from the state of Florida. This year's recipient is *Wantman Group Inc.'s Dixie Highway Flyover Bridge*.

## About the Winning Project

As Dixie Highway approached its centennial year, funds from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act presented an opportunity to address the odd configuration of the road, combined with the need for a safer route for local motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians to downtown Deerfield Beach and the amenities of Pioneer Park. The reconstruction of Dixie Highway involved the realignment of the road from south of Hillsboro Boulevard in Broward County to north of the Hillsboro Canal in Palm Beach County. With Wantman Group Inc. as the lead design engineer and Cone & Graham as contractor, an at-grade Florida East Coast (FEC) Railroad crossing was eliminated, and the creation of a new flyover was achieved, resulting in reduced travel times and decreased conflict points along the route. A 4-lane divided urban arterial was designed to bridge 1,400 feet over the Hillsboro Canal, FEC tracks, North River Avenue, NE 1st Avenue and NE 2nd Avenue. A 12-foot multi-use pathway structure and an off-ramp structure from Dixie Highway to NE 2nd Avenue were also constructed.

### Dixie Highway Flyover Bridge Wantman Group Inc.



The overall enormity of the structure, with 8-foot-deep steel tubs, 1,390 feet long and 16-30 feet above grade, makes it a significant visual centerpiece in the downtown area. The proper positioning of the piers and end bents was critical to maintaining an "open" feel and to preserving the connection of the neighborhoods on both sides of the railroad tracks. Continuous lines of the bridge were maintained without visual breaks, making it appear a less obtrusive structure. It was also the first time a 192.5-ton steel cap, the single largest component, was ever lifted over and permanently set above the FEC Railroad in Florida. This design-build project was completed 95 days ahead of schedule and \$7.5M under budget. The Wantman Group/Cone & Graham team was the first to receive a perfect Contractor's Past Performance Rating of 110 on a large-scale design-build project for their work on Dixie Highway.

## About the Competition

The FICE Public Relations Committee selected the distinguished panel of judges representing government, media, transportation, education, engineering, environment and architecture. Assembled in Orlando last fall were Representative *Trudi Williams, PE*, TKW Consulting Engineers Inc.; *Connie Frye*, *Orlando Business Journal*; *Terry Puckett, PE*, *FDOT*; *Manjriker Gunaratne, PhD, PE*, University of South Florida Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering; *Tom Connery, PE*, City of Orlando Public Works; *Vivian Garfein, JD*, *FDEP* and *Peter Jones, AIA*. The judges rated

projects and studies on the basis of uniqueness and innovative applications; future value to the engineering profession; perception by the public; social, economic, and sustainable development considerations; complexity; and successful fulfillment of client/ owners' needs, including schedule and budget.

All award recipients were recognized during the banquet. The grand award winners also participated nationally in "the Academy Awards of the engineering industry," the 2013 *American Council of Engineering Companies' Engineering Excellence Award* competition.

To learn more about this awards program, please contact FICE Director of Communications *Debbie Hall* at [dhall@fleng.org](mailto:dhall@fleng.org) or 850-224-7121.

For more information about the Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers go to [www.fleng.org/fice/aboutfice.cfm](http://www.fleng.org/fice/aboutfice.cfm)



2014 FICE EEA Grand Conceptor Winner  
FDOT District IV Dixie Highway Flyover Bridge.  
Shown left to right: FICE President-Elect Richard Temple, PE; Randy Cropp with Cone & Graham Inc., Jeremy Botto, PE with Wantman Group Inc. and FICE President Jim Thompson, PE, LEED AP.



Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers  
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF FLORIDA  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE OF FLORIDA

# AT A GLANCE...

## FE Exam, Pass/Fail Notifications, & CE Audit Updates

With the fall season upon us and school sessions in full swing, FBPE finalized and approved all candidate applications for the final paper and pencil Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam for October 2013. As we have mentioned in the last two issues of FBPE's *Connection*, beginning January 2014, NCEES will be administering the FE exam as a Computer-Based-Test (CBT) only.

All FE exam applications received after the deadline for the October 2013 exam are being processed for the new CBT exam scheduled for the beginning of the year. Once the application has been approved, candidates are eligible to register with NCEES starting **November 4, 2013**, and can then move forward with scheduling their exam sitting with a Pearson VUE Testing Center of their choice.



NCEES has partnered with Pearson VUE testing centers to administer the exam throughout the United States. The approved candidates register with NCEES, then choose a testing center site nearest to them and inquire about the dates a seat is available. If a seat is not available on the date they desire, they can pick another date or another Pearson VUE site in which a seat is available. The candidate is not restricted to any particular site and may choose to take the exam in another state at a Pearson VUE Testing Center offering the exam that has a seat available.



The Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam will be given during four (4) exam windows throughout the year, each lasting two months with a one-month break in between each window. The candidate can choose any date during the window at a testing center that has a seat available. The candidates can take the exam up to three times (3x) within one year if they need to, but may only attempt the exam **ONCE** per testing window. Each exam attempt requires an application to the Board, either an initial application for new applicants or a re-exam application for those who have previously sat for the exam in Florida. Testing windows for the FE exam can be viewed on FBPE's website at <http://fbpe.org/licensure/application-process> and all applications can be accessed at <http://fbpe.org/licensure/application-process/fundamentals-examination-fe>.

The paper and pencil FE exam has historically been offered only twice a year, in October and April. If a candidate failed the exam or missed the registration deadline for the exam, they then had to re-apply and wait up to six (6) months for next exam cycle. At times this has proven to be a challenge for many applicants since, as new graduates seeking employment, they found it necessary to sit for the exam as a condition for graduation from an engineering program. The new CBT format opens up many more opportunities for the candidates to choose a date most suitable to them and they will have more overall opportunities to sit for the exam in a given year.

Now that the October exam cycle has come to a close, be sure to check the FBPE and NCEES websites to obtain valuable information regarding testing reference material locations and the latest updates regarding the FE CBT transition.

### ***New Process for NCEES Pass/Fail Notifications***

Another new change from NCEES regarding exams is the pass/fail notifications for the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE), Principles and Practice (PE), and Structural Engineering (SE) exams. Upon completion of the October 2013 exam cycle for all engineer and surveying exams, NCEES will make available all pass/fail information on their website for the candidates in lieu of sending out notification letters. Depending on the candidate's exam results, a link to the appropriate state Board website will be accessible for the candidate to review further instructions about either finalizing an EI, PE, or SE status or to obtain procedures for applying for re-examination. For Florida FE, PE, and SE exam candidates, all information regarding the next steps to take after NCEES results notifications can be found on our website at <http://fbpe.org/licensure/ncees-exam-information>.



(Continued on page 19)

## Continuing Education Compliance Audit



FBPE has finalized its first audit of engineer Continuing Education (CE) compliance this month. The audit process was very successful due to the positive and supportive response from all licensed engineers randomly selected as part of this audit. Out of approximately 35,000 Florida licensed engineers, a random sample of 1,000 current and active licensees were selected. After a preliminary review, 197 licensees needed to be contacted to supply certificates of completion to the Board, showing that they were in compliance. Initial audit completion provided data representing an 80% compliance rate from the initial audit of 1,000 random licensees, but that figure must be tempered with the fact that this year was the first year that reporting the credits was not required. The remaining 197 licensees who were not initially in compliance were contacted to supply certificates, of which all responded and the appropriate information was entered into their records. Of these 197 licensees, only 25 licensees were found to NOT be in compliance. The majority of the out-of-compliance continuing education was in the area of Florida Laws and Rules. Licensees must satisfy this requirement and, based on our investigation, those engineers licensed from other states comprised the main group who did not have the proper credit for continuing education regarding Florida Laws

and Rules. Licensees must remember that their license in Florida is based on Florida laws and rules and any continuing education credits received from another state regarding their laws and rules DOES NOT satisfy the Florida laws and rules requirement. It is the responsibility of every licensed engineer in the State of Florida to adhere to all laws and rules regulating the practice of engineering in the state, as well as, properly maintain their license and continuing education requirements.

The completion of the CE compliance audit proved very positive, showing at least 97.5% of all Florida licensed professional engineers are in compliance with the state's continuing education requirement. It is reflective of the level of professionalism and care for the profession for which we can be proud. We strive for 100% compliance and with many licensees being licensed in other states, as well as Florida, FBPE is proud of its professional licensee base that is up-to-date on the latest innovations and techniques in engineering.

***“Licensees must remember that their license in Florida is based on Florida laws and rules and any continuing education credits received from another state regarding their laws and rules DOES NOT satisfy the Florida laws and rules requirement.”***

For more information about these topics and the most current information regarding licensure, we encourage you to visit our website at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org). On our site you can access the *Licensure* section which provides everything you need to know about:

- applying for, renewing and maintaining your engineering license;
- NCEES exam information;
- continuing education requirements;
- searching for licensees;
- updating your contact information;
- requesting to change the status of your license and license verifications; and
- ordering duplicate / replacement licenses and certificates.

If you have any questions please feel free contact the Licensure Department in the Board office at 850-521-0500.

## FBPE Connection Article Submission

The goal of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE) in publishing its quarterly *Connection* newsletter is to report on FBPE, FEMC and Board staff's actions and activities. In addition, the FBPE is accepting articles from recognized professional organizations and academic institutions wishing to disseminate industry related information. We are also interested in receiving your feedback on topics and articles of interest. To obtain a copy of the FBPE's *Style Guide and Information for Outside Authors* or to submit an article for consideration please visit FBPE's website at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org) or email [smccoy@fbpe.org](mailto:smccoy@fbpe.org).

FBPE Style Guide & Information for Outside Authors

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.....  
With several hundred people in attendance, sunny Palm Beach, Florida was the location of this year's 97th Florida Engineering Society / Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers (FES/FICE) Annual Conference and Exposition. Held July 31, 2013 through August 3, 2013, those participating in the conference/ expo were FES/FICE's members, some of Florida's professional engineers, and several staff members of FBPE. **Zana Raybon**, Executive Director, **Wendy Anderson**, Investigator and **Shannon McCoy**, Public Information Officer, represented FBPE/FEMC at many of the event's activities including the university receptions, vendor exposition, and the student, educator and practice section breakfasts.  
.....



The theme for this year's conference "Engineering Our Own Path: from Abacus to Apps," was designed to reflect not only the many changes these organizations have experienced since their original 1916 inception, but also the many changes to come as the engineering profession and industry continues to move forward. In addition to the committee/chapter meetings, university receptions, professional development sessions, and award/recognition ceremonies, **Deborah Caplan**, was the conference's Key Note Speaker. Ms. Caplan, is the Executive Vice-President of Human Resources and Corporate Services for NextEra Energy, Inc. Having worked for both Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) and General Electric Company (GE), her presentation focused on recapping some of the great innovations made throughout history by engineers, sharing current engineering developments at FPL and NextEra Energy and establishing a case for why engineers can be proud of their accomplishments today and in the future.

As previously mentioned, the conference hosted a number of activities over a four day period which also included an awards/recognition portion. During these sessions, FES/FICE inducted a new president, presented the FICE *Engineering Excellence Award (EEA) Grand Conceptor Award*, and the FES *President's Award*. While FES said goodbye to FES Past President, **Angelina Gou Fairchild, PE LEED AP**, Sr. Associate/Vice President, Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., there was a warm welcome for new President, **Glenn E. Forrest, PE**, Utility Manager for MacDill Air Force Base, Government Services Group, Inc. His new welcome message and the "Get-To-Know" the FES Board of Directors article can be found in the September FES *Journal* issue. You can access Mr. Forrest's message on FES's website at <http://www.fleng.org/images/files/SeptJournalPresMessage.pdf>. Also read more about FES's presentation of their *Grand Receptor Award*, in the article titled, "2014 FICE EEA Grand Conceptor Winner, Wantman Group Inc.'s Dixie Highway Flyover Bridge," reprinted with permission from FES, in this issue on page 17. FES also presented its 2013 FES *President's Award*, to **John Hall, PE, F.NSPE**, as part of the expo's festivities. This prestigious award is given in recognition of an individual's lifetime support and persistence, rather than specific contributions during their presidency with FES. Mr. Hall was acknowledged for his continued support and efforts as it relates to K-12 STEM initiatives and many collegiate activities. FBPE would like to acknowledge and congratulate all of those recognized for their many contributions that promote the practice of engineering in Florida.

This annual event proves, as always, to be an extremely beneficial opportunity for members of FBPE to network with professionals, engineers, and students, and hear the latest trends and issues within the engineering industry in Florida. FEMC, in support of FBPE's collegiate outreach efforts and the upcoming Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Exam CBT transition, allowed FBPE staff to take the time to participate in the different university receptions occurring in the early part of the conference's events, as well as sponsor this year's student

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breakfast. FBPE met with many of the students attending the conference about the Florida engineering application and licensure process and the many changes being implemented by NCEES effective in January 2014 with the FE exam. The breakfast also afforded the students with the chance to discuss recent accomplishments and achievements at the FES chapter and university level. FBPE staff also took time out during the numerous university receptions to meet with the engineering school deans and department chairs to reiterate the Florida Board's goal to maintain communication about the upcoming computer-based testing transition and its desire to support the school's engineering related activities. Schools represented at this year's event were FAMU/FSU, UCF, UF, UNF, and USF. FBPE would like to congratulate the FES student chapter of **FAMU/FSU College of Engineering** for being recognized as the *Most Active Student Chapter* for the 5th year in a row.

The vendor exposition portion also proved to be very successful. Numerous attendees stopped by FBPE's booth to inquire about engineer licensure and regulation, discuss industry-related concerns and also provide feedback on the Board's recent activities. As always, the Board appreciates the opportunity to meet and discuss concerns and suggestions made by members of the engineering community, and was pleased to receive so many positive comments about its current activities and communications. Participating in events like these are just one way FBPE makes available a variety of materials related to licensure application, regulation and enforcement of the state's engineering laws and rules, such as issues of FBPE's quarterly *Connection* newsletters and the FBPE website as a "go-to" place for the most current Florida engineering news. We pay careful attention to the feedback we receive so that we can constantly work to improve the information, convenience and accessibility of what impacts those desiring to become Florida engineers and those already licensed. You can send any comments, suggestions or general inquiries to the FBPE at [webmaster@fbpe.org](mailto:webmaster@fbpe.org) or at [board@fbpe.org](mailto:board@fbpe.org).

It is FBPE's goal to be proactive within the engineering societies and community by attending events like this, supporting our state's engineering schools and universities, and STEM related initiatives and projects. FBPE maintains the idea that continuing to make the Board more visible and accessible emphasizes our mission of ensuring the health and safety of the public through education, licensure and regulation of the engineering practice in the State of Florida.

You can view more pictures from this event by selecting *Your FBPE* on our website at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org).



For more information about FES/ FICE and how to become a member visit their website at [www.fleng.org](http://www.fleng.org). You can also view more pictures from this year's conference on their facebook page by selecting "[Florida Engineering Society](#)."

***The Florida Engineering Society (FES) has been the statewide society of Professional Engineers since 1916 from all disciplines, that promotes the ethical and competent practice of engineering, advocates licensure, and enhances the image of its members. FES serves over 3,500 members.***

*Some photos in this article appear courtesy of FES/FICE.*





***Want to highlight what your school is doing to promote engineering? Are you looking for a way to promote an upcoming event? Seeking possible event/activity sponsorships? Would you like to publish an article on a significant or noteworthy engineering related achievement or project? Well look no further!***

After a busy and productive 2013 thus far, especially regarding FBPE's efforts to collaborate with Florida's many engineering colleges, we are pleased to introduce a new addition to our website with the college engineering community in mind. In the *Your FBPE* section of [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org) we have created our new "Collegiate" section.

Here we have highlighted each of the EAC-ABET accredited engineering colleges and universities. Links to each of the school's websites can be found along with our interactive form for submittal of current happenings, upcoming conferences and events, noteworthy news and accomplishments. Yes, this is the place to toot your own horn! Submissions made through our page will be reviewed for inclusion on the Board's website, facebook page and in the quarterly FBPE *Connection* publication. A calendar is also posted so that anyone can view activities that promote engineering from all sources in one convenient location.

FBPE makes a concerted effort to keep our website updated with the most current activities of the Board, what's relevant to the practice of engineering, and now includes a place where we can showcase the up and coming to engineering. With 12 accredited engineering colleges in Florida, we have a lot to be proud of, so we encourage you to use this portal as another place to emphasize what's going on with you!

You can view layout of our new section on page 23 or by going to our website at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org). Feel free to contact the Board office with any questions or concerns you may have at [webmaster@fbpe.org](mailto:webmaster@fbpe.org) or by contacting *Shannon McCoy*, Public Information Officer at [smccov@fbpe.org](mailto:smccov@fbpe.org) or 850-523-1608.

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Home » Your FBPE » Collegiate

### COLLEGIATE

Welcome to FBPE's Collegiate page! This section of our website is dedicated to showcasing Florida's ABET accredited engineering colleges' recent accomplishments, activities and upcoming events. On this page you have the opportunity to submit a news item or event for posting to this page, view a calendar of activities and read about each of the universities engineering programs with direct links to their websites.

\*\*Please note in the event/news description portion if you would also like to have your request considered for placement on the Board's Facebook page or in quarterly Connection newsletter.

\*\* Should you have any questions about the content on this page or would like additional information about FBPE and its collegiate efforts please send an email to [webmaster@fbpe.org](mailto:webmaster@fbpe.org)

TO SUBMIT YOUR NEWS AND EVENTS, AS ONE OF THESE PARTICIPANT SCHOOLS PLEASE CLICK THE FORM BUTTON TO THE RIGHT

["CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR FORM"](#)

FEEL FREE TO BROWSE THE COLLEGIATE CALENDAR TO SEARCH OR VIEW EVENTS

[View Full Calendar](#)

No events



### SUBCATEGORIES

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Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU), the world's largest, fully accredited university specializing in aviation and aerospace, is a nonprofit, independent institution offering more than 40 baccalaureate, master's and Ph.D. degree programs in its colleges of Arts and Sciences, Aviation, Business and Engineering. Embry-Riddle



The College of Engineering was established as a joint program serving two universities in Tallahassee, Florida: The Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, which received recognition from the National



Florida Atlantic University's College of Engineering and Computer Science is committed to providing accessible and responsive programs of education and research recognized nationally for their high quality. Course



Engineering at Florida Gulf Coast University was originally established as the School of Engineering in fall 2005 and became the U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering (WCE) in August 2011. The WCE is located in Holmes Hall, a building that was

# So What's New? FBPE's Collegiate Section

For those interested in submitting an article for publishing consideration, post an upcoming event/activity, share pictures or noteworthy news, complete the interactive form by selecting here. The form opens so that you can include your school and contact information, submit your request, and upload files for review.

You can view a list of events or the full calendar by month by selecting here.

You can also select by day on the current month's calendar here.

Short descriptions of each of Florida's EAC-ABET accredited engineering universities with links directly to their home pages can be found here.

You can view photos from FBPE attended events in the Your FBPE section of our website under Events and Conferences at [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org) and on our facebook page.



Click on the facebook icon to go directly to our page!



## We're Passionate About Engineering Education, Help Us Help a Future Engineer!!!

Do you know a junior, senior, fifth or master's student who is enrolled in an ABET-accredited engineering or surveying program?

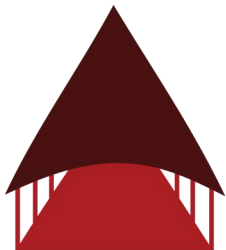
Please let them know that FICE offers a **\$5,000 Scholarship**. Recipients of the awards will be evaluated in work experience, extra-curricular and community activity, references, grade point average, and a written essay. To fill out the application go to [http://www.acec.org/getinvolved/2014\\_scholarship\\_application.pdf](http://www.acec.org/getinvolved/2014_scholarship_application.pdf)



Applications are due to FICE by **February 15, 2014**.

Questions? Contact **Debbie Hall** at 850-224-7121 or [dhall@fleng.org](mailto:dhall@fleng.org).

For more information about FICE and how to become a member visit their website at [www.fleng.org](http://www.fleng.org)



**FBPE**

FLORIDA BOARD OF  
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