



**FBPE**  
FLORIDA BOARD OF  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

# Connection

*Linking You With the Florida Board's Latest Engineering News and Information*

January 2020

## From the Executive Director: Take Care Dating Documents in 2020

By **Zana Raybon**, FBPE Executive Director, FEMC President

The new year — 2020 — poses a concern for Professional Engineers when signing, dating, and sealing documents.

Numerous news outlets recently picked up a Facebook post by the police department in a small Maine town recommending against using only the last two digits of the year when dating documents.

Following the social media chain back a few steps, a Twitter post by a county auditor in Ohio on Dec. 31, 2019, warned:

*“When writing the date in 2020, write the year in its entirety. It could possibly protect you and prevent legal issues on paperwork. Example: If you just write 1/1/20, one could easily change it to 1/1/2017 (for instance) and now your signature is on an incorrect document.”*



With the last two digits — 20 — of the year being the same as the first two digits, you can see how easy it would be to change the year on a document to any year this century. (And, actually, last year — 2019 — had a similar potential for being altered to any year in the 1900s.)

One way to prevent alteration would be to use the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) date format, which puts the four-digit year first followed by the month then the day, such as: 2020-01-01.

While document fraud isn't that common, it still makes sense to hedge your bets to protect yourself, your company, and your clients.

## Chair's Corner: Changes in Chair, Rules, and More

By **Babu Varghese**, PE, SI, CGC, CCC, FBPE Chair (2020)

I would like to begin by thanking Ken Todd, P.E., for serving as Chair of the Board for the past two years, as well as serving two full terms as a member of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers.

He has served on and chaired many of the Board's committees before resigning at the end of 2019. I have had the pleasure of serving with Mr. Todd during both terms.

As a Chair, he is required to attend not only the FBPE board and committee meetings, but also NCEES national conferences and Florida Engineering Management Corporation's meetings, all of which he did exceedingly well.



*Former Chair Kenneth Todd, PE*

Ken has been fair to the applicants and licensees in his decisions, and along with his calmness has the ability to bring resolution to the sometimes spirited conversations. He has also volunteered to present talks at multiple universities on a regular basis. I can also attest to the fact that he helped new Board members make easy transitions into their roles.

The Board continues to adapt with the times, especially regarding new requirements and new rules that affect the practice of engineering in Florida. As most of you may know, Gov. Ron DeSantis signed into law [House Bill 827](#), which went into effect on Oct. 1, 2019.

The Rules Committee, Board members, FBPE staff, and especially the Board's general counsel, Lawrence Harris, have worked long hours for the past few months in revising the rules. These changes include:

- Permitting ETAC-ABET accredited engineering technology candidates to pursue licensure,
- Decoupling of the Principles & Practice of Engineering exam from the required engineering experience,
- Changing registration for the Fundamentals of Engineering and PE exams so that it is now done directly with NCEES,
- Elimination of Certificates of Authorization for engineering firms (firms must now register only once, with no fee, then be qualified by a PE), and
- Applications for licensure now include the ability to reinstate null-and-void PE licenses.

I encourage all of you to visit [the FBPE website](#) for more information.

Since six of the Board member positions have not been filled, the remaining five Board members are essentially working double duty. I sincerely thank all Board members for their diligence and continued support.

The Board is also in the process of implementing a solution to the ongoing problem regarding the Special Inspectors of Threshold Buildings License.

The Florida Building Commission issued a [declaratory statement DS2014-061](#) a couple of years back, indicating that an existing threshold building undergoing concrete restoration or other repairs required threshold inspection. Since then, building officials across South Florida started requiring threshold inspections for all kinds of repair work involving a threshold building.

Dozens of engineers who had decades of experience found themselves out of work. Several engineers complained to the Board. Many others applied for the Special Inspectors license.

Though the Board sympathizes with these engineers, the Board was in fact helpless in solving this problem for the past two years due to the following reasons. The statute does not allow for a new category of Special Inspectors to perform just inspection of restoration work, nor can the Board lower the standards required for the Special Inspectors license, which is an important aspect of construction to ensure life safety.

House Bill 827, by amending Section 553.79, Florida Statutes, states that threshold buildings regardless of new construction, repair or restoration category, require the enforcing agency to have a special inspector. In order to accomplish requirements of this amendment, we have created a new class of licensure called "Special Inspectors of Threshold buildings (Limited)," also referred to as "Threshold Inspectors (Limited)."

The Threshold Inspector (Limited) will be able to perform inspections only on the restoration/repair of threshold buildings and is not permitted to inspect new construction of threshold buildings. The new application forms, along with the revised rules on Special Inspectors of Threshold buildings (Limited), will be available in the next couple of months.

Finally, we value your feedback and want to hear from you. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please email [board@fbpe.org](mailto:board@fbpe.org).

## Engineering by Any Other Name Is Still Engineering

By Scott R. Drury, PE

William Shakespeare penned in the tragedy *Romeo and Juliet*:

*'Tis but thy name that is my enemy...  
O be some other name!  
What's in a name? That which we call a rose  
By any other name would smell as sweet.*

As an aside, I know what you are thinking. Yes, I am quoting Shakespeare to a bunch of engineers. And, for those of you that have not thought about *Romeo and Juliet* since high school, I will get to my point regarding engineering very quickly after I set the stage for my argument.



In the story, Juliet has fallen in love with Romeo, a Montague, which is the rival house of Juliet's family, the Capulets. Juliet tries to argue that if his name was not "Montague," then it would be okay for them to get married. The real question is if value is associated with the name itself, or if the value would still exist if it had a different name.

So, how does this apply to engineering? Engineering is our "rose." Engineering work is engineering work, period. You can try to call it something different, but the smell test will reveal that it is engineering.

There is a common misconception among professionals who hold multiple licenses and certifications, especially when one of those is a license to practice engineering in Florida. This misconception is that an individual can choose which license or certification will be used for a particular project. The thought may be: "On this project, I will use my \_\_\_\_ license instead of my engineering license."

Any work performed in Florida that falls under the definition of engineering as defined in Section 471.005(7), Florida Statutes, is considered to be engineering, and thus falls under the jurisdiction of Chapter 471, F.S., *Engineering*. The statute requires that all engineering work must be performed by a Florida Professional Engineer, unless one of the exemptions from Section 471.003, F.S., *Qualifications for Practice; Exemptions*, applies; otherwise, it is considered unlicensed activity. But, if you are a Florida Professional Engineer, you must comply with all the laws and rules governing the practice of engineering in Florida, even if one of these exemptions applies.

Let's look at a few examples. Keep in mind that this article is focused on the engineering laws and rules, notwithstanding additional laws and rules from other regulating bodies.

### *Licensed Engineer/Licensed Surveyor*

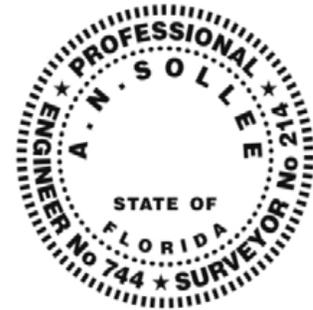
Both Chapter 471, F.S., *Engineering*, and Chapter 472, F.S., *Land Surveying and Mapping*, require all final drawings, plans, specifications, and reports issued by a licensee to be signed, dated, and sealed. For those that hold both a professional engineering license and a professional surveying license, which license do you use when you prepare a final document for surveying work? The answer is... it depends. Some surveying work falls within the definition of engineering, while other work does not.

If the surveying work is not engineering such as a land survey (metes and bounds), then you simply use your professional surveying license.

If the surveying work is an engineering survey (as included in the definition of engineering), then you use both licenses.

Rule 61G15-23.002(2)(c), Florida Administrative Code, provides a path to satisfy both licenses.

*(c) For Professional Engineers who are in good standing under both Chapters 471 and 472, F.S., a seal similar to that depicted here may be used.*



### *Licensed Engineer/Licensed Contractor*

Let's say that you hold a mechanical contracting license (under Chapter 489, F.S., *Contracting*) in addition to your engineering license (under Chapter 471, F.S., *Engineering*). You are working on a project that has heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment no greater than 15-tons and a total project value less than \$125,000. According to Section 471.003(2)(h), F.S., this project is exempt from requiring professional engineering services. The project is still required to be permitted by local jurisdiction, so permit documents are created and submitted to the proper authorities.

Although the mechanical contractor part of you is not required to submit signed, dated, and sealed documents for permitting, the engineer part of you is. The exemption does not change the fact that the work is engineering; the exemption is from requiring this particular work to be performed by a Professional Engineer. If you had only a contracting license, you would not be required to provide sealed plans of the design for permitting. But, since you are also a Professional Engineer, you provided engineering services and are held to the same requirements regarding any engineering work.

### *Licensed Engineer/Certified Energy Auditor*

Some professionals have certifications through professional organizations with specialties in fields in addition to their engineering license. These professional organizations are not regulated by the State of Florida, and the certification is not technically a license to practice in the state. For this example, we will consider Certified Energy Auditors, although this applies to various other certifications as well that relate to areas of engineering.

A Certified Energy Auditor evaluates how energy is being used in a facility, identifies energy conservation opportunities, and makes recommendations to reduce or optimize energy consumption. These recommendations often modify components in a facility or modifies how and when a system operates.

The professional organization most likely has its own rules and requirements for providing these recommendations and how they are to be presented. Notwithstanding the rules for abiding by those rules, as a Professional Engineer, any professional recommendation or report for a topic defined as engineering is required to be sealed.

So, what does this all mean? A licensed engineer is always a licensed engineer, at least while they hold a valid license in Florida. As a licensed engineer, you cannot choose to be an engineer on one day and not another day. It does not matter if you are licensed or certified as a surveyor, contractor, firestop inspector, energy auditor, commissioning agent, home inspector, or any other professional expertise; if you hold a valid engineering license and perform any work with the other license or certification that overlaps with the definition of engineering, the work is considered engineering and requires the seal of a Professional Engineer, as well as compliance with the responsibility rules and minimum standards of due care for the practice of engineering.

If you have any questions or concerns about the laws and rules regarding engineering, please contact FBPE's legal department at [\(850\) 521-0500](tel:850-521-0500), or email [board@fbpe.org](mailto:board@fbpe.org).

## Fire Protection Rules Updated for Clarity

By Scott R. Drury, PE

Fire protection engineering rules have been updated to clarify ambiguous items, establish consistency between the rules and other statutes, and reduce unnecessary work by engineers and contractors, while still upholding FBPE's statutory charge to protect the health, safety, and well-being of the public.

The revised rules, which can be found in [Chapter 61G15-32, Florida Administrative Code, Responsibility Rules of Professional Engineers Concerning the Design of Fire Protection Systems](#), were adopted by the Board in 2019.

A technical committee consisting of Board members, fire protection engineers, a fire protection contractor, and an authority having jurisdiction worked through various issues and concerns that members of the fire protection community had expressed for many years.

The most significant changes to the rules answered the following questions:

### **What must be included in “Fire Protection System Layout Documents?”**

The previous wording of Rule 61G15-32.002(6), F.A.C., was mainly written around a water-based sprinkler system, but technically the “layout documents” can and do apply to other fire protection systems, such as fire alarm systems, gas agent fire suppression systems, and others. The modified language aims to generalize the description of what should be included in layout documents so that it applies to the various types of fire protection systems. The new language reads:

*(6) Fire Protection System Layout Documents: Layout drawings, supporting calculations, catalog information on standard products, and other construction data prepared by either a licensed contractor or a licensed Engineer that provides detail on the location of risers, service mains, distribution lines, devices, equipment, sizing of pipe and/or circuits, hanger locations, and supporting calculations and also serves as a guide for fabrication and installation of a fire protection system. Fire Protection*



*System Layout Documents are based upon engineering direction provided in the Fire Protection System Engineering Documents and require no additional engineering input.*

**Are “Fire Protection System Layout Documents” required to be sealed by a Professional Engineer?**

This has been a common question for years, and truthfully was somewhat confusing in the previous language. The real answer is... it depends. As mentioned in Rule 61G15-32.002(6), the layout documents are based upon “engineering documents” and require no additional engineering input. The previous rule language mentioned that the layout documents do not require the seal of a Florida licensed engineer. Depending on who prepared the layout documents, this could violate other rules found in Chapter 61G15, F.A.C. Therefore, the updated language in Rule 61G15-32.002(6) was clarified to read:

*(a) If prepared by a licensed contractor, these documents do not require the seal of a Florida licensed engineer.*

*(b) If prepared by a licensed engineer, these documents are Engineering Documents and therefore meet the definition of Engineering Documents in subsection 61G15-30.002(4), F.A.C., and accordingly, require sealing by a Florida licensed engineer in accordance with Rule 61G15-23.001, F.A.C., Signature, Date and Seal Shall Be Affixed.*

*(c) If prepared by a licensed engineer other than the engineer who prepared, signed, dated, and sealed the Fire Protection System Engineering documents, that engineer shall additionally meet the requirements of Rule 61G15-27.001, F.A.C., Procedures for a Successor Professional Engineer Adopting as His Own the Work of Another Engineer.*

A licensed engineer is required to seal any final work product that meets the definition of engineering documents found in Rule 61G15-30.002(4), F.A.C., as required by Rule 61G15-23.001, F.A.C. Additionally, if a licensed engineer other than the licensed engineer who prepared the engineering documents provides the layout documents, then that engineer must comply with the successor engineer procedures found in Rule 61G15-27.001, F.A.C.

**The layout documents are different than the engineering documents. Is this considered a “material deviation?”**

Under Rule 61G15-32.003(6), F.A.C., any “material deviation” made in the layout documents from the engineering documents are not compliant unless revised engineering documents, sealed by the Engineer of Record, accompany the layout documents.

*(6) When Fire Protection Layout Documents contain material deviation from the Fire Protection System Engineering Documents, such Layout Documents are not compliant unless they are accompanied by revised Engineering Documents prepared, signed, dated and sealed by the Engineer of Record for the Fire Protection System.*

This has caused much confusion and additional work in the past, given the old definition of material deviation in Rule 61G15-32.002(8), F.A.C. Under the old definition, a material deviation constitutes any deviation from the design parameters. Some individuals interpreted this to mean a minor modification, which could include additional pipe fittings or rerouting a pipe around an obstruction, even though this did not affect the system performance. The definition was revised to clarify that a material deviation is a variance from the design parameters that “significantly alters the ultimate performance requirements of

the system.” In other words, if a change is made to the layout that does not affect system performance, then that is not constituted as a material deviation.

Previous language:

*(8) Material Deviation: Any deviation from the design parameters established and documented by the Engineer of Record.*

New language:

*(8) Material Deviation: A deviation or variance from the design parameters established and documented by the Engineer of Record that significantly alters the ultimate performance requirements of the system.*

**The modifications on this project could be designed by a licensed contractor, so do I really need to show all the minimum design quality information from Rule 61G15-32, F.A.C.?**

There are many renovation projects that require minor modifications to fire protection systems, such as modifications to sprinkler heads or fire alarm devices. More often than not, these changes are minor in nature and do not ultimately affect the system performance.

There are provisions adopted directly or referenced by Chapter 633, Florida Statutes, *Fire Prevention and Control*, the Florida Building Code, and the Florida Fire Prevention Code that provide a means for a licensed contractor to modify an existing system without requiring the seal of a licensed engineer. However, if an engineer was working on a project, they are required to design the system and seal the plans. Many engineers were concerned about meeting the minimum requirements for design quality as indicated in various rules under Rule 61G15-32, F.A.C. This resulted in a lot of extra work by the engineers to comply with all provisions of the *Responsibility Rules*.

For example, someone might say: “I know we are only relocating 20 sprinklers on the third floor of this 20-story building and that we are only getting paid commensurate with that scope, but I am required to show the entire fire sprinkler system back to the point of service.”

Therefore, the following rule language was added to both Rules 61G15-32.004 and -32.008, F.A.C.

*(3) For systems below the threshold requirements for mandatory use of professional engineering services, the Engineer of Record may specify the minimum system requirements only.*

The intent behind this language is to provide a means for the Engineer of Record to specify only the minimum requirements for the modified system requirements, while allowing licensed contractors working under the provisions of Chapter 633, F.S., or other codes and standards to provide these services.

**What about smoke control systems?**

Smoke control systems are specialty fire protection systems that require engineering design, as well as much coordination between other design services, such as architectural, mechanical, electrical, fire sprinklers, fire alarms, etc. When required by codes, these systems are life safety systems, pivotal to our responsibilities as engineers in protecting the health and safety of the public. However, there was no rule concerning these systems. Therefore, Rule 61G15-32.010, F.A.C. *Design of Smoke Control Systems*, was added.

***61G15-32.010 Design of Smoke Control Systems.***

*(1) Smoke control systems include, but are not limited to, smoke exhaust systems and pressurization systems for the purpose of providing a tenable environment to allow occupants to exit the building*

*(2) The Fire Protection System(s) shall be based on the Florida Building Code, the Florida Fire Prevention Code, applicable NFPA standards, when available, or on alternative engineering sources and good engineering practice when required.*

If you have any questions or concerns about these updated rules, please contact FBPE's legal department at [\(850\) 521-0500](tel:8505210500), or email [board@fbpe.org](mailto:board@fbpe.org).

## Supervisory Control May Affect PE Liability

By Edwin Bayó

Engineers and architects are sometimes retained by a client to perform observations during construction, make recommendations, and determine whether a contractor has successfully completed a project. In such cases, the engineer has a contract with the client to perform such services, but not with the contractor.

What happens if the client refuses to pay or terminates the contractor based upon the observations or recommendations of the engineer? Can the contractor sue the engineer alleging that the termination of the contract was the result of the engineer's negligence in the observations or recommendations provided to the client?

It is a general rule of law that one party to a contract cannot sue a third party that is not part of the contract. However, in the case of professionals providing services, there is an exception.

In a famous Florida case (*Moransais v. Heathman*), a client requested a pre-purchase home inspection from an engineering company. The company assigned two engineers to perform the inspection. After the purchase, the homeowner discovered defects in the house that should have been identified by the engineers during the inspection. The homeowners sued the company and the engineers individually.

The engineers defended the suit by pointing out that the homeowners contracted with the company, not them personally. The court however determined that the engineers were providing professional services that were intended for the benefit of the company's client, so the engineers owed them a duty of due care.

Florida cases have recognized that a general contractor that may foreseeably be injured or sustain an economic loss caused by the negligent performance of an architect's contractual duty may have a cause of action against the architect, even though the contractor and the architect do not have a contract between them.

A subsequent line of cases has expanded on this principle. In order for the duty to apply there must exist "supervisory duties" or responsibilities and a "close nexus" between the architect and the contractor.

For example, if the supervising architect has the power to stop the work, then the architect has the "power of economic life or death over the contractor." On the other hand, if the contract between the



owner and the architect does not require the architect to perform supervisory duties, and the contractor is more removed from the architect, then there is no close nexus.

Even in the absence of the ultimate decision-making power (i.e., to stop the work), if the architect is broadly responsible for administration of the contract between the owner and the contractor, acts as the owner's representative, and performs observational duties that are later used to certify payment to the contractor, a court may decide that the architect effectively controls the contractor's fate, and therefore owes the contractor a duty of care.

A recent case (*Uddin v. Singer*) reaffirmed this principle. In that case, the architect argued that the architect did not have final decision-making authority. The court examined the contract between the client and the architect and found (among other things) that the architect had the authority to recommend work stoppage and that final payment to the contractor was contingent upon the architect's certification. Even though the contract between the client and the architect declared there would be no duty to third parties, the court decided that was not controlling.

Although the cases discussed in this article involve architects, the principles would be the same in the case involving engineers under similar circumstances. It is a good idea to discuss this potential liability issue with your insurance company.

Although some exposure may be reduced by appropriate contract language, this will not be enough if the facts demonstrate supervisory control and the "close nexus" between the engineer and the contractor. Engineers providing such services to clients must be careful to ensure that the possible liability to a contractor does not influence their ethical obligation to the client.

### *About the author*

Edwin Bayó is a former counsel to the Florida Board of Professional Engineers. He is a partner in Grossman, Furlow & Bayó. He is board certified in State and Federal Government and Administrative Practice by the Florida Bar.

## **Varghese, Fleming Appointed FBPE Chair, Vice Chair for 2020**

The Florida Board of Professional Engineers appointed Babu Varghese, PE, SI, CGC, CCC, as its chair for 2020, and C. Kevin Fleming, PE, as its vice chair for 2020. Mr. Varghese replaces Kenneth Todd, PE, who served as chair in 2018 and 2019.

The appointments were made at the Board's December meeting in Tallahassee.

Mr. Varghese is the president and principal engineer of Abtech Engineering Inc., a multi-disciplinary engineering firm in Fort Lauderdale, which he founded in 1988. His capabilities range from concept through final design on numerous commercial and industrial buildings. Additionally, his experience includes a focus on forensic engineering where he has appeared in court as an expert witness on numerous cases.



*Babu Varghese, PE*

He is a licensed Florida Professional Engineer, Special Inspector of threshold buildings, Certified General Contractor, and Certified Roofing Contractor. He is also licensed PE in Alabama, Colorado, Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Rhode

Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Mr. Varghese holds Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in engineering.

He has served on the Board since 2015, and was its vice chair in 2019.

Mr. Fleming is the vice president and principal electrical engineer for McGinniss & Fleming Engineering Inc., located in Tallahassee, Fla. Mr. Fleming has been a licensed Professional Engineer since 1994, and his engineering career has focused primarily on the institutional and commercial construction industry. He obtained his BSEE degree from Florida State University.



*C. Kevin Fleming, PE*

Appointed to the Board in 2015, Mr. Fleming served as its vice chair in 2017 and 2018. He is the current chair for FBPE's Rules Committee and serves on the Probable Cause Panel.

### *FEMC Chair, Vice Chair*

At their December meeting, the directors of the Florida Engineers Management Corporation elected for 2020 Stephen Kowkabany, PE, as chair for a second term, and Art Nordlinger, PE, as vice chair.

The FEMC board of directors oversees operations for the corporation, which provides administrative, investigative, and prosecutorial services to the Florida Board of Professional Engineers.

Mr. Kowkabany is a licensed Professional Engineer and is the owner and president of Neptune Fire Protection Engineering in Atlantic Beach, Fla. Since receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Georgia Tech and a Master of Science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Florida, Mr. Kowkabany has been practicing engineering for over 20 years.



*Stephen Kowkabany, PE*

He began his career as a project engineer and process system designer in the pulp & paper, power generation, and photographic film manufacturing sectors before transitioning into the field of fire protection. He has worked closely with a variety of industrial fire protection systems in a manufacturing environment, and also possesses extensive experience in the arenas of residential and commercial fire protection and has designed fire protection systems for over 500 facilities.

In addition to Florida, Mr. Kowkabany is also a licensed fire protection engineer in Alabama, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Wisconsin.

Outside of his corporate efforts, Mr. Kowkabany is passionate about advancing the field of fire protection and civic involvement. He currently serves as the founder and president of the Northeast Florida Chapter of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, serves on the board of directors of the National Fire Sprinkler Association Florida Region, and has also been appointed to the Florida Fire Code Advisory Council.



*Art Nordlinger, PE*

Mr. Kowkabany was appointed to the FEMC Board in October 2015, and is currently serving his second term as chair.

Mr. Nordlinger was appointed a FEMC director in November 2018. He is the manager, transmission tariff and contracts for Tampa Electric Company. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., in 1979. After several years in industry, he returned to graduate school and earned his master's degree in electric power engineering in 1988 from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y.

Mr. Nordlinger then went to work for Florida Power Corporation, starting as a project engineer in its Energy Control Center. He held a number of engineering and management positions in the generation and integrated resource planning, cogeneration, and regulatory areas during his 13 years with Florida Power.

Mr. Nordlinger joined Tampa Electric in 2002 where he has held the positions of manager, grid planning and operations support, and manager, generator interconnection services, in addition to his current position.

He has taught graduate courses at the University of South Florida in power system analysis and advanced energy management systems. He is a senior member of IEEE and the IEEE Florida Council's representative to the Florida Board of Professional Engineers.

## Three More PE Exams Transition to Computer

Three more NCEES [Principles & Practice of Engineering](#) exams are transitioning to [computer-based testing](#) in 2020.

The PE Mechanical exam will be administered year-round at [Pearson VUE test centers](#) beginning April 2020. Meanwhile, the PE Fire Protection and PE Industrial and Systems exams join PE Nuclear and PE Petroleum exams as single-day administrations, which will be Oct. 22, 2020.

Registration for all three exams is underway. Florida examinees should register directly with NCEES and reserve their seat at a Pearson VUE center.

Also, the PE Agricultural and Biological exam will be administered for the last time as a pencil-and-paper exam in April 2020, while the PE Mining and Mineral Processing and PE Electrical and Computer exams will be administered for the last time as pencil-and-paper exams in October 2020.

The PE Agricultural and Biological exam and the PE Mining and Mineral Processing exam will transition to single-day CBT administrations beginning in October 2021.

For the PE Electrical and Computer exams, the Power exam will move to year-round CBT beginning April 2021, while the Electronics, Controls, and Communication exam, and the Computer exam will be single-day CBT administrations beginning in October 2021.

### *New Exam Specifications*

New exam specifications are available on the NCEES website for the [Fundamentals of Engineering exam](#) and the PE Chemical exam.



## Special Recognition: Congratulations, Examinees

FBPE applauds all of the candidates that successfully passed engineering exams in the past quarter. We wish them much success as they move towards the next step in their engineering careers. [See the complete list online.](#)

## Legal Department: Latest Engineer Discipline

Pursuant to Rule 61G15-37.001(11), Florida Administrative Code, the Florida Engineers Management Corporation is required to post all Final Orders involving active disciplinary cases to the website until the terms of the final order are completed, or until the licensee becomes inactive, retires, relinquishes the license or permits the license to become null and void. Included in this section are the most recent cases in which final action has been taken by the Board, a brief description of the licensee's violation and discipline as well as a link to the final order. [View actions.](#)

## Mark Your Calendar

We regularly update our calendar to ensure you stay up to date with the latest FBPE and FEMC events. [Check out the calendar on our website.](#)

## FBPE Board Members & FEMC Directors

### FBPE Board Members

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*Dylan Albergo, PE*  
*Scott Drury, PE*  
*Pankaj (PJ) Shah, PE*  
*Kenneth Todd, PE*  
*Vacancy, Education*  
*Vacancy, Engineer*  
*Vacancy, Engineer*  
*Vacancy, Public*  
*Vacancy, Public*  
*Zana Raybon; Executive Director*

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*Donald Goddeau, PE*  
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*John Stewart*  
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