

**FILED**  
Florida Engineers  
Management Corporation  
1/15/2021 Clerk: Rebecca Valentine

**FILED**  
Department of Business and Professional Regulation  
Senior Deputy Agency Clerk  
CLERK Brandon Nichols  
Date 1/15/2021  
File # 2021-00336

STATE OF FLORIDA  
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

FLORIDA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL  
ENGINEERS,

Petitioner,

v.

FEMC Case No. 2020015431

ROBERT F. RENNEBAUM, P.E.,

Respondent.

FINAL ORDER ADOPTING SETTLEMENT STIPULATION

THIS CAUSE came before the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (hereinafter "the Board") pursuant to Section 120.57(4), Florida Statutes, at a duly noticed public meeting on December 10, 2020, via Zoom videoconference in Tallahassee, Florida, for the purpose of considering a Settlement Stipulation (attached hereto as "Exhibit A to Final Order") entered between the parties in this cause. Petitioner was represented by John J. Rimes, Chief Prosecuting Attorney. Respondent was present.

Upon consideration of the stipulation, the documents submitted in support thereof, and the arguments of the parties, the Board determined to Accept the existing Settlement Stipulation with the following Amendments agreed to by the Parties:

1. The REPRIMAND is to be REMOVED

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Settlement Stipulation as entered into by the parties and submitted is accepted, as modified by the above terms. Accordingly, the parties shall adhere to and abide by all the terms and conditions of the stipulation, as modified, and this Final Order.

This Final Order shall take effect upon being filed with the clerk of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

DONE AND ORDERED this 14 day of January, 2021.

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Zana Raybon, Executive Director  
For BABU VARGHESE, P.E., S.I., CHAIR

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing filed *Final Order Adopting Settlement Stipulation* has been furnished by U.S. First Class Mail and email Robert F. Rennebaum, P.E. at 2581 Metrocentre Boulevard West, Suite 3, West Palm Beach, Florida 33407 this 19 day of January, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca Valentine, Paralegal

STATE OF FLORIDA  
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Respondent,

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**SETTLEMENT STIPULATION**

ROBERT F. RENNEBAUM, P.E. hereinafter referred to as "Respondent" and the Florida Engineers Management Corporation, hereinafter referred to as "FEMC," hereby stipulate and agree to the following Joint Settlement Stipulation ("Stipulation") and Final Order of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers, hereinafter referred to as "Board," incorporating this Stipulation in the above-styled manner.

**STIPULATED FACTS**

1. For all times pertinent hereto, Respondent, ROBERT F. RENNEBAUM, P.E., was a licensed engineer in the State of Florida, having been issued license number PE 41168.
2. Respondent was charged by an Administrative Complaint filed by FEMC, and properly served upon Respondent with violations of Chapters 471 and 455, Florida Statutes. A copy of the Administrative Complaint is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Exhibit "A".

**STIPULATED CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Respondent, in his capacity as a licensed engineer, admits that in such capacity he is subject to provisions of Chapters 455 and 471, Florida Statutes, and the jurisdiction of the

Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulations, hereinafter referred to as "Department," FEMC, and the Board.

2. Respondent admits that the facts set forth in the Administrative Complaint, if proven, constitute violations of Chapters 455 and 471, Florida Statutes, as alleged in the Complaint.

#### STIPULATED DISPOSITION OF LAW

1. Respondent shall, in the future, comply with Chapters 471 and 455, Florida Statutes, and the rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

2. Should Respondent fail to comply with the terms of the Final Order, an administrative complaint for failure to comply with final order will automatically be opened against Respondent.

3. Respondent shall pay COSTS of \$2,608.65 to the Board within thirty (30) days of the date that the Final Order adopting this Stipulation is filed with the Agency Clerk.

4. Respondent shall APPEAR before the Board when this Stipulation is presented. Respondent must be prepared to discuss: how Respondent intends to prevent this circumstance from occurring in the future.

5. Respondent's license to practice engineering shall be REPRIMANDED.

6. Respondent shall successfully complete the STUDY GUIDE which has been prepared by the Board and which will be furnished to Respondent, regarding the Engineering Practice Act, Chapter 471, Florida Statutes, and the Rules of the Board. Respondent is required to provide a personal email address that will be used to access the on-line study guide. The study guide must be completed within thirty (30) days of the date on which the Final Order incorporating this Stipulation is filed with the Agency Clerk.

7. Should the Respondent fail to timely comply with the terms of the Final Order with regard to the Project Reviews discussed herein, this case will be submitted to the Probable Cause Panel for review and determination of whether additional disciplinary action should be taken.

8. Respondent acknowledges that neither Respondent's attendance at the Board Meeting when this Stipulation is presented, nor any continuing education or college level courses taken as a requirement of the terms of this Stipulation may be used to comply with the continuing education requirements of Chapter 61G15-22, Florida Administrative Code.

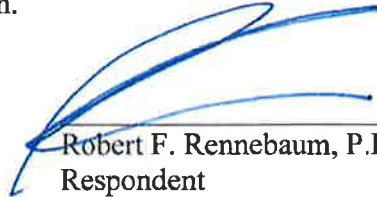
9. It is expressly understood that this Stipulation is subject to approval of the Board and FEMC and has no force or effect until the Board issues a Final Order adopting this Stipulation.

10. This Stipulation is executed by Respondent for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause. In this regard, Respondent authorizes the Board to review and examine all investigative file materials concerning Respondent prior to, or in conjunction with, consideration of this Stipulation. Furthermore, should this Stipulation not be accepted by the Board, it is agreed that presentation to and by the Board shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members from further participation, consideration, or resolution of these proceedings.

11. Respondent expressly waives all further procedural steps and expressly waives all rights to seek judicial review of or otherwise challenge or contest the validity of the joint Stipulated Facts, Conclusions of Law, imposition of discipline, and the Final Order of the Board incorporating this Stipulation.

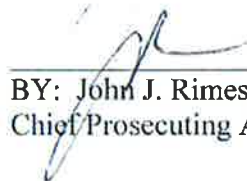
12. Respondent waives the right to seek any attorney's fees or costs from the Board in connection with this disciplinary proceeding.

WHEREFORE, the parties hereto request the Board to enter a Final Order accepting and implementing the terms contained herein.

  
10/6/2020  
Robert F. Rennebaum, P.E.,  
Respondent  
Case No. 2020015431

APPROVED this 16 day of October, 2020.

Zana Raybon, Executive Director  
Florida Board of Professional Engineers

  
BY: John J. Rimes, III  
Chief Prosecuting Attorney

FILED  
Florida Engineers  
Management Corporation  
9/22/2020 Clerk: Rebecca Valentine

FILED  
Department of Business and Professional Regulation  
Deputy Agency Clerk  
CLERK **Evette Lawson-Proctor**  
Date **9/22/2020**  
File #

STATE OF FLORIDA  
FLORIDA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

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FEMC Case No. 2020015431

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Respondent,

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**ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT**

COMES NOW the Florida Engineers Management Corporation (FEMC) on behalf of Petitioner, Florida Board of Professional Engineers, hereinafter referred to as "Petitioner," and files this Administrative Complaint against ROBERT F. RENNEBAUM, P.E., hereinafter referred to as "Respondent." This Administrative Complaint is issued pursuant to Sections 120.60 and 471.038, Florida Statutes. Any proceeding concerning this complaint shall be conducted pursuant to Section 120.57, Florida Statutes. In support of this complaint, Petitioner alleges the following:

1. Petitioner, Florida Board of Professional Engineers, is charged with regulating the practice of engineering pursuant to Chapter 455, Florida Statutes. This complaint is filed by the Florida Engineers Management Corporation (FEMC) on behalf of Petitioner. FEMC is charged with providing administrative, investigative, and prosecutorial services to the Florida Board of Professional Engineers pursuant to Section 471.038, Florida Statutes (1997).

2. Respondent is, and has been at all times material hereto, a licensed professional engineer in the State of Florida, having been issued license number PE 41168. Respondent's last known address is 2581 Metrocentre Boulevard West, Suite 3, West Palm Beach, Florida 33407.

3. On May 28, 2019 and on December 5, 2019, Respondent's North Carolina professional engineering license was the subject of a two Decisions and Orders (Orders) entered by the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Engineers (NC Board). The May 28, 2019 Order was based upon the NC Board's finding that Respondent violated the laws governing the practice of engineering in North Carolina as follows:

[Respondent] affixed seal to work not done under direct supervisory control (responsible charge) [.0701 (c)(3)]; aided or abetted another to evade or attempt to evade the provisions of G. S. 89C [G. S. 89C-16]; and failed to comply with the Standard Certification Requirements [.1103] by not including date of signing [.1103(a)(4)], failing to include address on documents [.1103(a)(6)], and failing to include firm license number on documents [.1103(a)(6)].

4. As a result of the above findings, Respondent's North Carolina professional engineering license was disciplined by the NC Board as follows:

...[NC] Board by its Decision and Order, hereby issues [Respondent], a Reprimand, Levy a Civil Penalty of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) to be paid within thirty (30) days of this Decision and Order, and Require Proof, within six months of date of Decision and Order, of passing the Engineering ethics Intermediate Course offered by the Murdough Center of Texas Tech University.

5. The December 5, 2019 Order found that Respondent has again violated the laws governing the practice of engineering in North Carolina by not complying with the requirements of the May 28, 2019 Order. As a result, Respondent's NC license was SUSPENDED until compliance with the May 28, 2019 Order was shown.

6. Section 471.033(1)(c), Florida Statutes, states: "(1)The following acts constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions in subsection (3) may be taken: (c) Having a license to practice engineering revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including the denial of licensure, by the licensing authority of another state, territory, or country, for any act that would constitute a violation of this chapter or chapter 455."



7. Section 471.033(1)(j), Florida Statutes, provides that an engineer is subject to discipline for “[a]ffixing or permitting to be affixed his or her seal, name, or digital signature to any final drawings, specifications, plans, reports, or documents that were not prepared by him or her or under his or her responsible supervision, direction, or control.” Additionally, Respondent’s failure to include date of signing and Respondent’s address on final engineering documents would have violated Rule 61G15-23.001, Florida Administrative Code, had the act occurred in Florida. Finally, Respondent’s failure to comply with the terms of the NC May 28, 2019 Order, which resulted in the December 5, 2019 Order, would have violated Section 471.033(1)(k), Florida Statutes, “[v]iolating any order of the board or department previously entered in a disciplinary hearing.”

8. As set forth herein, The actions of the NC Board constitutes discipline of Respondent’s NC professional engineering licenses for acts which would constitute violations of Chapter 471 if those actions had occurred in Florida in that Respondent’s actions in NC “affix[ing] seal to work not done under direct supervisory control (responsible charge)

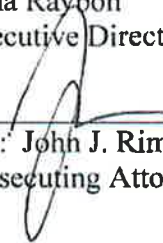
9. Based on the foregoing, Respondent is charged with violating Section 471.033(1)(c), Florida Statutes, by having Respondent’s “license to practice engineering ... acted against ... by the licensing authority of another state, territory, or country, for any act that would constitute a violation of [Chapter 471].”

WHEREFORE, the Petitioner respectfully requests the Board of Professional Engineers to enter an order imposing one or more of the following penalties: permanent revocation or suspension of the Respondent’s license, restriction of the Respondent’s practice, imposition of an administrative fine, issuance of a reprimand, placement of the Respondent on probation, the assessment of costs related to the investigation and prosecution of this case, other than costs

associated with an attorney's time, as provided for in Section 455.227(3), Florida Statutes, and/or any other relief that the Board deems appropriate.

SIGNED this 21 day of September, 2020.

Zana Raybon  
Executive Director

  
BY: John J. Rimes, III  
Prosecuting Attorney

COUNSEL FOR FEMC:

John J. Rimes, III  
Prosecuting Attorney  
Florida Engineers Management Corporation  
2639 North Monroe Street, Suite B-112  
Tallahassee, Florida 32303  
Florida Bar No. 212008  
JR/rv  
PCP DATE: September 09, 2020  
PCP Members: MATTHEWS, FLEMING & DRURY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was furnished to Robert F. Rennebaum, P.E. at 2581 Metrocentre Boulevard West, Suite 3, West Palm Beach, Florida 33407, by certified mail and First Class U. S. Mail, on the 23 of September, 2020.

  
Rebecca Valentine, Paralegal