## FLORIDA ENGINEERS MANAGEMENT

 CORPORATION,Petitioner, vs.

JEFFERY SANON, P.E.,
Respondent.

FEMC Case No.: 2020008424
License No.: PE 70946

## FINAL ORDER

THIS CAUSE came before the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (hereinafter "the Board") pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes, at a duly noticed public meeting on December 10,2020 , by Videoconference, for consideration of the Administrative Complaint (attached hereto as Attachment A) in the above-styled cause. Petitioner was represented by John J. Rimes, Chief Prosecuting Attorney. Respondent was present and was represented by legal counsel. Upon consideration of the material presented, the testimony of Respondent, argument of counsel, and being otherwise advised in the premises, the Board makes the following findings and conclusions.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent was properly served with a copy of the Administrative Complaint and filed an Election of Rights requesting a hearing not involving disputed issues of material fact.
2. The investigative file provided and accepted into evidence establishes the facts alleged in the Administrative Complaint.
3. The Board adopts as its finding of facts those facts contained in the Statement of Undisputed Material Facts, attached hereto as Attachment B.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

4. The established facts constitute the violations set forth in the Administrative Complaint, which are adopted and incorporated by reference as the conclusions of law in this case and for which the Board may impose discipline.
5. The Board is empowered by Sections 455.227 and 471.033 , Florida Statutes, to impose a penalty against the Respondent. THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED:
6. Respondent's license to practice engineering in the State of Florida is Reprimanded.
7. Respondent shall pay an administrative FINE of One Thousand Dollars ( $\$ 1,000.00$ ) and administrative COSTS in the amount of Ninety-Three Dollars and Sixty cents (\$93.60) within three (3) years of the date of this Final Order.
8. Respondent shall SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE the Board's Laws and Rules Study Guide and the Board's approved Basic Engineering Professionalism and Ethics Course, both within three (3) years of the date of this Final Order.
9. Respondent's license in placed on PROBATION for a period of three (3) years from the filing date of 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 $\_$day of February, 2021.
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS


## NOTICE OF RIGHT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW

A PARTY WHO IS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THIS FINAL ORDER IS ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW PURSUANT TO SECTION 120.68, FLORIDA STATUTES. REVIEW PROCEEDINGS ARE GOVERNED BY THE FLORIDA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE. SUCH PROCEEDINGS ARE COMMENCED BY FILING ONE COPY OF A NOTICE OF APPEAL WITH THE AGENCY CLERK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION AND A SECOND COPY, ACCOMPANIED BY FILING FEES PRESCRIBED BY LAW, WITH THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL, FIRST DISTRICT, OR WITH THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL IN THE FLORIDA APPELLATE DISTRICT WHERE THE PARTY RESIDES. THE NOTICE OF APPEAL MUST BE FILED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF RENDITION OF THE ORDER TO BE REVIEWED.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Final Order has been provided by U.S. and electronic mail to: Jeffery Sanon, P.E., 7743 Sundew Drive, Boynton Beach, Florida 33437 and Clyde Mathes, Esq., 545 Delaney Ave, Suite 3, Orlando, FL 32801-3866 clyde@Jordanlawfl.com; interoffice mail to: John J. Rimes, Chief Prosecuting Attorney, FEMC, 2639 North Monroe Street, Suite B-112, Tallahassee, Florida 32303 and Board of Professional Engineers, 2639 North Monroe Street, Suite B112, Tallahassee, Florida 32303; and by electronic mail to: Lawrence D. Harris, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Lawrence.Harris@myfloridalegal.com this 4 day of February , 2021.
$\qquad$
Rebecca Valentine

## FLORIDA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL

 ENGINEERS,Petitioner,
v.

FEMC Case No. 2020008424
JEFFREY M. SANON, P.E.,

## Respondent,

## 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 JEFFREY M. SANON, 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 70946. Respondent's last known address is 7743 Sundew Drive, Boynton Beach, Florida 33437.
3. On February 5, 2020, Respondent entered a plea of GUILTY to 1 count of Fraudulent use of personal identification information, a violation of Section 817.568(2)(a), Florida Statutes. Violating this provision of law constitutes a Third Degree Felony. Adjudication of guilt was withheld by the Court.
4. As disposition of the criminal charge, the Court placed Respondent on Probation for eighteen (18) months with required community control and community service. Respondent was required to pay court costs and fines totaling of $\$ 1619.00$
5. The facts underlying the February 5, 2020 guilty plea involved Respondent, while working as a Project Engineer for the Town of Palm Beach FL, fraudulently forged the signatures of various persons to invoices for services rendered by a company for which Respondent was a franchisee. The signatures included those of several employees and officers of the Town of Palm Beach which were placed on invoices to allow payments to the company for which Respondent was a franchisee and for which Respondent would receive compensation.
6. Section 471.013(1)(a), Florida Statutes, provides in material part: "A person shall be entitled to take an examination for the purpose of determining whether she or he is qualified to practice in this state as an engineer if the person is of good moral character...." Insofar as being of good moral character is a specific prerequisite to becoming licensed as a Professional Engineer, the maintenance of such good moral character directly relates to the practice of engineering or to the ability to practice engineering.
7. Section $471.033(1)(\mathrm{d})$, Florida Statutes, provides that disciplinary action may be taken against a Professional Engineer for "[b]eing convicted or found guilty of, or entering a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a crime in any jurisdiction which directly relates to the practice of engineering or the ability to practice engineering." Likewise, Section 455.227(1)(c), Florida Statutes, provides that disciplinary action can be taken against a FBPE vs. Jeffrey M. Sanon, P.E., Case No. 2020008424

Professional Engineer for "[b]eing convicted or found guilty of, or entering a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a crime in any jurisdiction which relates to the practice of, or the ability to practice, a licensee's profession."
8. By entering a plea of guilty to Fraudulent Use Of Personal Identification Information, a violation of Section 817.568(2)(a), Florida Statutes Respondent committed a crime of moral turpitude. As a result, Respondent has not maintained the good moral character required of a Professional Engineer. Therefore, Respondent's conviction directly relates to the Respondent's practice of engineering and to Respondent's ability to practice engineering.
9. Based on the foregoing, Respondent is charged with violating Sections 455.227(1)(c) and 471.033(1)(d), Florida Statutes, by entering a plea of guilty of a crime which directly relates to the practice of engineering or the ability to practice engineering.

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 20 day of July , 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: July 08, 2020
PCP Members: MATTHEWS, FLEMING \& DRURY

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was furnished to Jeffery M. Sanon, P.E. at 7743 Sundew Drive, Boynton Beach, Florida 33437, by certified mail and First Class U. S. Mail, on the 22 of July_ , 2020.


Rebecca Valentine, Paralegal

# STATE OF FLORIDA <br> FLORIDA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS 

## FLORIDA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS,

Petitioner,
v.

FEMC Case No. 2020008424
JEFFERY SANON, P.E.,
Respondent,

## STATEMENT OF UNDISPUTED MATERIAL FACTS

Petitioner, Florida Engineers Management Corporation ("FEMC"), on behalf of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers ("FBPE" or "Board") and Respondent, Jeffery Sanon, P.E. ("Respondent"), hereby submit the following Statement of Undisputed Material Facts ("SUMF"). The undisputed material facts contained herein form the only factual basis upon which a determination of whether Respondent violated the provisions of Chapter 471, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 61G15, Florida Administrative Code (which were charged in the Administrative Complaint that was filed in this case on July 20, 2020) may be made by the Board. Notwithstanding the abovementioned limitations on the facts that may be discussed before the Board, Petitioner and Respondent will be permitted to offer information in addition to that set forth herein in the furtherance of mitigation or aggravation of any penalty which may be imposed by the Board. Petitioner and Respondent will also be permitted to proffer any legal argument to the Board that addresses the Board's determination as to whether any violation of Chapter 471, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 61G15, Florida Administrative Code, has occurred.

The Parties hereby also agree that by entering into this Statement of Undisputed Material Facts they jointly waive any right to a formal hearing under the provisions of Section 455.225(5), Florida Statutes, which provides in material part that "... if any party raises an issue of disputed
fact during an informal hearing, the hearing shall be terminated and a formal hearing pursuant to chapter 120 shall be held."

The Undisputed Material Facts in this case are as follows:

1. FBPE is charged with regulating the practice of engineering pursuant to Chapter 455 , Florida Statutes. The above-referenced Administrative Complaint was filed by the FEMC on behalf of FBPE. 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 70946. Respondent's last known address is 7743 Sundew Drive, Boynton Beach, Florida 33437.
3. On February 5, 2020, Respondent entered a plea of GUILTY to 1 count of Fraudulent use of personal identification information, a violation of Section 817.568(2)(a), Florida Statutes. Violating this provision of law constitutes a Third Degree Felony. Adjudication of guilt was withheld by the Court.
4. As disposition of the criminal charge, the Court placed Respondent on Probation for eighteen (18) months with required community control and community service. Respondent was required to pay court costs and fines totaling of $\$ 1619.00$
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6. By entering a plea of guily to Fraudulent Use Or Personal Identification Information, a violation of Section 817.568(2)(a), Florida Statutes Respondent committed a crime of moral turpitude. As a result, Respondent has not maintained the good moral character required of a Professional Engineer. Therefore, Respondent's conviction directly relates to the Respondent's practice of engineering and to Respondent's ability to practice engineering.
7. The Attached Criminal Documents from Palm Beach County, is a true and correct copy of the document on file with the Palm Beach County Clerk of Court in Case No: 50-2019. CF-006485AMP, and attached hereto as Exhibit !


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