STATE OF MINNESOTA BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING, LAND SURVEYING, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, GEOSCIENCE AND INTERIOR DESIGN

In the matter of Brian D. Holt PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER License Number 21428

STIPULATION AND ORDER

Board File No. 2013-0041

TO: Brian D. Holt 9105 Schutte Lane Corcoran, Minnesota 55340

The Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design ("Board") is authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 214.10 (2012) and Minnesota Statutes section 326.111 (2012) to review complaints against architects, professional engineers, land surveyors, landscape architects, geoscientists, and certified interior designers, and to take disciplinary action whenever appropriate.

The Board received information from Brian D. Holt ("Respondent"). The Board's Complaint Committee ("Committee") reviewed the information. The parties have agreed that the matter may now be resolved by this Stipulation and Order.

STIPULATION

IT IS HEREBY AGREED by and between Respondent and the Committee as follows:

1. <u>Jurisdiction.</u> The Respondent was first issued a Professional Engineer license by the Board on July 16, 1991. Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board with respect to the matters referred to in this Stipulation.

2. <u>Facts.</u> This Stipulation is based upon the following facts:

a. Respondent was first licensed as a Professional Engineer in the State of Minnesota on July 16, 1991.

b. On July 1, 2012, Respondent's Minnesota Professional Engineer license expired.

c. Respondent reinstated his Minnesota Professional Engineer license on November 26, 2012. Additionally, Respondent reported fifty four (54) professional development hours earned from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2012.

d. As of the date of this Stipulation and Order, Respondent's Minnesota Professional Engineer license is current with an expiration date of June 30, 2014.

e. In a letter dated November 26, 2012, that accompanied the Application for License/Certificate Reinstatement through 6/30/2014, Respondent self reported that he practiced engineering and represented himself as a Minnesota Professional Engineer during the expiration of his Minnesota Professional Engineer license. "The forms for reinstatement request a signed affidavit, yet I am unable to provide that affidavit along with my renewal because I did inadvertently practice engineering and represent myself as a professional engineer since I was unaware my Minnesota license had expired."

f. In this same letter dated November 26, 2012, Respondent stated: "Many emails and my LinkedIn page stated MN as one of the 6 states I held a PE license. Most emails in the period were not related to Minnesota PE work but MN was one of 6 states in my email signature. It is estimated about 35 emails

concerned Minnesota work. This was based on my mistaken belief my MN license to be active."

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g. Respondent provided copies of a Minnesota project, where he signed and certified the calculations as a Minnesota Professional Engineer on June 22, 2012, when his license was in good standing. Respondent provided a revised copy where he made minor revisions and recertified the calculations as a Minnesota Professional Engineer on July 3, 2012, three days after his license had lapsed. Respondent provided a revised copy where he re-reviewed and recertified the calculations as a Minnesota Professional Engineer on July 3, 2012, three days after his license had lapsed. Respondent provided a revised copy where he re-reviewed and recertified the calculations as a Minnesota Professional Engineer on December 31, 2012 after his Minnesota license was reinstated and in good standing.

h. Respondent provided copies of a Minnesota project, where he signed and certified the plans/specifications as a Minnesota Professional Engineer on June 29, 2012, when his license was current and in good standing. Respondent provided a revised copy where he made minor revisions and recertified the plans/specifications as a Minnesota Professional Engineer on July 16, 2012, sixteen days after his license had lapsed. Respondent re-reviewed and recertified the plans on December 31, 2012 after his Minnesota P.E. license was reinstated.

i. Respondent provided a copy of his business card which states:"Brian D. Holt, P.E." The wording on the bottom line of the business cardis: "Minneapolis, Minnesota."

j. All documents certified during the license lapse were re-reviewed and recertified by the Respondent in December 2012 at no cost to the clients. The Respondent provided copies of these recertified documents to the Board.

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3. <u>Violations.</u> Respondent admits that the facts specified above pertaining to practice without a license and holding out constitute violations of Minnesota Statutes section 326.02, subdivisions 1 and 3 (2012), and Minnesota Statutes section 326.03, subdivision 1 (2012) and are sufficient grounds for the action specified below. Specifically, it is alleged that Respondent held himself out as a Professional Engineer and practiced professional engineering, in the State of Minnesota, during the time when Respondent's Minnesota Professional Engineer license had expired.

4. <u>Enforcement Action</u>. Respondent and the Committee agree that the Board should issue an Order in accordance with the following terms:

a. <u>Reprimand.</u> Respondent is reprimanded for the foregoing conduct.

b. <u>Civil Penalty.</u> Respondent shall pay to the Board a civil penalty of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00). Respondent shall submit a civil penalty of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) by cashier's check or money order to the Board within sixty (60) days of the Board's approval of this Stipulation and Order.

c. Respondent shall cease and desist from violating any laws, rules or orders entrusted to enforcement by the Board.

5. <u>Additional Discipline for Violations of Order.</u> If Respondent violates this Stipulation and Order, the Board may impose additional discipline pursuant to the following procedure:

a. The Committee shall schedule a hearing before the Board. At least thirty days prior to the hearing, the Committee shall mail Respondent a notice of the violation alleged by the Committee and of the time and place of the hearing. Within fourteen days after the notice is mailed, Respondent shall submit a response to the allegations. If Respondent does not submit a timely response to the Board, the allegations may be deemed admitted.

b. At the hearing before the Board, the Complaint Committee and Respondent may submit affidavits made on personal knowledge and argument based on the record in support of their positions. The Complaint Committee may submit affidavits responding to any affidavits submitted by Respondent. The evidentiary record before the Board shall be limited to such affidavits and this Stipulation and Order. Respondent waives a hearing before an administrative law judge and waives discovery, cross-examination of adverse witnesses, and other procedures governing administrative hearings or civil trials.

c. At the hearing, the Board will determine whether to impose additional disciplinary action, including additional conditions or limitations on Respondent's practice or suspension or revocation of Respondent's license.

6. <u>Waiver of Respondent's Rights.</u> For the purpose of this Stipulation, Respondent waives all procedures and proceedings before the Board to which Respondent may be entitled under the Minnesota and United States constitutions, statutes, or the rules of the Board, including the right to dispute the allegations against Respondent, to dispute the appropriateness of discipline in a contested case proceeding pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 14 (2012), and to dispute the civil

penalty imposed by this Agreement. Respondent agrees that upon the application of the Committee without notice to or an appearance by Respondent, the Board may issue an Order containing the enforcement action specified in paragraph 4 herein. Respondent waives the right to any judicial review of the Order by appeal, writ of certiorari, or otherwise.

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7. <u>Collection.</u> In accordance with Minnesota Statutes section 16D.17 (2012), in the event this order becomes final and Respondent does not comply with the condition in paragraph 4(b) above, Respondent agrees that the Board may file and enforce the unpaid portion of the civil penalty as a judgment without further notice or additional proceedings.

8. <u>Board Rejection of Stipulation and Order.</u> In the event the Board in its discretion does not approve this Stipulation and Order or a lesser remedy than specified herein, this Stipulation and Order shall be null and void and shall not be used for any purpose by either party hereto. If this Stipulation is not approved and a contested case proceeding is initiated pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 14 (2012), Respondent agrees not to object to the Board's initiation of the proceedings and hearing the case on the basis that the Board has become disqualified due to its review and consideration of this Stipulation and the record.

9. <u>Unrelated Violations.</u> This settlement shall not in any way or manner limit or affect the authority of the Board to proceed against Respondent by initiating a contested case hearing or by other appropriate means on the basis of any act, conduct, or admission of Respondent justifying disciplinary action which occurred before or after the date of this Stipulation and Order and which is not directly related to the specific

facts and circumstances set forth herein.

10. <u>Record.</u> The Stipulation, related investigative reports and other documents shall constitute the entire record of the proceedings herein upon which the Order is based. The investigative reports, other documents, or summaries thereof may be filed with the Board with this Stipulation.

11. <u>Data Classification.</u> Under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, this Stipulation and Order is classified as public data upon its issuance by the Board, Minnesota Statutes section 13.41, subdivision 5 (2012). All documents in the record shall maintain the data classification to which they are entitled under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13 (2012). They shall not, to the extent they are not already public documents, become public merely because they are referenced herein. A summary of this Order will appear in the Board's newsletter. A summary will also be sent to the national discipline data bank pertaining to the practice of engineering.

12. <u>Entire Agreement.</u> Respondent has read, understood, and agreed to this Stipulation and is freely and voluntarily signing it. The Stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto relating to the allegations referenced herein. Respondent is not relying on any other agreement or representations of any kind, verbal or otherwise.

13. <u>Counsel.</u> Respondent is aware that he may choose to be represented by legal counsel in this matter. Respondent knowingly waived legal representation.

14. <u>Service.</u> If approved by the Board, a copy of this Stipulation and Order shall be served personally or by first class mail on Respondent. The Order shall be

effective and deemed issued when it is signed by the Chair of the Board.

RESPONDENT

Bri Ó Hald Brian D. Holt

Dated: 9/24, 2013

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me on this the 34 20_13 _ day of $~^{\zeta}$ Sentine . (Notary Public) NANCY L BURANDT Notary Public-Minnesota Comm. Expires Jan. 31, 2015

My Commission Expires:

-7012

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

Bruce-Johnson, PG **Committee Chair**

Dated: 10/10 , 20 13

ORDER

Upon consideration of the foregoing Stipulation and Order and based upon all

the files, records, and proceedings herein, all terms of the Stipulation and Order are

approved and adopted and hereby issued as an Order of this Board this the _//__ day

of OCTOBER, 2013

MINNESOTA BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING, LAND SURVEYING, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, GEOSCIENCE AND

INTERIOR_DESIGN By: Douglas C. Cooley, PE Board Chair

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY MAIL

RE: In the matter of Brian D. Holt PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER License Number 21428

STATE OF MINNESOTA)) ss. COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

Lynette DuFresne, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That at the City of St. Paul, County of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, on this the 14^{++} day of 0cto bek, 2013, she served the attached **Stipulation and Order**, by depositing in the United States mail at said city and state, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped, with first class and certified postage prepaid, and addressed to:

Mr. Brian D. Holt 9105 Schutte Lane Corcoran, Minnesota 55340

CERTIFIED MAIL Return Receipt Requested 7012 0470 0000 4959 0189

_ýnette DuFresne

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the 144h day of October, 2013.

(Notary Public)

