

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

**In the matter of Bruce Knutson
ARCHITECT
License Number 11789**

**STIPULATION AND ORDER

Board File No. 2015-0033**

TO: Bruce Knutson
Bruce Knutson Architects Inc.
1000 Boone Avenue North #200
Golden Valley, Minnesota 55427

The Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design ("Board") is authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 214.10 (2014) and Minnesota Statutes section 326.111 (2014) 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 concerning Bruce Knutson ("Respondent"). The Board's Complaint Committee ("Committee") reviewed the information. The parties have agreed that these matters may now be resolved by this Stipulation and Order.

STIPULATION

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

1. Jurisdiction. Respondent was first issued an Architect license by the Board on March 5, 1976. Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board with respect to the matters referred to in this Stipulation.

2. Facts. This Stipulation is based upon the following facts:
- a. Respondent was first licensed as an Architect in the State of Minnesota on March 5, 1976.
 - b. On July 1, 2014, Respondent's Minnesota Architect license in the State of Minnesota expired.
 - c. On December 9, 2014, Respondent reinstated his Minnesota Architect license.
 - d. Respondent's Minnesota Architect license lapsed from July 1, 2014 to December 9, 2014.
 - e. At the time of this Stipulation and Order, Respondent's Minnesota Architect license is current with an expiration date of June 30, 2016.
 - f. In a letter to the Board dated February 15, 2015, Respondent stated that the materials requested were enclosed, and the only drawings that were incorrectly certified was a project in Burnsville, where the city plan inspector alerted him to the Architectural licensing problem. Respondent stated he subsequently certified new drawings and reissued them with his current license.
 - g. With his letter to the Board dated February 15, 2015, Respondent included a copy of his business card that was in effect during the expiration period, July 1, 2014 to December 9, 2014. The card contains a "Bruce Knutson Architects" heading. The business card also states: "Bruce Knutson AIA."
 - h. With this same letter dated February 15, 2015, Respondent included a copy of his email salutation that was in effect during the expiration period, July 1, 2014 to December 9, 2014. Respondent's salutation for his email

stated: "Bruce Knutson AIA, Bruce Knutson Architects."

i. With this same letter dated February 15, 2015, Respondent included a copy of his letterhead that was in effect during the expiration period, July 1, 2014 to December 9, 2014. The letterhead stated: "Bruce Knutson Architects."

j. With this same letter dated February 15, 2015, Respondent included a copy of his position description that was in effect during the expiration period, July 1, 2014 to December 9, 2014. The Position Description stated: "Registrations: State of Minnesota, Registration # 11789."

k. Respondent held himself out as a Minnesota Architect by using the title of "AIA" and "Bruce Knutson Architects" on his business card and email salutation.

l. Additionally, Respondent held himself out as a Minnesota Architect by using a title that tends to convey or give the impression that the Respondent was an architect with the business name of "Bruce Knutson Architects" on his letterhead.

m. Furthermore, Respondent held himself out as a Minnesota Architect by using the title of "Registered Architect" on plans he prepared and signed on October 6, 2014, for a project located in Minnesota that were submitted with his letter received by the Board on April 8, 2015.

n. Respondent practiced as a Minnesota Architect during the time his Minnesota Architect license lapsed from July 1, 2014 to February 19, 2015, by preparing, signing and certifying plans on a project located in Minnesota on

October 6, 2014.

3. Violations. Respondent admits that the facts specified above constitute violations of Minnesota Statutes section 326.02, subdivisions 1 and 2 (2014) and Minnesota Statutes section 326.03, subdivision 1 (2014) are sufficient grounds for the action specified below. Specifically, it is alleged that the Respondent held himself out as an Architect and practiced Architecture without a license from July 1, 2014 until December 9, 2014.

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

a. Reprimand. Respondent is reprimanded for the foregoing conduct.

b. Civil Penalty. Respondent shall pay to the Board a civil penalty of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). Respondent shall submit a civil penalty of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) by 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. Waiver of Respondent's Rights. 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 (2014), 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.

6. Collection. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 16D.17 (2014), after ninety (90) days of the Board's approval of this Stipulation and Order, the Board may file and enforce any unpaid portion of the civil penalty imposed by this Order as a judgment against the Respondent in district court without further notice or additional proceedings.

7. Board Rejection of Stipulation and Order. 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 (2014), 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.

8. Unrelated Violations. 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.

9. Record. 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.

10. Data Classification. 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 (2014). 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 (2014). 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 architecture.

11. Entire Agreement. 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.

12. Counsel. Respondent is aware that he may choose to be represented by legal counsel in this matter. Respondent knowingly waived legal representation.

13. Service. 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

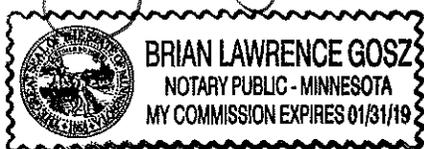
Bruce Knutson
Bruce Knutson

Dated: June 25, 2015

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me on
this the 25 day of June, 2015.

B. Gosz
(Notary Public)

My Commission Expires:
01/31/2019



COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

Terry Groshong
Terry Groshong, AR
Committee Chair

Dated: 8/5/2015, 20

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 6 day of August, 2015.

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

By: Mary Deeg
Mary Deeg, CID
Board Chair

