

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

In the Matter of the Professional Engineer
License of Paul Gilham

**ORDER LIFTING LICENSE
SUSPENSION**

Board File 2022-0076

On November 17, 2022, the Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design temporarily suspended the professional engineer license of Respondent Paul Gilham pending the outcome of an investigation by the North Carolina Board of Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors into the collapse of decorative bridge arches on which Gilham worked. On July 13, 2023, the North Carolina Board issued a final order in that investigation, and this matter is now pending before Complaint Committee. Based on the Board's records, the Committee's investigation file, Gilham's submissions, and all other documents and proceedings herein, the Committee hereby makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Gilham possesses suspended Minnesota professional engineer license no. 43774.
2. Gilman's license was suspended via consent order on November 17, 2022, based on a finding that Gilham had designed decorative bridge arches for a bridge in North Carolina and that the arches "failed catastrophically." As part of the consent order, Gilham conceded that the computer model he used to design elements and connections for the arches was "inappropriate and flawed" and that the misanalysis was a "contributing cause" of the collapse.
3. The consent order temporarily suspended Gilham's license pending the outcome of the North Carolina Board's investigation regarding Gilham's work on the arches. Gilham agreed to notify the Committee once the North Carolina Board reached a final decision.

4. On July 13, 2023, the North Carolina Board issued its decision. The North Carolina Board concluded that Gilham's conduct did not rise to the level of requiring license revocation or suspension. Instead, the North Carolina Board imposed a reprimand and civil penalty of \$5,000.

5. On July 24, Gilham notified the Committee of the North Carolina decision.

6. Any conclusion of law that should more properly be deemed a finding of fact is hereby adopted as such.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has authority to license and regulate professional engineers and to take disciplinary action as appropriate. Minn. Stat. ch. 326 (2020).

2. The Board delegated its authority to lift the suspension of Gilham's professional engineer license to the Complaint Committee as part of its consent order suspending Gilham's license.

3. This order is in the public interest.

4. Any finding of fact that should more properly be deemed a conclusion of law is hereby adopted as such.

ORDER

The suspension of Gilham's professional engineer license is lifted.



ERIC FRISKE, J.D.

Chair, Complaint Committee

Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture,
Geoscience and Interior Design

Dated: August 24, 2023