

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

**In the matter of Kurt Leuthold
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
License Number 22225**

STIPULATION AND ORDER

Board File No. 2017-0019

TO: Kurt Leuthold
1810 Oakview Lane North
Plymouth, Minnesota 55441

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 Kurt Leuthold ("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 stipulated and agreed by Respondent and the Committee that without trial or adjudication of any issue of fact or law and without any evidence or admission by any party with respect to any such issue:

1. Jurisdiction. Respondent was first issued a Professional Engineer license by the Board on August 13, 1992. 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 a Professional Engineer in the State of Minnesota on August 13, 1992.

b. On July 1, 2016, Respondent's Professional Engineer license in the State of Minnesota expired.

c. Respondent reinstated his Minnesota Professional Engineer license on September 7, 2016. Respondent's license status is current with an expiration date of June 30, 2018.

d. Respondent's Minnesota Professional Engineer license lapsed from July 1, 2016 to September 7, 2016.

e. Respondent called the Board office on September 13, 2016, and, in a telephone conversation with the Board Investigator, stated he was calling to self-report that his license had lapsed and that he had practiced professional engineering during the lapse of his license.

f. In a letter to the Board dated October 11, 2016, Respondent stated that on September 7, 2016, he became aware that his Minnesota Professional Engineer license had expired and that he immediately renewed his license on the same day.

g. With his letter to the Board dated October 11, 2016, Respondent included a copy of his business card that was in effect while his license had lapsed. Respondent held himself out as a Professional Engineer in the State of Minnesota between July 1, 2016 and September 7, 2016, by using the title "Kurt

Leuthold, PE, LEED® AP” on his business card, in conjunction with a Minneapolis business address.

h. In this same letter dated October 11, 2016, Respondent stated that the signature block used on his emails from July 1, 2016 to September 7, 2016 was “Kurt Leuthold, LEED AP, PE.” Respondent held himself out as a Professional Engineer in the State of Minnesota between July 1, 2016 and September 7, 2016, by using the title of “PE” in his email signature block, in conjunction with a Minneapolis business address.

i. With this same letter dated October 11, 2016, Respondent provided copies of the bidding documents that he had signed and certified on August 18, 2016 for one (1) project located in Golden Valley, Minnesota project. Respondent held himself out as a Professional Engineer in the State of Minnesota and practiced professional engineering when he signed and certified the bidding documents on August 18, 2016 for the project located in Golden Valley, Minnesota.

j. In this same letter dated October 11, 2016, Respondent provided a summary of a sequence of events that occurred, and actions that he took, beginning immediately upon discovery of the lapse of his license. Respondent took significant corrective actions, including notifying the Board, his employer, co-workers, and clients.

k. Respondent requested a conference with the Committee. The Committee met with him on October 18, 2016. At the conference, Respondent confirmed that at all times, he works as a Professional Engineer in his current

position.

I. Respondent was cooperative and forthcoming with the Board, his employer and associates.

3. Violations. Respondent admits that the facts specified above constitute violations of Minnesota Statutes section 326.02, subdivision 1 and subdivision 3, and Minnesota Statutes section 326.03, subdivision 1 (2014) and are sufficient grounds for the action specified below. Specifically, it is alleged that the Respondent:(1) held himself out as a Professional Engineer in the State of Minnesota, within the meaning of Minnesota Statutes section 326.02, subdivision 1 (2014), during the lapse of his Minnesota Professional Engineer license, (a) on his business cards by using the title "P.E." in connection with his name and a Minnesota business address, (b) on his emails by using the title "P.E.", in connection with his name and a Minnesota business address; and (2) held himself out as a Professional Engineer in the State of Minnesota, within the meaning of Minnesota Statutes section 326.02, subdivision 1 (2014) and practiced professional engineering, as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 326.02, subdivision 3 (2014), while his license had lapsed, by signing and certifying bidding documents on August 18, 2016 for a project located in Golden Valley, Minnesota.

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.

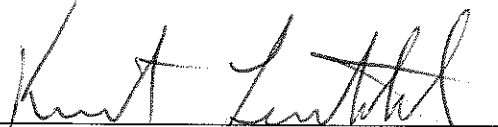
10. Data Classification. Under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, this Stipulation and Order is classified as public data upon its issuance by the Board, Minnesota Statutes section 13.41, subdivision 5 (2014). All documents in the record shall maintain the data classification to which they 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 engineering.

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.

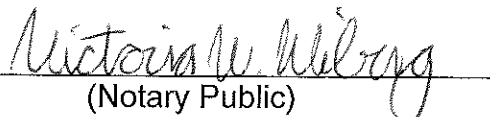
13. Service. If approved by the Board, a copy of this Stipulation and Order shall be served personally or by first class mail on Respondent. The Order shall be effective and deemed issued when it is signed by the Chair of the Board.

RESPONDENT


Kurt Leuthold, PE

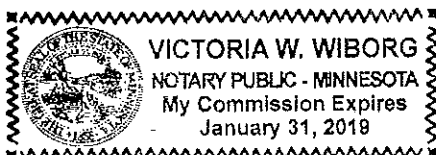
Dated: November 10, 20 16

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me on
this the 10th day of November, 2016.

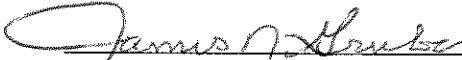

(Notary Public)

My Commission Expires:

1/31/2019



COMPLAINT COMMITTEE


James N. Grube, P.E.
Committee Chair

Dated: DECEMBER 17, 20 16

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 1ST day of December, 20 16.

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

By: 
Peter G. Miller, PSS
Board Chair

