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

In the Matter of the Engineering Activities of Peter Lichomski, Unlicensed

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

Board File No. 2017-0021

TO: Peter Lichomski 49030 Pontiac Trail Suite 200 Wixom, Michigan 48393

The Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design ("Board") is authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 214.10 (2016) and Minnesota Statutes section 326.111 (2016) to review complaints concerning the unauthorized practice of architecture, professional engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture, geoscience and interior design, and to take action pursuant to those statutes whenever appropriate.

The Board received a complaint concerning Peter Lichomski ("Respondent"). The Board's Complaint Committee ("Committee") reviewed the information. The parties have agreed that these matters may now be resolved by this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

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. <u>Jurisdiction</u>. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 326.111, subdivision 3 (2016), the Board is authorized to issue an order requiring an unlicensed person to cease and desist from the unauthorized practice of professional engineering in the State of Minnesota. Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board with respect to the matters referred to in this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order.

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

a. Respondent was first licensed as an Architect in the State of Minnesota on November 5, 2007, license number 46120. As of the date of this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order, Respondent's Architect license in Minnesota is current with an expiration date of June 30, 2018.

b. Respondent is not currently and never has been licensed as a Professional Engineer in the State of Minnesota.

c. The Committee's position is that the Respondent practiced professional engineering, as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 326.02, subdivision 3, without a Minnesota Professional Engineer license, by preparing, signing and certifying engineering plans for a utility infrastructure project located in Perham, Minnesota in September 2016 and by the following actions:

c.1 Respondent, using his Architect license #46120, signed and certified the title sheet, identified as T-1. Under the heading of "Engineer" on the T-1 sheet, it states: "Peter Lichomski Architect, Inc. Peter Lichomski, 49030 Pontiac Trail, Suite 200, (248) 705-9212, Wixom, MI 48393."

c.2 Respondent, using his Architect license #46120, signed and

certified the exhibit photo & site plan sheet, identified as SP-1.

c.3 Respondent, using his Architect license #46120, signed and certified the pole elevations sheet, identified as EV-1.

c.4 Respondent, using his Architect license #46120, signed and certified the plumbing & riser diagram sheet, identified as PL-1.

c.5 Respondent, using his Architect license #46120, signed and certified the excavation details sheet, identified as EX-1.

c.6 Respondent, using his Architect license #46120, signed and certified the electrical sheet, identified as E-1.

c.7 Respondent, using his Architect license #46120, signed and certified the grounding details sheet, identified as G-1.

c.8 Respondent, using his Architect license #46120, signed and certified the pole embedment details sheet, identified as S-1.

c.9 Respondent, using his Architect license #46120, signed and certified the traffic control notes sheet, identified as TC-1.

c.10 Respondent, using his Architect license #46120, signed and certified the vehicular traffic control plan sheet, identified as TC-2.

c.11 Respondent, using his Architect license #46120, signed and certified the general notes sheets, identified as GN-1, GN-2, and GN-3.

Respondent denies violating any provisions of Minnesota law enforced by the Board. However, the Committee and Respondent wish to resolve the complaint against Respondent by mutually agreeing to the enforcement

actions specified in paragraph 4 below.

3. <u>Violations.</u> The Committee's position is that the facts specified in section 2.a through 2.c above constitute violations of Minnesota Statutes section 326.02, subdivision 1 and subdivision 3, and Minnesota Statutes section 326.03, subdivision 1 (2016), specifically, practice as a professional engineer and are sufficient grounds for the enforcement action specified below. Respondent denies violating any provisions of Minnesota law enforced by the Board.

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

a. <u>Cease and Desist Order.</u> Respondent shall cease and desist from practicing professional engineering in Minnesota until such time as he becomes licensed as a Professional Engineer in the State of Minnesota.

b. <u>Civil Penalty.</u> Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to the Board. Respondent shall submit a check for Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to the Board within sixty (60) days of the date of the Board Order approving this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order.

5. <u>Judicial Relief.</u> If the Respondent violates paragraph 4 above, a district court of this state may, upon application of the Committee, enter an Order enjoining Respondent from such unauthorized practices, ordering Respondent to show cause why the required civil penalty has not been paid, and granting the Board its costs, reasonable attorney fees, and other appropriate relief.

6. <u>Waiver of Respondent's Rights.</u> For the purpose of this Settlement Agreement, Respondent waives all procedures and proceedings before the Board to

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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 and to dispute the appropriateness of discipline in a contested case proceeding pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 14 (2016). Respondent agrees that upon the application of the Committee without notice to or an appearance by Respondent, the Board may issue an Order requiring the action specified in paragraph 4 herein. Respondent waives the right to any judicial review of this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order or the attached Board Order by appeal, writ or certiorari, or otherwise.

7. <u>Collection.</u> Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 16D.17 (2016), after ninety (90) days of the Board's approval of this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order, the Board may file and enforce any unpaid portion of the civil penalty imposed by this Order as a judgment against Respondent in district court without further notice or additional proceedings.

8. <u>Board Rejection of Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order.</u> In the event the Board in its discretion does not approve this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order, this Settlement Agreement shall be null and void and shall not be used for any purpose by either party hereto. If this Settlement Agreement is not approved and a contested case proceeding is initiated pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 14 (2016), Respondent agrees not to object to the Board's initiation of the proceeding and hearing the case on the basis that the Board has become disqualified due to its review and consideration of this Settlement Agreement and the record.

9. Record. The Settlement Agreement, 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 Settlement Agreement.

10. <u>Data Classification.</u> Under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order is classified as public data upon its issuance by the Board, Minnesota Statutes section 13.41, subdivision 5 (2016). 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 (2016). They shall not, to the extent they are not already public documents, become public merely because they are referenced herein. A summary of this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist 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. <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 Settlement Agreement and which is not directly related to the specific facts and circumstances set forth herein.

12. <u>Entire Agreement.</u> Respondent has read, understood, and agrees to this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order and is freely and voluntarily signing it. The Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order contains the entire agreement between the parties. 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 was represented by legal counsel.

14. <u>Service.</u> If approved by the Board, a copy of this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order shall be served personally or by first class mail on Respondent. The Settlement Agreement shall be effective and deemed issued when it is signed by the Chair of the Board.

RESPONDENT HAR MA Peter Lichomski

Dated: 8/8 . 2017

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me on this the \underline{SH} day of \underline{August} , 2017.

(Notary Public)

Susan M. Ruth State of Michigan County of Oaktand My Commission Expires:

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

Robin T. Mathews, LS Committee Chair

DATED: Aug. 17, 2017

ORDER

Upon consideration of the foregoing Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order and based upon all the files, records, and proceedings herein, all terms of the Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order are approved and adopted and hereby issued as an Order of this Board this the 17^{+11} day of \underline{Mgust} , 2017.

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

By: Dennis K. Wartergo

Dennis R. Martenson, PE Board Chair

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY MAIL

RE: Peter Lichomski; Unlicensed

STATE OF MINNESOTA)) ss. COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

Sara Datko, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That at the City of St. Paul, County of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, on this the day of <u>AUQUSL</u>, 2017, she served the attached Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist 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:

Jamie Abbgy, Esq. 49030 Pontiac Trail Suite 100 Wixom, Michigan 48393-2068

Datko

CERTIFED MAIL Return Receipt Requested 7016 1370 0001 0084 8987

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the $21^{5^{\frac{1}{5}}}$ day of Acase + , 2017.

__{Notary Public)

