STATE OF MINNESOTA

BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING, LAND SURVEYING, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE,

GEOSCIENCE AND INTERIOR DESIGN

In the Matter of

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

Matthew Leonard Ledvina
Professional Engineer No. 19794 (Retired)

Board File No. 2024-0034

**STIPULATION** 

Matthew Ledvina ("Respondent") and the Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering,

Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design's Complaint Committee

stipulate that, subject to Board's review and discretionary approval, the Board may issue a

consent order that imposes the following sanctions:

A. Respondent shall pay to the Board a civil penalty of \$4,000. Respondent shall

submit the civil penalty by check to the Board within 60 days of the Board's approval of this

Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order.

B. Respondent shall cease and desist from practicing as a Professional Engineer in

Minnesota until such time as he becomes licensed as a Professional Engineer in the State of

Minnesota.

C. Respondent shall either (1) officially retire his license with the Board before June

30, 2026, or (2) allow his license to expire on June 30, 2026. Respondent shall not seek renewal

or reinstatement.

D. Respondent shall comply with all statutes and rules within the Board's jurisdiction.

See Minn. Stat. §§ 326.02–.15 (2024) and Minn. R. chs. 1800 & 1805 (2023).

E. Respondent shall report in writing within ten days any and all violations of this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order to the Board's Executive Director.

Respondent and the Committee enter into this settlement agreement based on the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and other stipulated provisions:

## **Findings of Fact**

- 1. The Board issued Respondent a Professional Engineer license on May 30, 1989.
- 2. Respondent's Professional Engineer license expired on June 30, 2022.
- 3. The Board received notice from another State agency that the Respondent was using the PE designation in his email signature block despite not having a valid license on March 8, 2024.
- 4. Respondent renewed his license through Online Services on March 11, 2024, one year and eight months after its expiration.
- 5. During his lapse in Minnesota licensure from July 1, 2022, to March 11, 2024, Respondent held out and offer to practice professional engineering:
  - a. Respondent used the PE designation in his email signature block.
  - b. Respondent worked on three projects as a Professional Engineer with his employer, an engineering firm located in Minnesota.
  - c. Respondent submitted the invoices for the projects showing that he received monetary gain as a Professional Engineer.

- 6. The projects that Respondent worked on were for demolition landfills and solid waste permitting requirements.
- 7. Respondent provided false statements to the Board by answering "True" to the following certification statements on his online license renewal application received by the Board on March 11, 2024:
  - a. "I have not and will not represented [sic] myself as an architect, professional engineer, land surveyor, landscape architect, professional geologist, professional soil scientist, or certified interior designer without proper licensure or certification, either verbally or on any printed matter, in the State of Minnesota, nor will I do so until such time as my license or certificate has been issued/reinstated by the Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design;" and
  - b. "I have not performed or offered to perform any services reserved in statute to an individual who is properly licensed as an architect, professional engineer, land surveyor, landscape architect, professional geologist, or professional soil scientist in the State of Minnesota until my license has been issued by the Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design".
  - 8. Respondent was cooperative during the investigation.

9. Respondent has retired his Professional Engineer license effective July 8, 2025, per the stipulations listed in this order.

## **Conclusions of Law**

- 1. The Board has authority to license and regulate the practice of professional engineering and to take disciplinary action as appropriate. Minn. Stat. § 326.111 (2024).
  - 2. Respondent violated Minn. Stat. § 326.02, subds. 1 and 3 (2024).
- 3. Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 326.111 subds. 3 and 6.
  - 4. This Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order is in the public interest.

## **Other Stipulated Provisions**

- This Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order must be approved by the Board to become effective.
- 2. Respondent agrees that the Committee may move the Board *ex parte*, with or without advance notice to the Respondent, to approve this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order. Respondent understands that the Board may either approve the Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order or not approve it. This settlement agreement and the files, records, and proceedings associated with this matter may be reviewed by the Board in its consideration of the Committee's motion.
- 3. If approved by the Board, this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order shall be classified as public data. Minn. Stat. § 13.41, subd. 5 (2024). The Board will post a copy

of this order on its website. The Board will also send a summary to the national discipline data bank pertaining to the practice of professional engineering, if applicable.

- 4. If the Board does not approve this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order, then the matter remains unresolved and the Committee may either seek to negotiate a revised Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order with Respondent to present to the Board or issue an order commencing a contested-case hearing before an Administrative Law Judge at the Office of Administrative Hearings. *See* Minn. Stat. §§ 14.57–.62, 214.10, subd. 2 (2024) (describing administrative hearing process).
- 5. Respondent agrees that if this case comes before the Board again after it reviews and discusses this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order, Respondent waives any claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order and any records relating to it.
- 6. Respondent acknowledges that they were advised by the Committee of their right to a contested-case hearing in this matter before an Administrative Law Judge, to file exceptions and make argument to the Board after the hearing, and to seek judicial review from any adverse decision rendered by the Board. Respondent hereby expressly waives those rights. Respondent was further advised by the committee of their right to be represented by counsel and that they knowingly waive that right.
- 7. Respondent has read, understands, and agrees to this settlement agreement and has voluntarily signed it. It is expressly understood that this settlement agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise. If approved by the Board, a copy of the final Settlement Agreement and Cease and

Desist Order shall be served personally or by first class mail on Respondent. The Board's order shall be effective when it is signed by the Chair of the Board or the Chair's designee.

8. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16D.13 (2024), any civil penalty imposed by this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order shall begin to accrue simple interest in accordance with that section thirty days after the civil penalty is due. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16D.17 (2024), thirty days after any civil penalty imposed by this Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order is due, the Board may file and enforce any unpaid portion of the civil penalty as a judgment against Respondent in district court without further notice or additional proceedings.

STATE OF Minnesota

COUNTY OF Washington

This instrument was acknowledged before me on

8-7-25

by Matthew Ledvina.

atthew Leonard Ledvina, PE (Retired)

(stamp)



(Signature of notary officer)

My commission expires:  $\frac{\sqrt{31}}{2027}$ 

**COMPLAINT COMMITTEE** 

DANIEL HUNTER, PG

Chair

Dated: Kugust 13 , 202

## **CONSENT ORDER**

Upon consideration of this 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. Accordingly, the Board hereby ADOPTS the stipulation and issues the ORDER described above.

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

DESIGN

Dated: <u>8 - 13</u>, 2025

DANIEL KELSEY, PE

Board Chair