

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

In the Matter of

**STIPULATION AND
CONSENT ORDER**

Christopher Charles Hawley
Architect No. 50522

Board File No. 2023-0075
OAH No. 65-1006-40872

STIPULATION

Christopher Hawley ("Respondent") and the Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design's Complaint Committee stipulate that, subject to the Board's review and discretionary approval, the Board may issue a consent order that imposes the following sanctions:

A. Respondent's Architect license, No. 50522, is CENSURED and REPRIMANDED pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 326.111 (2024).

B. Respondent shall pay to the Board a civil penalty of \$2,500. Respondent shall submit the civil penalty by check to the Board within 60 days of the Board's approval of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

C. Respondent shall complete 2 professional development hours related to professional ethics, and provide proof of completion of the hours to the Board, within 60 days of the Board's approval of this stipulation and consent order. These professional development hours are not to count toward the continuing education hours required by statute and rule for license renewal.

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 stipulation and consent order to the Board's Executive Director.

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

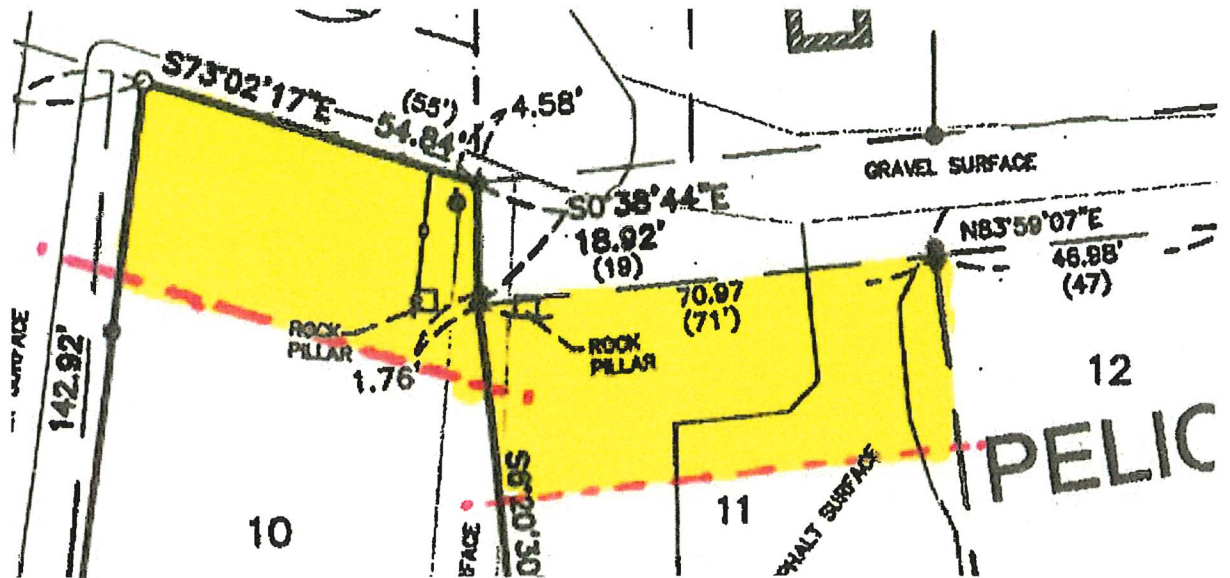
Findings of Fact

1. The Board issued Respondent an Architect license on January 22, 2013.
2. Respondent is a Principal for an architecture and construction firm based in North Dakota.
3. Respondent and his employer were hired on March 8, 2021, as the architect for a Minnesota-based renovation project (herein known as the "Project"). In addition, his employer was separately hired to serve as the construction manager for the Project.
4. As part of the Project, Respondent and his employer were asked by the client to relocate the client's driveway, which had a matched pair of stone pillars at the end connecting to the public right of way. Those pillars demarcated the end of the client's driveway, as shown below:



5. At the time Respondent was hired, he and his employer came into possession of a certificate of survey dated September 15, 2008, that showed one of the pillars was located squarely

on the client's property. It also showed that the other pillar was located partially on the county road right of way and partially on an adjacent property not owned by the client, but inside the county right of way setback, as shown below:



6. The pillar at issue in this case is depicted below:



7. Otter Tail County approved the plans showing removal of the pillars.

8. Pursuant to the client request to relocate the driveway and the approval of Otter Tail County, Respondent removed both pillars.

9. Respondent did not have written consent from the adjacent neighbor to remove the pillar that was partially located on the neighbor's property.

Conclusion of Law

1. The Board has authority to license and regulate Architects and to take disciplinary action as appropriate. Minn. Stat. ch. 326.111 (2024).

2. Respondent violated Minn. R. 1805.0200, subps. 1(A) and 4(D) and Minnesota Rule 1805.0650, subp. 1 (2023).

3. Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 326.111 subd. 4(a)(1) and (3) (2024).

4. This stipulation and consent order is in the public interest.

Other Stipulated Provisions

1. This stipulation and consent 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 stipulation and consent order. Respondent understands that the Board may either approve the stipulation and consent order or not approve it. This stipulation 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 stipulation and consent 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 architecture.

4. If the Board does not approve this stipulation and consent order, then the matter remains unresolved and the Committee may either seek to negotiate a revised stipulation and consent order with Respondent to present to the Board or proceed with 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).

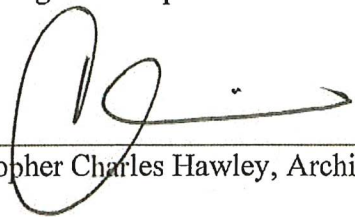
5. Respondent agrees that if this case comes before the Board again after it reviews and discusses this stipulation and consent order, Respondent waives any claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this stipulation and consent order and any records relating to it.

6. Respondent acknowledges that he was advised by the Committee of his 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 he is represented by counsel.

7. Respondent has read and understands this stipulation. Respondent does not agree with the Board's conclusion but wishes to voluntarily sign it in order to resolve this matter. It is expressly understood that this stipulation 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 stipulation and consent 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.

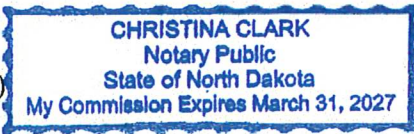
8. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16D.13 (2024), any civil penalty imposed by this stipulation and consent order shall begin to accrue simple interest in accordance with that section thirty days after the civil penalty is due. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16D.17 (2024), thirty days after any civil penalty imposed by this stipulation and consent 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.

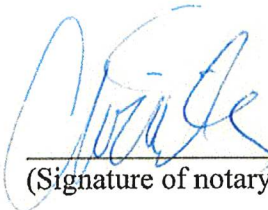


Christopher Charles Hawley, Architect

STATE OF ND
COUNTY OF Cass

This instrument was acknowledged before me on Sept 3, 2025 by Christopher Hawley.

(stamp) 



(Signature of notary officer)

My commission expires: See Stamp

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE



DANIEL HUNTER, PG
Chair

Dated: 10/10/2025, 2025

CONSENT ORDER

Upon consideration of this stipulation and consent order, and based upon all the files, records, and proceedings herein, all terms of the stipulation and consent 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: 11-5, 2025


DANIEL KELSEY, PE
Board Chair