

MINNESOTA BOARD OF

ARCHITECTURE = ENGINEERING = LAND SURVEYING
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE = GEOSCIENCE = INTERIOR DESIGN

Charles Marohn, Jr., PE 616 N 4th Street Brainerd, MN 56401 December 17, 2020 CONFIDENTIAL

RE: Charles L. Marohn Jr., Professional Engineer No. 40142

File No. 2020-0043

Dear Mr. Marohn:

The Committee has proposed a new Stipulation and Order, which the Committee believes represents a reasonable resolution of this matter. Enclosed for your review, please find the Committee's proposed Stipulation and Order.

Please review the Stipulation and Order and this letter and contact me with your response to the proposed Stipulation and Order. If the proposed Stipulation and Order is acceptable, please return the entire original document bearing your signature, to the Board office on or before **January 5, 2021**.

Should you choose not to sign the enclosed proposed Stipulation and Order, please let me know. If this is the case, you have requested a meeting with the Committee and the Committee is prepared to meet with you to further discuss this matter. This meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 10:00 am, at 81 East 7th Street, Suite 100, Saint Paul, MN 55101. The Committee will also meet in February, on a date to be determined, if January 14, 2021, does not work for your schedule.

Please note, the Committee may make an electronic record of the meeting and anything you say may be used as evidence against you by the Committee should the matter proceed to a contested-case proceeding. The Committee's attorney may also be present at the meeting.

Please be reminded that under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. ch. 13 (2018), information given to the Committee as part of an active investigation is classified as confidential. This information will be used by the Committee in evaluating the allegations made against you.

In accordance with the statutes, rules, and professional standards governing legal actions, information received at the conference may, in some circumstances, be disclosed to other persons or entities, including Board members and staff, the staff of the Attorney General, and

Charles Marohn, Jr. December 17, 2020 Page 2

persons whom they may contact. Should this matter proceed to a contested-case proceeding, information may be disclosed to the Office of Administrative Hearings, to any reviewing court, and could become public. Accordingly, please ensure you review the enclosed Tennessen Warning.

Due to COVID-19, protocol has changed for both employees and visitors to the Board. A copy of the health assessment and health assessment Tennessen notice has been enclosed.

You may send any documents that you believe will explain your position to Dillon Lang prior to the meeting. Please confirm your availability for the 14^{th} of January.

If you have any questions you may contact Dillon Lang, Investigator, at 651-757-1510, or the undersigned at 651-757-1517.

Sincerely,

Doreen Johnson

Executive Director

Enclosures:

Proposed Stipulation and Order

Tennessen Warning

COVID-19 Tennessen Notice COVID-19 Health Assessment

Directions to 81 East 7th Street, Suite 100

STATE OF MINNESOTA

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

AND INTERIOR DESIGN

In the matter of Charles L. Marohn, Jr. Professional Engineer Number 40142

STIPULATION AND ORDER Board File No. 2020-0043

TO: Charles L. Marohn, Jr.

616 W 4th Street

Brainerd, MN 56401

The Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design ("Board") is authorized pursuant to Minnesota Stat. §§ 214.10 and 326.111 (2018) 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 Charles L. Marohn ("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. <u>Jurisdiction.</u> Respondent was first issued a Professional Engineer license by the Board on February 8, 2000. Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board with respect to the matters referred to in this Stipulation.

- 2. <u>Facts.</u> This Stipulation is based upon the following facts:
 - On June 30, 2018, Respondent's Minnesota Professional Engineer license
 in the State of Minnesota expired.
 - b. On March 5, 2020, the Board received notice that the Respondent had been using the term Professional Engineer and the initials "P.E." or "PE" on his website, in publications, and in biographies for speaking engagements, during the June 30, 2018 to March 5, 2020 timeframe.
 - c. On June 17, 2020, Respondent renewed his license.
 - d. On his renewal forms, Respondent stated that he had not represented himself as a professional engineer without proper licensure, either verbally or on any printed matter in the State of Minnesota.
- 3. <u>Violations.</u> Respondent admits that the facts specified above constitutes practicing professional engineering by holding himself out as a professional engineer without a valid license in violation of Minn. Stat. § 326.02, subds. 1, 3 (2018), constitutes making an untruthful statement on his license-renewal application in violation of Minn. R. 1805.0200, subps. 1(B) and 2 (2019), and constitutes engaging in conduct involving dishonesty or misrepresentation by claiming to be a licensed professional engineer while his license was expired and making a false statement on his license-renewal application, in violation of Minn. R. 1805.0200, subp. 4 (2019). Respondent agrees these are sufficient grounds for the action specified below.
- 4. <u>Enforcement Action.</u> Respondent and the Committee agree that the Board should issue an Order in accordance with the following terms:
 - a. <u>Censure and Reprimand.</u> Respondent is censured and reprimanded.

- b. <u>Civil Penalty.</u> Respondent shall pay to the Board a civil penalty of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500). Respondent shall submit a civil penalty of \$1,500 by check to the Board within sixty (60) days of the Board's approval of this Stipulation and Order.
- c. Respondent shall complete two (2) ethics hours in addition to the regularly required ethics requirement under Minn. Stat. § 326.107 subd. 1 (c). These hours shall not count towards the hours required for Respondent's license renewal.
- 5. <u>Waiver of Respondent's Rights.</u> 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 Minn. Stat. ch. 14 (2018), 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. <u>Collection.</u> Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16D.17 (2016), ninety days after 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. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16D.13 (2018), ninety days after the Board's approval of this Stipulation and Order, interest will begin to accrue on the

penalty in accordance with that section.

- 7. <u>Board Rejection of Stipulation and Order.</u> 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 Minn. Stat. ch. 14 (2018), 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. <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 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.
- Data Classification. Upon issuance by the Board, this Stipulation and Order is classified as public data. Minn. Stat. §13.41, subd. 5 (2016). All other documents in the record shall maintain the data classification to which they are entitled under Minn. Stat. ch. 13 (2018). Documents shall not, become public merely because they are referenced herein. 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.

- 11. <u>Entire Agreement.</u> 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. <u>Counsel.</u> Respondent is aware that Respondent may choose to be represented by legal counsel in this matter. Respondent has either had the opportunity to consult with counsel or hereby knowingly waives legal representation.
- 13. <u>Service.</u> 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

| Charles L. Marohn, Jr., PE | |
|---|------------------------|
| Dated:, 20 | |
| SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me on this the day of, 2 | 20 |
| (Notary Public) | My Commission Expires: |

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

| | Dated: | , 20 |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Wayne Hilbert, AIA | | |
| Committee Chair | | |
| | ORDER | |
| Upon consideration of the for | egoing Stipulation and O | rder and based upon all the files, |
| records, and proceedings herein, all to | erms of the Stipulation a | nd Order are approved and |
| adopted and the enforcement action | therein is issued as an O | rder of this Board this the |
| day of, 20 | • | |
| | MINNESOTA BOA | RD OF |
| | ARCHITECTURE, E | NGINEERING, |
| | LAND SURVEYING | , LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, |
| | GEOSCIENCE AND | INTERIOR DESIGN |
| | Ву: | |
| | | S. Parsons, FAIA |
| | Board Cha | r |