Greetings! It is my honor and privilege to serve as the 2022-2023 President of the Arkansas Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors (PELS).

Being a member of the PELS Board has been a great experience. The PELS Director, Heather Richardson, and the staff support Arkansas’ licensed engineers and surveyors with professionalism and efficiency.

As the Director of the Arkansas Department of Transportation, I understand the importance of licensing engineers and surveyors. ARDOT is the largest employer of Civil Engineers in the State. In addition, we employ a large staff of surveyors that perform highway and bridge project surveys throughout the year. Along with our in-house efforts, we oversee a large number of consultants that work as an extension of ARDOT staff to provide these services.

The safety of those driving on our roads and bridges is ARDOT’s most important goal. Another important goal is the effective stewardship of public funds to provide the best infrastructure solutions at the lowest cost. Therefore, licensure is imperative for the continued protection of the health and safety of the public and for maintaining professional standards to ensure competency in the fields of engineering and surveying.

The personal advantage of having the PE and/or PS after your name is that it will open doors for you the rest of your life. It is an indicator of your competency and commitment to excellence. The Board remains committed to maintaining the integrity and credibility of the licensing process.

On April 11, 2019, Governor Hutchinson signed the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019 (Act 910). This 2000-plus page act was one of the cornerstones of the Governor’s efforts to streamline state operations and improve efficiencies with the goal of reducing the costs of state government and improving services to the citizens of Arkansas. The act reduced the number of cabinet-level agencies from 42 to 15. Over 200 boards and commissions were assigned to one of the cabinet-level agencies as an umbrella. This was the first major reform of state government organization since 1972 under then-Governor Dale Bumpers.

Act 910 created a new Department of Labor and Licensing (ADLL), which encompassed the former Department of Labor and the Workers’ Compensation Commission, as well as 22 occupational licensing boards and commissions. Among these occupational licensing boards was the State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors. I was both pleased and honored to have been appointed by Governor Hutchinson as the Secretary for the newly created Department. I am also very pleased with the cooperation and assistance of the Board from transformation through today, and am extremely proud of its professionalism, dedication, and commitment to serving its licensees and the State of Arkansas.

Under Act 910, the occupational licensing boards retained their licensing, regulatory, and enforcement authority. The State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors also retained its authority to hire a director, now done “in consultation with the Secretary.” I cannot emphasize enough how happy I am with the knowledge, experience, and leadership provided by the Board’s Director, Heather Richardson, and look forward to working with .................continued page 2.
Board Members

Lorie Tudor, PE  
President  
Engineer Member

Murry Cline, PE  
Vice President  
Engineer Member

David Beasley, PhD, PE  
Engineer Member

Brian Moore, PE  
Engineer Member

Ivan Hoffman, PS  
Surveyor Member

Rodney Williams, Ph.D.  
Engineer & Surveyor Member

Kyle Salyer, PE PS  
Engineer Member

Thomas Scott  
Consumer Member

Donald Perry  
Consumer Member

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Department of Labor and Licensing... continued from page 1

her for many years to come. I and my staff are committed to working with the Board and continuing to provide administrative support services, including payroll, benefit management, human resource operations, accounting, procurement, and similar services; coordination and communication with the Governor and General Assembly whenever needed or helpful to the Board and all other Department occupational licensing entities; and support staff with a level of expertise and experience to address any issue that may arise. Whether the issue relates to accounting, finances, information technology, compliance, human resources, or legal, legislative, or other matters, we are certainly stronger together than separately.

I would be remiss if I failed to mention the great work done by Director Richardson and her staff in implementing an electronic licensing platform and with their continuing outreach efforts. The Board, like the Department of Labor and Licensing, takes great pride in being an accessible resource for its partners and constituents. The Board can easily be reached by phone, e-mail, or 24/7 through its website - through which a response is generally provided within 24 hours.

As we approach the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly, the Board’s accessibility and willingness to communicate should not be overlooked. The Board and the Department will be closely reviewing and monitoring all legislative proposals for the purpose of advocating for good government, only positive changes, and the best interests of its trades and occupations, including professional engineers and surveyors. This is a collective effort. We invite information and opinions from interested parties, including whenever possible in the early stages of development when policy considerations can be identified and addressed. Please direct any such insights to the Board’s Director, who will be working closely with the Department’s Legislative Team, and be assured we will do our very best to serve you well in this capacity.

We greatly appreciate the support of the Board, its members, and licensees, in helping us meet the considerable challenges of the public health emergency and the transformation of so many important occupational licensing entities into a cohesive team. While we have made great strides, we are always mindful of the challenges that lie ahead and that we must continue to strive to be more efficient, accountable, and transparent to the citizens we serve.

Daryl E. Bassett is the former Director of the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services. He previously served as Director of Business and Commercial Services for the Arkansas Secretary of State. Prior to that service, he was a Commissioner with the Arkansas Public Service Commission for nine years and Chief Economic Development Advisor to former Governor Mike Huckabee.

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REPORT ON DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

October 2021 – September 2022

By Grant Grigg

Case Number 2020-03 In the Matter of Gilbert Collins v Justin Hall PE 11050

Complaint: Alleged that Hall was practicing as a structural engineer when not qualified to do so.

Resolution: The Board’s 2021 Revocation Order was appealed to Pulaski County Circuit Court 60CV-21-4348. The judge ordered the Board’s revocation of Justin Hall’s PE license and Hall Engineering, LTD’s Certificate of Authorization be overturned and remanded back to the Board to determine the engineering restrictions on Justin Hall’s PE license. The Board conducted a Hearing on June 28, 2022 and issued the Amended Order. The Amended Order requires Hall to complete an 8-hour engineering ethics course within six months of the date of the order and imposed a fine of $2,000. The Amended Order requires Hall to complete a master’s program in Civil Engineering/Structural Engineering and pass the NCEES Professional Engineer Structural Exam before being able to represent himself as a Structural Engineer and the Amended Order requires Hall to pass the NCEES Professional Engineer Civil Engineer Exam with a Structural Emphasis before providing structural inspection, analysis, or forensic analysis. The Amended Order requires Hall to shut down all websites that claim he and/or his company to be a Structural Engineer or offer structural engineering services.
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<td>Lavern Mayes</td>
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CONGRATULATIONS LICENSEES!
New licenses issued October 22, 2021 – October 31, 2022
Licensure Report
As of October 2022

Between October 2021 and October 2022, we issued 1,010 licenses - 122 Engineer Intern, 864 Professional Engineer, 18 Surveyor Intern, and 6 Professional Surveyor.

We have a grand total of 14,591 active Licensees! Number of licensees by type:

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<th>Professional Engineers (PE)</th>
<th>10,228</th>
<th>Engineer Interns (EI)</th>
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<td>Professional Surveyors (PS)</td>
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<td>Surveyor Interns (SI)</td>
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<td>Dual PE and PS</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>Certificates of Authorization</td>
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NCEES National Council of Examination for Engineers and Surveyors

News and Updates

Exams-NCEES develops and scores the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE), Principles and Practice of Engineering (PPE), Fundamentals of Surveying (FS), and Principles and Practice of Surveying (PPS) national exams. Majority of the exams are administered in computer-based testing (CBT) format at universities and Pearson VUE tests centers in every state and some international jurisdictions. The only remaining paper-in-pencil exam is the 16-hour Structural Engineering (SE) exam.

CBT administration of all survey exams and most engineering exams is year-round. The four (4) testing windows offered year-around are as follows:

- January – March
- April – June
- July - September
- October – December

NCEES Credentials Evaluation-The NCEES Credentials Evaluation determines if a licensure applicant’s college degree program is comparable to the EAC/ABET accredited engineering programs by meeting the NCEES Engineering Education Standard. In Arkansas, one way to prove that your educational program meets the requirement and is equivalent to an EAC/ABET program is a NCEES Credentials evaluation.

NCEES Records program-This program is designed for currently licensed engineers and surveyors who are looking for an easier and faster way to complete the licensure process in multiple jurisdictions. An established NCEES Record will include college transcripts, exam results, employment verifications, and professional references. Arkansas accepts the NCEES Record.

If you have any questions or comments about exams, evaluations and/or programs available for applicants, please contact NCEES directly through their website NCEES.org, online at MyNCEES, or call 1-800-250-3196.
2022
Nov  1  Even E.I., P.E., and C.O.A licensure renewal OPENS
    8  Complaint Committee & Board Meetings
    11  Veterans day – State offices closed
    25-26  Thanksgiving – State offices closed
Dec  24  Christmas Eve (Observed 12/23) – State Offices Closed
    25  Christmas Day (Observed 12/26) – State Offices Closed
    31  Even E.I., P.E., and C.O.A licensure renewal DEADLINE
2023
   Jan  1  New Year’s Day (Observed 01/02) – State Offices Closed
    10  Board Meeting
    16  Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday – State Offices Closed
   Feb  20  George Washington’s Birthday & Daisy Gatson Bates Day – State Offices Closed
   Mar  14  Board Meeting
    May  1  Even S.I. and P.S. licensure renewal OPENS
    9  Board Meeting
    29  State Offices Closed – Memorial Day
   June 30  Even S.I. and P.S. licensure renewal DEADLINE
   July  4  Independence Day – State Offices Closed
    11  Board Meeting
   Aug  1  Odd DUAL licensure renewal OPENS
   Sept  4  Labor Day – State Offices Closed
    12  Board meeting
    30  Even DUAL licensure renewal DEADLINE

STATE BOARD OF LICENSURE
FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
AND PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS
PO BOX 3750
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203