BEFORE THE BOARD OF ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND LICENSING

DIVISION OF LABOR

IN RE:

Ronnie Evatt DBA Evatt Electric

189 Hwy 107

Vilonia, AR 72173

Case # JB05232023D

ORDER

On this 19th day of September 2023, this matter came before the Board of Electrical Examiners of the Department of Labor and Licensing of the State of Arkansas (the "Board"). Miles Morgan, Associate Counsel, Department of Labor and Licensing, represented the Board. Ronnie Evatt ("Evatt") was properly notified and appeared before the Board on behalf of Evatt Electric for the hearing. Based on the testimony and other evidence, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On May 23, 2023, Board Inspector, Joshua Baldwin ("Baldwin"), performed electrical license checks at a new construction site in Saline County, Arkansas.
- 2. Baldwin testified that he made contact with Grant Moody, Garrett Brady, and Harvey Brady who had been engaging in electrical work at the jobsite.
- 3. Grant Moody provided Baldwin his apprentice license (EA-23387) which had been expired since May 31, 2021.
- 4. Garrett Brady provided Baldwin his apprentice license (EA-26025) which had been expired since August 31, 2022.
- 5. Baldwin made contact with Harvey Brady and discovered that he had passed his journeyman exam but failed to complete the registration online to obtain the journeyman license.

Harvey Brady had been performing electrical work for 21 months without the journeyman license.

- 6. Code Enforcement Coordinator Supervisor, Samantha Martinez ("Martinez"), testified that staff issued a penalty of \$150 for each month that Evatt Electric employed electricians with either an expired license or no license for a total period of 54 months.
- 7. Martinez testified that the individual electricians were also issued a penalty of \$50 per month.
- 8. Evatt testified that since this incident, his staff has compiled a list of all employees and their dates for renewing their electrical licenses.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. No person shall perform electrical work in this state or display or use any title, sign, card, advertisement, or other device to indicate that the person performs electrical work or is an electrician unless the person has first obtained a license to perform electrical work pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, or the individual is exempted from licensing pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. Arkansas Code § 17-28-304.
- 2. Arkansas Code § 17-28-309(b)(1) provides that "[a] civil penalty may be assessed against any person, firm, or corporation by the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards and Commissions and subject to appeal and hearing before the Board of Electrical Examiners of the State of Arkansas according to the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., if it is determined that the person, firm, or corporation has violated any:
 - (A) Provision of this chapter:
 - (B) Provision in the Arkansas Electrical Code Authority Act, § 20-31-101 et seq.;
 - (C) Rule or order issued by the board; or
 - (D) Condition of a license, certificate, or registration issued by the board."
- 3. For each violation, the penalty shall not exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for a first offense. Arkansas Code § 17-28-309(b)(2)(A).
- 4. The Board votes to lower the penalty for each violation from \$150 per month to \$50 per month for a total penalty in the amount of \$2,700 against Evatt Electric.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Evatt Electric is assessed a civil money penalty in the amount of \$2,700.

BOARD OF ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

Richard Ledbetter, Vice-Chair

Date

Approved by:

/s/ Miles Morgan

Miles Morgan, 2017049 Associate Counsel Arkansas Department of Labor and Licensing 900 West Capitol Ave Suite 400 Little Rock, AR 72201