

**BEFORE THE HVACR LICENSING BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND LICENSING
STATE OF ARKANSAS**

IN RE: SYDNEY OWENS – **WAIVER REQUEST**

ORDER

This matter came before the HVACR Licensing Board (the “Board”) on Wednesday November 8, 2023. The petitioner, Sydney Owens (“Owens”), seeks approval to obtain an HVACR registrant license which he is currently ineligible due to a prior felony conviction. The Board has authority to waive disqualification of a license based on a criminal conviction if the Board decides that the applicant meets requirements listed in the Ark. Code Annotated § 17-3-102(b)(2). Owens appeared before the Board for the hearing.

FINDING OF FACT:

1. Owens is requesting approval from the Board to obtain a registrant license. Due to his prior felony conviction from August 2021, he is currently ineligible to obtain the license.
2. Owens appeared before the Board via Zoom for the hearing and answered questions from the Board’s counsel.
3. Staff reviewed documents provided by Owens and recommended approval to the Board.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:


1. The Board has authority to waive disqualification of a registrant license based on a criminal conviction pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 17-3-102(b)(1).
2. A basis upon which a waiver may be granted includes without limitation:

- a. The age at which the offense was committed;
 - b. The circumstances surrounding the offense;
 - c. The length of time since the offense was committed;
 - d. Subsequent work history since the offense was committed;
 - e. Employment references since the offense was committed;
 - f. Character references since the offense was committed;
 - g. Relevance of the offense to the occupational license; and
 - h. Other evidence demonstrating that licensure of the applicant does not pose a threat to the health and safety of the public. Ark. Code Ann. § 17-3-102(b)(2).
3. In the present case, the Board was informed of the nature of the criminal conviction and the facts surrounding the conviction.
 4. The Board reviewed staff recommendation to affirm a motion to approve Owens's waiver request.

THEREFORE, the Board grants Sydney Owens's waiver request for an HVACR registrant license.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

HVAC/R BOARD



Alan Dean, Chairman

11-20-2023
Date

Approved by:

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