

**BEFORE THE STATE OF MARYLAND BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL  
ENGINEERS**

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**Case No.: 16-PE-22**

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v.

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**BRADFORD DAVIES  
BAY CONTRACTING LLC D/B/A  
FINISHED TOUCH**

*Respondent.*

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**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER**

This matter arises from a complaint filed on or about April 5, 2022 by Jake Doub, Building Official, Town of Ocean City (“Town”) with the Maryland Board for Professional Engineers (“Board”) against Bradford Davies (“Respondent”) owner of Bay Contracting, LLC doing business as Finished Touch, and an investigation by the Board. Based on the complaint and investigation the Board determined Respondent violated the Maryland Professional Engineers Act (“Act”), Md. Code Ann., Bus. Occ. & Prof. (“BOP”), §§ 14-101, *et seq.* warranting administrative charges. To resolve this matter without a formal administrative hearing, the Board and the Respondent (collectively “Parties”) enter this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order (“Consent Order”) to provide for the imposition of disciplinary measures which are fair and equitable in these circumstances and which are consistent with the best interest of the people of the State of Maryland. The Parties hereby agree and stipulate as follows:

1. At all relevant times, the Board has had jurisdiction over the subject matter and the Respondent.
2. The Maryland Home Improvement Commission licenses the Respondent as a home improvement contractor, license registration number 01-101510/05-136532. The Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General’s New Home Builder’s Unit has registered the Respondent as a new home builder, registration number 8591. The Town issued the Respondent a business license number 18-40711 and 21-40711. However, the Board has never licensed the Respondent in any capacity.
3. On or about April 5, 2022, the Board received a complaint from Town building official Jake Doub against the Respondent.
4. The complaint alleged that the Respondent submitted building permit application 21-2047 to the Town for a project at 419 Yawl Drive in Ocean City, Maryland (“Yawl Drive project”) on or about October 13, 2021 along with a drawing titled “3-Season Room” purportedly signed and sealed by Harry B. How, III, P.E. of Mad Design Group, Inc. (“Mr. How”).

5. The complaint alleged that on or about January 1, 2022, the Town completed its review and approval process and emailed the approved plans and building permit to the Respondent.

6. The complaint alleged that on or about March 16, 2022, Gail Blazer with the Town's Engineering Department ("Ms. Blazer"), requested new construction plans for the Yawl Drive project (permit application 22-0406) from Mr. How, the engineer of record, because the Respondent submitted scanned illegible digital plans. In response, Mr. How notified Ms. Blazer he did not have a project at Yawl Drive and he requested a copy of the permit application, which Ms. Blazer provided.

7. The complaint alleged that after Mr. How reviewed the permit application for the Yawl Drive project, Mr. How notified the Town that the Respondent submitted drawings Mr. How prepared for a previous project at 130 Nautical Lane, Ocean City, Maryland ("Nautical Lane project"), on which the Respondent had "whited-out" the Nautical Lane address and Mr. How's project/job number. Mr. How further notified the Town that Mr. How never authorized the Respondent to use the drawings he prepared for the Nautical Lane project drawings to obtain a building permit for the Yawl Drive project.

8. The Town held a hearing on April 6, 2022 to determine whether the Town should revoke the Respondent's Town of Ocean City business license based upon the Respondent's unauthorized use of and alteration of a copyrighted drawing sealed by a professional engineer to obtain a building permit. Following the hearing, the Town found:

- a. The Respondent applied for and the Town issued a building permit to install a deck and cameo room at 419 Yawl Drive.
- b. The Respondent included with the permit application a drawing containing a copyright notice titled "3-Season Room" with the seal and signature of professional engineer Harry B. How, III, P.E.
- c. The Respondent admitted the Respondent used the drawing without Mr. How's permission, that Mr. How prepared the drawing for another project and permit application (the Nautical Drive project), and the Respondent "whited out" the address of the previous project.
- d. The drawing constitutes a critical component of a building application permit; the Town would not have issued the building permit without the information contained in the drawing. The building code requires drawings to be prepared and sealed by a professional engineer.
- e. When submitting the building application, the Respondent attested that the information is true and accurate. However, the drawing included with the building permit application was neither true nor accurate because the Respondent altered a drawing created for another project and used the drawing to obtain a building permit without Mr. How's permission.
- f. Nowhere on the application or drawing did the Respondent note that the Respondent used the drawing "as an example of attachment methods."
- g. The Respondent offered to pay Mr. How \$300, which is what the Respondent paid for the Nautical Drive project drawing.

9. The Town found your actions warranted a 30-day suspension of the Respondent's business license but recognizing the hardship a suspension would cause, instead levied a \$1000 fine in lieu of suspension.

10. In response to the Town's complaint filed with the Board, the Respondent provided the Town's "Notice of Action" described in paragraphs 8 and 9 above, and stated the Respondent submitted the drawing "for the sole purpose of showing like attachment methods" because the project is "to attach a manufactured products from Silver Top to a modular home" and it is the Respondent's "interpretation of city codes that if the modular home was on a foundation an engineered drawing was not needed, only if the modular home was sitting on blocks and still had the axels attached." The Respondent further stated, "Finished Touch has done over 100 of these sunrooms and awnings in Ocean City of the past 20 years and has never needed an engineered drawing to acquire a permit for these projects. In submitting the said project for permit I asked Kathy verbally, the project supervisor if I could submit a drawing that showing like attachment methods and was told to send it in with the permit pack. I sent the permit application in with drawings with the attachment method drawing and was issued the permit. After receiving the permit, the home owner wanted to add 10" to the deck. I submitted for a new permit, and was put on hold by the city until I had another engineer create a new drawing for the project."

11. Based on the above described facts, the Respondent acknowledges and admits that his actions violated BOP §§ 14-503 and 14-504, which provide:

**14-503. Using license of another; impersonating professional engineer.**

A person may not:

- (1) Use or attempt to use the license of another individual; or
- (2) Impersonate another individual who holds a license.

**14-504. Endorsement of documents.**

- (a) Unauthorized persons. – Other than a professional engineer who obtains a seal as authorized under this title, a person may not use or attempt to use a seal.

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12. To resolve this matter, the Respondent agrees and consents to the Board entering an Order requiring that:

- a. The Respondent immediately pay by certified check, cashier's check, or money order made payable to the "Maryland Board for Professional Engineers," a ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR (\$1,000) civil monetary penalty to the Board; and
- b. The Respondent refrain from using or attempting to use the license of another individual and refrain using or attempting to use a professional engineer's seal.

13. The Respondent acknowledges and agrees that in all future relevant activities he will abide by the provisions of the Act and applicable regulations.

14. The Respondent acknowledges and agrees that this Consent Order shall constitute a Final Order of the Board and shall be enforceable as such.

15. By entering this Consent Order the Respondent expressly waives the right to have the charges reduced to writing, to an administrative hearing before the Board or its designee on any charges, to the making of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, to any and all other proceedings before the Board or its designee on this matter, and to any rights to appeal from this Consent Order to any court of competent jurisdiction.

16. The Respondent acknowledges and agrees that he is entering into this Consent Order freely, knowingly, and voluntarily and after having had the opportunity to seek advice of counsel.

17. The Parties acknowledge and agree that this Consent Order serves as the final resolution of Complaint No. 16-PE-22, serves as the Final Order in this matter, and that the Board's records and publications will reflect the terms of the Consent Order.

**BASED ON THESE STIPULATIONS AND AGREEMENTS, IT IS THIS 4 DAY OF MAY, 2023 BY THE STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS HEREBY:**

**ORDERED** that the Respondent violated BOP §§ 14-503 and 14-504; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent, shall immediately pay by certified check, cashier's check, or money order made payable to the "Maryland Board for Professional Engineers" a ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR (\$1,000) civil monetary penalty to the Board; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Respondent shall refrain from using or attempting to use the license of another individual and will not use or attempt to use a professional engineer's seal; and it is further

**ORDERED** that unless otherwise specified in this Consent Order, each provision herein shall remain in effect and enforceable as herein agreed unless the Board in writing stays, modifies, terminates, or suspends it; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this document shall constitute a Final Order of the Board, and the Board may consider this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order and the facts set forth herein in connection with, and in deciding, any subsequent action or proceeding before the Board, and that this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order may, if relevant, be admitted into evidence in any matter before the Board, its designee, and/or any court; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Board's records and publications shall reflect that the Respondent and the Board resolved this matter through this Settlement Agreement and Consent Order.

STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL  
ENGINEERS

By:   
Chairperson

AGREED: 5/4/2025  
Date

  
Bradford Davics, Respondent