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JUN 06 2011

By LAPELS Enforcement

LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING  
AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD  
9643 BROOKLINE AVENUE, SUITE 121  
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1443  
(225) 925-6291

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	CASE NO.: 2010-57
	)	
HILL LEWIS WRENN, LLC	)	
	)	
RESPONDENT	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	

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CONSENT ORDER

The Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board [hereinafter the "Board"], by and through its Executive Director, pursuant to authorization by the Board, and Hill Lewis Wrenn, LLC (the successor by merger of HillLewis-Wrenn, LLP into Hill Lewis Wrenn, LLC) [hereinafter "Respondent"], by and through its duly authorized undersigned representative, hereby agree to the following:

At all times material hereto, Respondent was not licensed in the State of Louisiana as a professional engineering firm, and therefore it was not authorized to practice and/or offer to practice engineering in the State of Louisiana.

An investigation was opened based upon the Board's receipt of information and documents which suggested that Respondent may have engaged in the unlicensed practice of and/or offering to practice engineering in Louisiana. The investigation disclosed that in 2009 Respondent prepared and submitted to the Plaquemines Parish Government design plans for the construction of proposed recreational areas in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana entitled

*"Construction Plans for Perez Recreational Area"*. Respondent identified itself on the plans as the "consulting engineer" for the project.

La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A)(1) and (7) prohibit the practicing of and/or offering to practice engineering and the use of the word "engineer" or any modification or derivative thereof in a person's name or form of business or activity in Louisiana without proper licensure.

La. R.S. 37:700(H) permits the Board to take enforcement action against persons who violate La. R.S. 37:681 and La. R.S. 37:700(A)(1) and (7), upon a finding of guilt following the preferral of charges, notice and hearing and a majority vote of its entire membership authorized to participate in the proceeding. La. R.S. 37:681, 37:700(A)(1) and (7) and 37:700(H) were in effect at all times material hereto.

It is undisputed that at all times material hereto Respondent was not licensed to practice and/or offer to practice engineering in Louisiana and that during this time Respondent used the words "consulting engineer" in identifying itself in Louisiana without proper licensure.

By letter dated November 18, 2010, the Board gave notice to Respondent that it was considering the preferral of charges against Respondent on the grounds that it may have violated La. R.S. 37:681 and La. R.S. 37:700(A)(1) and (7), relative to practicing and/or offering to practice engineering and using the word "engineer" or any modification or derivative thereof in a person's name or form of business or activity in Louisiana without proper licensure.

Wishing to dispense with the need for further enforcement action and to conclude the instant proceeding without further delay and expense, for the purpose of this proceeding only, Respondent and the Board do hereby enter into this Consent Order, in which Respondent of its own free will consents to the issuance of a Consent Order by the Board, wherein Respondent

agrees to (a) pay a fine of one thousand five hundred (\$1,500.00) dollars, (b) pay administrative costs of seven hundred thirteen and 23/100 (\$713.23) dollars, (c) immediately cease and desist the practicing and/or offering to practice engineering and the use of the word "engineer" or any modification or derivative thereof in identifying itself in Louisiana until such time as it is duly licensed by the Board, and (d) the publication of a summary of this matter in the Board's official journal, the Louisiana Engineer and Surveyor Journal, identifying Respondent by name.

Respondent admits to violations of the referenced laws and/or rules regarding the use of the word "engineer" or any modification or derivative thereof in a person's name or form of business or activity in Louisiana without proper licensure. Respondent acknowledges awareness of said laws and/or rules and states that it will comply with all applicable laws and rules henceforth. Respondent has been advised of its right to be represented by counsel before the Board and/or to appear at any hearing personally or by counsel and present witnesses and evidence in its own behalf, and it hereby waives this right and its right to appeal; and it states affirmatively that it has been afforded all administrative remedies due it under the law.

Therefore, in consideration of the foregoing and by its signing this Consent Order, Respondent does hereby waive its right to a hearing before the Board, to the presenting of evidence and witnesses in its behalf, to Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this case, and to judicial review of this Consent Order.

Respondent hereby represents (a) that it fully understands the meaning and intent of this Consent Order, including but not limited to its final and binding effect, (b) that it has voluntarily entered into this Consent Order and that no other promise or agreement of any kind has been made to or with it by any person whatsoever to cause the execution of this instrument and (c)

that the sanctions set forth in this Consent Order do not prevent the Board from taking further disciplinary or enforcement action against Respondent on matters not specifically addressed in this Consent Order.

WHEREFORE, the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board and Respondent agree that:

1. Respondent shall pay a fine of one thousand five hundred (\$1,500.00) dollars, which shall be tendered to the Board by certified check payable to the Board, due upon the signing of this Consent Order; and
2. Respondent shall pay administrative costs of seven hundred thirteen and 23/100 (\$713.23) dollars, which shall be tendered to the Board by certified check payable to the Board, due upon the signing of this Consent Order; and
3. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist the practicing and/or offering to practice engineering and the use of the word "engineer" or any modification or derivative thereof in identifying itself in Louisiana until such time as it is duly licensed by the Board; and
4. This Consent Order shall be published on the Board's website and a summary of this matter shall be printed in the official journal of the Board, the Louisiana Engineer and Surveyor Journal, identifying Respondent by name; and
5. This Consent Order shall not become effective unless and until it is accepted and signed by and on behalf of the Board. Should the Board not accept and sign this Consent Order, it is agreed that presentation of this matter to the Board shall not prejudice the Board or any of its members from further participation, consideration or resolution of any further proceedings herein.

LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING  
AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD

DATED 7/25/11

BY: Donna D. Sentell  
DONNA D. SENTELL, Executive Director

HILL LEWIS WRENN, LLC, Respondent

DATED \_\_\_\_\_

BY: John M. Lewis  
Print Name: John M. Lewis  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Witnesses to the signature of  
Hill Lewis Wrenn, LLC

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to form: .

Matthew D. Miller

Matthew D. Miller  
Copeland, Cook, Taylor & Bush  
110 Sheffield Loop  
Hattiesburg, MS 39402  
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Attorneys for Hill Lewis Wrenn, LLC