LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD 8550 UNITED PLAZA BLVD., SUITE 903 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-2296 (225) 925-6291

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IN THE MATTER OF:

ZEYN B. UZMAN, P.E.

RESPONDENT

CASE NO. 2024-57

Received MAR 1 4 2025

By LAPELS Enforcement

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 Zeyn B. Uzman, P.E. [hereinafter "Respondent"] hereby agree to the following:

At all times material hereto, Respondent was licensed in the State of Louisiana as a professional engineer, number PE-33418.

An investigation was opened based upon the Board's receipt of information and/or documents which suggested that Respondent may have committed violations of the Board's laws and/or rules. The investigation disclosed the following:

a. In April 2022 the Florida Board of Professional Engineers [hereinafter "Florida Board"] took disciplinary action against Respondent for negligence in the practice of engineering and failing to comply with sealing/signing rules. In a Final Order Adopting Settlement Stipulation dated April 21, 2022 in connection with Case No. 2020002589, the Florida Board ordered Respondent to pay an administrative fine of \$2,000 and costs of \$2,634, issued him a reprimand, placed him on probation for two (2) years, required him to successfully complete a professionalism and ethics course and a study guide, and required him to submit a list of completed projects during the probation period.

b. In October 2022 the Ohio State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors [hereinafter "Ohio Board"] took disciplinary action against Respondent for falsifying two licensure renewal applications by failing to report the voluntary surrender of his license in Kentucky. In a Settlement Agreement dated October 11, 2022 in connection with Case No. 22-139, Respondent voluntarily surrendered his license as if revoked. c. In February 2023 the Oklahoma State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors [hereinafter "Oklahoma Board"] took disciplinary action against Respondent for aiding and assisting his firm in practicing and/or offer to practice engineering without a certificate of authorization. In a Consent Order dated February 23, 2023 in connection with Case No. 2022-073, the Oklahoma Board issued Respondent a reprimand.

d. In April 2023 the Missouri Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors and Professional Landscape Architects [hereinafter "Missouri Board"] took disciplinary action against Respondent for falsely stating on multiple licensure renewal applications that he had not been subject to disciplinary action by several other jurisdictions. In a Settlement Agreement dated April 12, 2023 in connection with Case 2022-004002, the Missouri Board placed Respondent on probation for two (2) years and required him to submit lists of engineering projects during the probation period.

e. In July 2023 the Council of the Delaware Association of Professional Engineers [hereinafter "Delaware Board"] took disciplinary action against Respondent for (i) fraud or deceit by failing to disclose on multiple licensure renewal applications that he had been subject to disciplinary action by several other jurisdictions, (ii) acts that amounted to gross negligence, incompetence or misconduct which resulted in disciplinary action by at least two other jurisdictions and (iii) failing to timely report disciplinary actions by several other jurisdictions. In a Consent Order dated July 5, 2023 in connection with Case 22-024, Respondent permanently voluntarily surrendered his license.

f. In July 2023 the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors [hereinafter "Alabama Board"] took disciplinary action against Respondent for failing to notify the Alabama Board of disciplinary actions taken against him by several other jurisdictions. In a Final Order dated July 18, 2023 in connection with Case No. 2023-11, Respondent voluntarily surrendered his license as if revoked.

g. In November 2023 the West Virginia State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers [hereinafter "West Virginia Board"] took disciplinary action against Respondent for providing misinformation in a licensure renewal application. In a Consent Order dated November 15, 2023 in connection with Case No. C2024-04, the West Virginia Board ordered Respondent to pay a civil penalty of \$500.

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The investigation also disclosed that on or about February 17, 2024 Respondent submitted to the Board his 2024 Louisiana professional engineer license renewal application, confirming thereon that (a) he had not had a license, permit or certificate to practice engineering revoked or suspended or otherwise been the subject of a disciplinary or enforcement action by the engineering licensing authority in another jurisdiction within the previous 36 months, (b) all information provided in his renewal application was true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief and (c) an omission or untrue response may constitute fraud, deceit, material misstatement, perjury or the giving of false or forged evidence under La. R.S. 37:698 and 37:700.

La. R.S. 37:698(A)(1) prohibits licensees from committing any fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a renewal license with the Board. La. R.S. 37:698(H) permits the Board to take disciplinary action against persons who violate La. R.S. 37:698(A)(1), 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. 37:698(A)(1) and La. R.S. 37:698(H) were in effect at all times material hereto.

It is undisputed that (a) at all times material hereto Respondent was licensed in Louisiana as a professional engineer, (b) between April 2022 and November 2023 Respondent was the subject of disciplinary actions by the engineering licensing authorities in seven (7) other jurisdictions and (c) in February 2024 Respondent falsely stated on his 2024 Louisiana professional engineer license renewal application that he had not been the subject of a disciplinary or enforcement action by the engineering licensing authority in another jurisdiction within the previous 36 months.

By letter dated February 13, 2025, the Board gave notice to Respondent that it was considering the preferral of charges against Respondent on the grounds that Respondent may have violated La. R.S. 37:698(A)(1), relative to fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a renewal license with the Board.

Wishing to dispense with the need for further disciplinary 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 his

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own free will consents to the issuance of a Consent Order by the Board, wherein Respondent agrees to (a) the revocation of his Louisiana professional engineer license, number PE-33418, (b) immediately cease and desist practicing and offering to practice engineering in Louisiana, (c) surrender his Louisiana certificate of professional engineer licensure and professional engineer seal to the Board, (d) not request the reissuance of his revoked Louisiana professional engineer license for at least three (3) years and (e) the publication of this Consent Order on the Board's website and a summary of this matter in the Board's official journal, the *Louisiana Engineer and Surveyor Journal*, and the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), identifying Respondent by name.

Respondent admits that his conduct as set forth above constitutes violations of the above referenced laws and/or rules as stated herein. Respondent acknowledges awareness of said laws and/or rules and states that he will comply with all applicable laws and rules henceforth. Respondent has been advised of his right to an informal conference, 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 his own behalf, he hereby waives this right and his right to appeal, and he states affirmatively that he has been afforded all administrative remedies due him under the law. Respondent further acknowledges awareness of the fact that the signed original of this Consent Order will remain in the custody of the Board as a public record and will be made available for public inspection and copying upon request.

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

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

Respondent's Louisiana professional engineer license, number PE-33418, is 1. hereby revoked; and

Respondent shall immediately cease and desist practicing and offering to practice 2. engineering in the State of Louisiana; and

Respondent shall surrender his Louisiana certificate of professional engineer 3 licensure and professional engineer seal to the Board within ten (10) days of the effective date of this Consent Order; and

4. Respondent shall not request the reissuance of his revoked Louisiana professional engineer license for at least three (3) years after the effective date of this Consent Order; and

5. 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, and reported to the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), identifying Respondent by name; and

6. 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, staff, attorneys or representatives from further participation, consideration, or resolution of any further proceedings herein.

DATE: <u>June 16, 2025</u> DATE: <u>3/3/25</u>

BY: Donna Alenter

AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD

LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING

DONNA D. SENTELL, Executive Director

ZEYN B. UZMAN, P.E., Respondent

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Witnesses to the signature of Zeyn B. Uzman, P.E.

*

Kynne D. Frederick Print Name: Lynne D. Frederick

HUGO M SCAM FTT Print Name: HUGO M SCHMILTT