

The Board of Licensure Report
July 2026
Kyle Elliott, PLS, Executive Director

New Board members

The deans from the engineering colleges at the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville are automatically ex-officio members of the Board of Licensure. Both colleges have recently appointed interim deans as follows:

University of Louisville, J.B. Speed School of Engineering: Kevin Walsh, PhD.

University of Kentucky, Stanley and Karen Pigman College of Engineering: Michael Renfro, PhD.

Expired Licenses

Licensees with a surname beginning with L through Z were scheduled to renew their individual license(s) by June 30, 2026. Email renewal notices were sent out in April and May and paper renewal notices were mailed in May to those that had not renewed. If you were scheduled for renewal and did not renew your license, it is now expired, and by Kentucky statute, you are prohibited from offering or providing professional services in Kentucky.

Licenses that have expired may be renewed, with late penalty, for up to one year after the expiration. Individuals whose license has been expired for more than one year must apply for reinstatement to return the license to a “current” status. If you are unsure of your license status, please check the Board’s online searchable roster here: <https://elsweb.kyboels.ky.gov/kweb/Searchable-Roster>.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Audits

Audits for continuing professional development (CPD) compliance for those licensees whose surname begins with L-Z will begin in early September. Four percent of licensees who renew prior to September 1 will be selected for a random audit of CPD compliance. All licensees who renew their license after September 1 are subject to an automatic audit of CPD compliance due to late renewal.

If you are selected for audit, you are obligated to respond to the audit notice within thirty days by providing documentation of your CPD activities for the 2024/2025 (January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025) reporting period.

Administrative Regulation Revisions

The Board is currently in the process of updating and revising two administrative regulations and creating a new administrative regulation required by the changes to KRS 335B (<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=56802>), enacted by the 2026 Kentucky General Assembly. Those regulations are:

201 KAR 18:120, Replacement of license certificates and business entity permit certificates,
201 KAR 18:150, Standards of practice for professional land surveyors (see more below)
201 KAR 18:025, Predetermination of licensure eligibility – Required by changes to KRS 335B

120 and 150 have already been filed with the Legislative Research Commission (LRC), and links to those proposed revisions are posted on the Board's website (<https://kyboels.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx>). 025 will be filed with the LRC soon.

The Kentucky Association of Professional Surveyors (KAPS) put a lot of work into proposing changes and updates to 201 KAR 18:150. The Board thanks them for their efforts. The Board formed a Task Force Committee which included four Board of Licensure members, representatives from KAPS, NSPE-KY, and ACEC-KY to review KAPS proposal. The Task Force committee held seven public meetings that were open to the public and solicited further comments from the membership of professional societies after the committee had completed its review. Everyone who worked on these proposed changes is commended for their hard work and their commitment to protecting the citizens of Kentucky through minimally burdensome yet adequate regulation.

BOARD OF LICENSURE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

For The Period

April 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026

Heather L. Baldwin, PE, PLS, Director of Enforcement

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

DAVID J. BONASTIA, PE #36902

On September 2, 2025, David J. Bonastia, PE #36902, was selected for a random audit of his Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities for the 2023/2024 reporting period, the period covered by his June 13, 2025, PE license renewal. Bonastia did not respond to the initial notice of audit within 30 days as required, nor did he respond to a second notice of audit sent by email on October 6, 2025. He also failed to respond to two voicemail messages left by a Board investigator on October 27, 2025, an October 28, 2025, final notice of audit, and a November 25, 2025, email from the Board's Director of Enforcement. An Administrative Complaint was filed against Bonastia on February 20, 2026, for failing to respond to the September 2, 2025, notice of audit within 30 days, in violation of 201 KAR 18:196, Section 8(5); for failing to obtain 30 PDH during the 2023/2024 reporting period, in violation of 201 KAR 18:196, Section 2(1) and (4); for failing to cooperate with a Board investigation, in violation of 201 KAR 18:142, Section 10(2); and for engaging in the practice of fraud or deceit in obtaining a license by failing to meet the CPD requirements prior to his June 13, 2025, PE license renewal, in

violation of KRS 322.180(1). Bonastia did not respond the Notice of Administrative Complaint nor participate in a telephonic Prehearing Conference held on March 3, 2026. On May 28, 2026, the Hearing Officer issued Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommended Order of Default Judgment which recommended that the Board be granted default judgment and enter a Final Order revoking Bonastia's PE license. The Board of Licensure accepted and adopted the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and ordered David J. Bonastia's PE license, #36902, to be REVOKED by Final Order entered on July 31, 2026.

JASON L. HETTINGER, PE #28402

On October 15, 2024, Jason L. Hettinger, PE #28402, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Ohio State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors for unlawfully offering and providing engineering services in Ohio without an active PE registration, aiding and abetting the illegal practice of engineering in Ohio, and affixing his professional engineer seal and signature to engineering work prepared by an unlicensed individual without having personal knowledge and direct supervisory control and responsibility for the preparation of the work product. Hettinger's Ohio PE registration was suspended for one year, with that suspension stayed pending Hettinger pay a \$2,000 fine within 30 days. Hettinger failed to disclose this disciplinary action during his April 16, 2025, Kentucky PE license renewal. He also incorrectly answered the renewal question, "Were you licensed as a Professional Engineer in Kentucky prior to January 1, 1972, and have you maintained your license status in a 'current' status and in good standing since that time?" An investigative file was opened to determine why Hettinger answered the renewal questions falsely, and a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) audit for the 2023/2024 reporting period was conducted as part of the investigation. Hettinger failed to respond to a May 1, 2025, notice of audit within 30 days and did not submit evidence of completing any CPD for the 2023/2024 reporting period. Hettinger also failed to respond to the Board investigator's questions regarding the Ohio disciplinary action. An Administrative Complaint was filed against Hettinger for engaging in the practice of fraud and deceit in obtaining a license by falsely answering the renewal questions, in violation of KRS 322.180(1); for having his PE license suspended in another jurisdiction on grounds sufficient to cause his PE license to be disciplined in Kentucky, in violation of KRS 322.180(11); for failing to respond to the May 1, 2025, notice of audit within 30 days, in violation of 201 KAR 18:196, Section 8(5); for failing to obtain 30 PDH during the 2023/2024 reporting period, in violation of 201 KAR 18:196, Section 2(1) and (4); and for failing to cooperate with a Board investigation, in violation of 201 KAR 18:142, Section 10(2). Hettinger did not respond the Notice of Administrative Complaint nor participate in telephonic Prehearing Conferences held on April 6, 2026, and May 13, 2026. On June 29, 2026, the Hearing Officer issued Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommended Order of Default Judgment which recommended that the Board be granted default judgment and enter a Final Order revoking Hettinger's PE license. The Board of Licensure accepted and adopted the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and ordered Jason L. Hettinger's PE license, #28402, to be REVOKED by Final Order entered on July 31, 2026.

BAILEY SURVEYS, INC.

Bailey Surveys, Inc. is an incorporated business entity organized in the Commonwealth of Kentucky which holds a business entity permit to practice land surveying, #194. On July 27, 2018, Bruce K. Bailey, PLS, the company's president and responsible charge land surveyor, entered into a Consent Decree with the Board for providing land surveying services in Kentucky after the company's business entity permit expired on December 31, 2014. The permit was reinstated on August 8, 2018. While investigating a recent unrelated complaint about Bailey's land surveying work, Board staff found that the company's business entity permit had expired again on December 31, 2023. As part of the investigation, Bailey provided a list of 135 projects for which the company had offered and provided land surveying services in Kentucky since the company's business entity permit expired, in violation of KRS 322.060(2). To resolve the investigation, Bailey Surveys, Inc., through its president and responsible charge land surveyor, Bruce K. Bailey, agreed to: (1) receive a Letter of Reprimand; (2) pay a fine of \$2,000 within 60 days; and (3) maintain a current and valid business entity permit for any period of time in which the company is providing land surveying services in Kentucky. The Board of Licensure approved this Consent Decree on July 31, 2026.

ECHO POWER ENGINEERING, LLC

Echo Power Engineering, LLC, is a limited liability company organized in the state of Tennessee which holds a business entity permit to practice engineering, #3118. The company was initially issued a business entity permit to practice engineering on August 3, 2010, and that permit expired on December 31, 2016. During the review of an individual's application for licensure, Board staff found reason to believe that Echo Power Engineering, LLC, had provided engineering services in 2024 and 2025, after the expiration of the permit. During the investigation, the company provided a list of 37 projects for which the company had offered or provided engineering services after the company's business entity permit expired, in violation of KRS 322.060(1). To resolve the investigation, Echo Power Engineering, LLC, through its CEO and responsible charge engineer, Scotty D. Carroll, agreed to: (1) receive a Letter of Reprimand; (2) pay a fine of \$5,000 within 30 days; and (3) maintain a current and valid business entity permit for any period of time in which the company is providing engineering services in Kentucky. The Board of Licensure approved this Consent Decree on July 1, 2026.

THE BOULDER ENGINEERING COMPANY

The Boulder Engineering Company is a professional service organization organized in the state of Colorado. On October 15, 2024, the company entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Ohio State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors for providing engineering services in Ohio without a certificate of authorization. On September 19, 2025, The Boulder Engineering Company applied for a business entity permit to practice engineering in Kentucky and answered "no" to the question of whether or not the business entity or any principal, officer, or employee in responsible charge had been subject to a disciplinary action by a professional licensing jurisdiction. By failing to disclose the October 15, 2024, Ohio Settlement Agreement on its business entity permit application, The Boulder Engineering Company

provided misinformation to the Board in violation of KRS 322.180(1). To resolve the investigation, The Boulder Engineering Company, through its responsible charge engineer and company officer, Michael Vair, entered into a Consent Decree with the Board and agreed to: (1) receive a Letter of Reprimand; (2) pay a fine of \$1,000 within 30 days; and (3) maintain a current and valid business entity permit for any period of time in which the company is providing engineering services in Kentucky. The Board of Licensure approved this Consent Decree on July 31, 2026.

ULTRA TECHNIC SERVICES, INC.

Ultra Technic Services, Inc. is an incorporated business entity organized in the state of Ohio. During a 2011 investigation regarding a complaint that Ultra Technic Services, Inc. was providing engineering services in Kentucky without a business entity permit to practice engineering in Kentucky, the company applied for a business entity permit and designated Gary Duane Pfuehler, PE #13890, as its responsible charge engineer. The permit was issued on January 13, 2012. Subsequently, on the company's annual business entity permit renewals from December 2012 through December 2024, Pfuehler continued to be designated as responsible charge engineer of the company. While conducting a recent, unrelated investigation of Pfuehler, both Pfuehler and Olusegun G. Akomolede, president of Ultra Technic Services, Inc., stated that Pfuehler was not and had never been a full time employee, principal, owner, or officer of the company. By designating an individual as responsible charge engineer who was not a full time employee, principal, owner, or officer of the company as required by KRS 322.060(1), the company provided misinformation to the Board on its 2011 business entity permit application and subsequent annual business entity permit renewals, in violation of KRS 322.180(1). To resolve the investigation, Ultra Technic Services, Inc., through its president Olusegun G. Akomolede, entered into a Consent Decree with the Board and agreed to: (1) receive a Letter of Reprimand; (2) pay a fine of \$1,000 within 30 days; (3) maintain a current and valid business entity permit for any period of time in which the company is providing engineering services in Kentucky; and (4) notify the Board of any change in the engineer in responsible charge of the company's engineering work within fifteen days. The Board of Licensure approved this Consent Decree on July 31, 2026.

GARY DUANE PFUEHLER, PE #13890

On January 13, 2012, Gary Duane Pfuehler, PE #13890, entered into a Consent Decree with the Board for providing engineering services for five Kentucky projects through Ultra Technic Services, Inc. prior to the company holding a valid business entity permit from the Board. Ultra Technic Services, Inc. was issued a business entity permit to practice engineering in Kentucky on January 13, 2012, and Pfuehler was designated by the company as its responsible charge engineer. On February 25, 2025, the Ohio State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors entered a Final Order which revoked Pfuehler's Ohio PE registration. The Ohio Board found that Pfuehler aided and abetted an individual and firm in the unlicensed practice of engineering in Ohio, certified engineering work without having personal knowledge and direct supervisory control and responsibility of the project, and offered to provide and provided

services in Ohio through a company that did not hold a certificate of authorization from the Ohio Board. Pfuehler was previously disciplined by the Ohio Board for similar violations in 2014. An investigation was opened to determine if the Ohio disciplinary action warranted reciprocal action and if Pfuehler had engaged in similar activities in Kentucky. A Continuing Professional Development (CPD) audit for the 2022/2023 reporting period was conducted as part of the investigation. Pfuehler failed to respond to the July 10, 2025, notice of audit within 30 days as required by 201 KAR 18:196, Section 8(5), and did not submit evidence of completing any CPD for the 2022/2023 reporting period in violation of 201 KAR 18:196, Section 2(1) and (4). The investigation found that Pfuehler had his PE registration revoked in Ohio on grounds sufficient to cause his PE license to be disciplined in Kentucky, a violation of KRS 322.180(11), and Pfuehler failed to cooperate with the investigation by not responding to the Board investigator's questions regarding the Ohio action, in violation of 201 KAR 18:142, Section 10(1). In addition, during the course of the investigation, it was discovered that Pfuehler aided and abetted Ultra Tech Services, Inc. in providing engineering services in Kentucky without an eligible responsible charge engineer, in violation of KRS 322.180(5), as he was the designated responsible charge engineer of Ultra Technic Services, Inc. despite not being an employee, officer, or owner of the company, in violation of KRS 322.060(1). To resolve this investigation, Pfuehler entered into a Consent Decree with the Board and agreed to VOLUNTARILY SURRENDER his Kentucky PE license. The Board of Licensure approved this Consent Decree on July 31, 2026.

NON-DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Cases Closed with a Written Admonishment – 2

PE – CPD violation (late renewal audit 2025) – 1

PLS – CPD violation and business entity permit and standards of practice violations for one project over six years old - 1

Educational Letter – 2

Firm (engineering) – no permit for one project over four years old – 1

Firm (land surveying) – advertising land surveying services without a permit, application denied - 1

Case Closed with No Action – 4

PLS – no violation – 3

Firm (dual) – company