

**The Board of Licensure Report
October 2019
James Ed Manning, Executive Director**

Firm Renewals

All Firm Permits (also known as Business Entity Permits) expire December 31, 2019. The online firm renewal system is open and accepting renewal payments at:

<https://kyboels.ky.gov/Renewals/Pages/default.aspx>

Be sure to select the “**Online Firm Renewal**” option; not the individual renewal option. Renewal takes only a few minutes and you can pay the renewal fee online with a credit card. Renewal Notices were mailed in late October.

Firms which renew after December 31 will be assessed a 10% per month late payment penalty. Firms which remain expired for more than one year must file an application for reinstatement of the firm’s permit.

Late Individual Renewals

If you missed the June 30 renewal deadline for renewal of your individual PE license (odd number years for A-K and even number years for L-Z), you have up to one year to renew using the online renewal system. The system will automatically calculate a 10% per month late renewal penalty. Please be aware that anyone who renews on or after September 1 of his or her renewal year is subject to an automatic continuing education audit.

The late renewal provision notwithstanding, practice on an expired license is prohibited. While your license is expired, you cannot practice, offer to practice, or represent to the public that you are a professional engineer or professional land surveyor. Each of these acts constitutes unlicensed practice and can result in disciplinary action.

Any licensee whose license remains in expired status for more than one year must apply for reinstatement before returning to active practice.

For all these reason, please renew timely. Be sure to check your address in our system using the searchable roster at:

<http://elsweb.kyboels.ky.gov/kboels-web/Searchable-Roster.aspx>

Also, please mark your own calendar so you know when your firm and/or individual renewals are due. Even though we send a Renewal Notice in the mail, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your license(s) and permit(s) are renewed in a timely manner.

Wallet Cards Discontinued

We continue to receive inquiries from time to time regarding wallet cards. We no longer issue wallet cards for renewed permits or licenses and have not done so for several years. You can check and print information regarding the status of permits and licenses using our online searchable roster, which is updated nightly.

<http://elsweb.kyboels.ky.gov/kboels-web/Searchable-Roster.aspx>

Continuing Education Audits and NCEES Continuing Education Tracking System

Random Continuing Professional Development (CPD) audits went out in early September. If you have received an audit notice and have not yet replied to it, please contact Tamra Chesser at the Board office immediately. Failure to respond to a CPD audit within 30 days can result in disciplinary action.

The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) offers a free continuing education tracking system where you can enter your continuing education courses, scan and store documents such as completion certificates, and transmit them electronically to us if you are selected for audit. The link to the free tracking system is available on our website at:

<http://kyboels.ky.gov/Already-Licensed/Pages/Continuing-Education.aspx>

Please take advantage of this free service.

Multi-State Licensure and the NCEES Record

For a variety of reasons, many licensed professional engineers and professional land surveyors find it necessary to obtain a license in more than

one state. The NCEES Records program was developed in response to this need. It provides an easier and faster way to complete the licensure process in multiple jurisdictions, including all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. An established NCEES Record will include most—if not all—of the materials you need to apply for comity licensure in additional states and territories.

I recently checked the current requirements for licensure and found that of the approximately 74 PE and PLS licensing jurisdictions across the US and its territories, 50 of them now accept the NCEES Record in satisfaction of all or nearly all of the information required to apply for a PE or PLS license. In these states, the NCEES Record lets you eliminate having to resubmit your college transcripts, exam results, employment verifications, and professional references every time you apply.

If you were licensed in Kentucky in the last few years, you already have an NCEES record. If you don't have an NCEES Record and want to apply for licensure in an additional U.S. state or territory, consider applying for an NCEES Record. NCEES will review your materials and, after your Record is established, electronically submit them directly to the licensing board on your behalf. This saves time and simplifies the application process when you need to practice in multiple states and territories.

Calendar of Events 2020

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| January 30 | Committee Meetings | Frankfort KY |
| January 31 | Board Meeting | Frankfort KY |
| April 17 | PE, SE Vertical Exams | Louisville KY |
| April 18 | SE Lateral Exam | Louisville KY |
| April 16 | Committee Meetings | Frankfort KY |
| April 17 | Board Meeting | Frankfort KY |
| April 23-25 | NCEES Southern Zone Meeting | Houston TX |
| July 30 | Committee Meetings | Frankfort KY |
| July 31 | Board Meeting | Frankfort KY |
| August 26-29 | NCEES Annual Meeting | Chicago IL |
| October 22 | Committee Meetings | Frankfort KY |
| October 23 | Board Meeting | Frankfort KY |
| October 23 | PE, SE Vertical Exams | Louisville KY |
| October 24 | SE Lateral Exam | Louisville KY |

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS SUMMARY
For The Period
July 27, 2019– October 25, 2019
Kyle Elliott, Director of Enforcement

ERNEST H. RUCKERT, III

In 2018, the Board of Licensure discovered that Mr. Ruckert, who is a licensed professional engineer in the state of New York, had in 2017 submitted conceptual building design plans, including outline specifications and structural detail drawings for a commercial building project in Campbellsburg, KY, for a fee. Mr. Ruckert does not now, nor has he ever held a professional engineering license in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The actions of Mr. Ruckert constituted a violation of KRS Chapter 322, the unlicensed practice of engineering. To resolve the Board's investigation, Ernest H. Ruckert, III, entered into an Agreed Injunction, which enjoins him from engaging in the unauthorized practice of engineering, or offering to practice engineering in Kentucky, until and unless he should become licensed in Kentucky. No penalty was assessed for the current violations, however, the Agreed Injunction calls for a \$1,000 fine and seven (7) days in jail for any future violations. The Agreed Injunction was entered into Franklin Circuit Court on September 11, 2019.

HOWARD BRENT WILSON, PLS

In March of 2016, the Board received a written complaint regarding Mr. Wilson's surveying practice and alleging standards of practice violations. A subsequent investigation found that Mr. Wilson failed to meet the standards of practice for boundary surveys in Kentucky on three surveys from 2006, 2008 and 2013. Mr. Wilson also failed to retain permanent copies of some of his survey work product for the three surveys reviewed. An expanded review of six recent plats by Mr. Wilson also found systemic failures in him meeting the standards of practice. In addition, Mr. Wilson identified himself on his surveying plats as "Brent Wilson Surveying", a business entity, for which he did not hold a land surveying permit. Mr. Wilson agreed to end the Board's investigation and enter into a consent decree. In that Consent Decree, Mr. Wilson elected to surrender his license as a professional land surveyor in Kentucky.

DANIEL A. HERRON, PE

In early September of 2019, Mr. Herron was notified by mail that he had been selected at random for an audit of his continuing professional development. Mr. Herron was unable to provide any proof of continuing education credit for calendar years 2009 - 2018. In addition, Mr. Herron failed to notify the Board of his deficient professional development hours. To resolve the Board disciplinary matter, Mr. Herron agreed to enter into a consent decree with the Board. In that Consent Decree, Mr. Herron elected to surrender his professional engineering license in Kentucky.