

STATE LICENSING BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS
RESIDENTIAL CONTRACTORS SUBCOMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2022

The regular meeting of the Residential Building Contractors Subcommittee was called to order by the Chairman, Elliott L. Temple, on Wednesday, October 19, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. at 600 North Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Members of the Subcommittee present:

Elliott Temple
Jim Fine
Travis Manceaux
Frank Morse, Jr.
Craig Stevens

Members Lloyd “Chip” Badeaux and Dodie Adams were absent. There being a quorum present, the regular order of business was called.

Also attending the meeting were: Michael McDuff, Executive Director; Judy Dupuy, Board Administrator; Jeffrey Wale, Hearing Officer; Kevin Landreneau, Board Attorney; and from the staff, Carrie Morgan, Leann Evans, Shannon Sagona, Monica Webster, Emily Laprarie, Elysia Howard; Compliance Director, Brad Hassert; compliance investigator, Robert Mehrtens; and Trulisa Hollinds recording the minutes.

Mr. Manceaux led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Wale introduced himself as the hearing officer overseeing these proceedings and addressed the audience and board on the administrative procedures for hearings. Carrie Morgan and Brad Hassert with the Compliance Department for the board were sworn in.

Mr. Morse made a motion to accept the Minutes of the September 14, 2022, Residential Building Subcommittee Meeting. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Hassert introduced guests, Alex Reinboth with the Louisiana Attorney General’s Office; Julie Russell, Emily Harley, and Andy Stokes with Lowes Corporation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests were received from the public to address the Licensing Board.

NEW BUSINESS

D. COMPLIANCE HEARINGS:

1. **GNO CONSTRUCTION GROUP LLC**, Marrero, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

No one was present on behalf of GNO CONSTRUCTION GROUP LLC. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find GNO CONSTRUCTION GROUP LLC to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

2. a) **JAMES PAUL SPENCER**, Denham Springs, Louisiana –L.A. R.S. 37:2158(A)(3), Rules and Regulations of the Board Section 133(A), and La. R.S. 37:2158(A)(4)

JAMES PAUL SPENCER was present and was sworn in. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Mr. Spencer entered a denial plea. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Spencer questioned Mr. Hassert. Mr. Spencer gave a statement to the board. The board questioned Mr. Spencer. Mr. Morse made a motion to find JAMES PAUL SPENCER to be in violation and to assess an administrative penalty of a \$5000 fine plus \$1000 in administrative costs. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

- b) **FIXTUREDEPOTUSA.COM L.L.C.**, Denham Springs, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

Shannon Lee was present on behalf of FIXTUREDEPOTUSA.COM L.L.C. and was sworn in. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Ms. Lee entered a denial plea. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Landreneau questioned Ms. Lee. Ms. Lee gave a statement to the board. The board questioned Ms. Lee. Mr. Morse made a motion to dismiss this matter. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

3. **BLACKWATERCONSTRUCTION L.L.C.**, Pearl River, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

No one was present on behalf of BLACKWATERCONSTRUCTION L.L.C. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find BLACKWATERCONSTRUCTION L.L.C. to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

< A representative of GNO Construction Group LLC for matter D. 1. made an appearance.>

- D. 1. **GNO CONSTRUCTION GROUP LLC**, Marrero, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

Mr. Morse made a motion to rehear the matter for D.1. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed. Kevin Caside was present on behalf of GNO CONSTRUCTION GROUP LLC. Mr. Caside was sworn in. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Mr. Caside entered a plea of admission. Mr. Morse made a motion to accept the plea. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Landreneau questioned Mr. Caside. Mr. Caside gave statement to the board. The board questioned Mr. Caside. Mr. Morse made a motion to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to allow the administrative penalty to be reduced to \$500 in administrative costs only if the company obtains the proper license within 120 days. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

4. **DISASTER AMERICA OF LOUISIANA, LLC**, Baton Rouge, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

Jason Husk and Attorney David L Gold were present on behalf of DISASTER AMERICA OF LOUISIANA, LLC. Mr. Husk was sworn in. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Mr. Gold entered a no contest plea. Mr. Morse made a motion to accept the plea. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Landreneau questioned Mr. Gold. Mr. Gold gave statement to the board. The board questioned Mr. Gold. Mr. Morse made a motion to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to allow the administrative penalty to be reduced to a \$500 fine plus \$1000 in administrative costs if the company obtains the proper license within 120 days. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

5. **CHARLES DAVID BENNETT D/B/A RIDGESTAR ROOFING & CONTRACTING**, River Ridge, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

No one was present on behalf of CHARLES DAVID BENNETT D/B/A RIDGESTAR ROOFING & CONTRACTING. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find CHARLES DAVID BENNETT D/B/A RIDGESTAR ROOFING & CONTRACTING to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

6. **CYPRESS POINT CONSTRUCTION, LLC**, Lake Arthur, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

No one was present on behalf of CYPRESS POINT CONSTRUCTION, LLC. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find CYPRESS POINT CONSTRUCTION, LLC to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

7. **MARDI GRAS POOLS, LLC**, Geismar, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

No one was present on behalf of MARDI GRAS POOLS, LLC. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find MARDI GRAS POOLS, LLC to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

8. **MARDI GRAS POOLS, LLC**, Geismar, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

No one was present on behalf of MARDI GRAS POOLS, LLC. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find MARDI GRAS POOLS, LLC to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

9. **MARDI GRAS POOLS, LLC**, Geismar, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

No one was present on behalf of MARDI GRAS POOLS, LLC. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find MARDI GRAS POOLS, LLC to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

10. **ALEJANDRO MELENDEZ D/B/A ALEX CONTRACTORS, LLC**, Metairie, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

No one was present on behalf of ALEJANDRO MELENDEZ D/B/A ALEX CONTRACTORS, LLC. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find ALEJANDRO MELENDEZ D/B/A ALEX CONTRACTORS, LLC to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

<Staff requested matter D. 21. be heard after matter D. 10.>

21. **RE-FRESH CONSTRUCTION LLC**, Lafitte, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

Amaniel Tewelde was present on behalf of RE-FRESH CONSTRUCTION LLC and was sworn in. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Mr. Tewelde entered a no contest plea. Mr. Morse made a motion to accept the plea. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Tewelde gave statement to the board. The board questioned Mr. Tewelde. Mr. Fine made a motion to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to allow the administrative penalty to be reduced to a \$1000 fine plus \$1000 in administrative costs if the company obtains the proper license and insurance within 120 days. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

11. **VERDIN HOME SERVICES LLC**, Houma, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

No one was present on behalf of VERDIN HOME SERVICES LLC. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Fine made a motion to find VERDIN HOME SERVICES LLC to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

12. **VERDIN HOME SERVICES LLC**, Houma, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

No one was present on behalf of VERDIN HOME SERVICES LLC. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Fine made a motion to find VERDIN HOME SERVICES LLC to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

13. **TRI-J SOLUTIONS, L.L.C.**, Houma, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

No one was present on behalf of TRI-J SOLUTIONS, L.L.C. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Fine made a motion to find TRI-J SOLUTIONS, L.L.C. to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

14. **WILFRED LASTRAPE D/B/A W & W PAINTING CARPENTRY & ROOFING**, Arnaudville, Louisiana – La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

Ms. Morgan stated that the Wilfred Lastrape requested a continuance. Mr. Morse made a motion to grant the continuance. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion was passed.

15. **ALEJANDRO AND MARIA AMADOR D/B/A AMADORS CONSTRUCTION**, Pasadena, Texas –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

No one was present on behalf of ALEJANDRO AND MARIA AMADOR D/B/A AMADORS CONSTRUCTION. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Fine made a motion to find ALEJANDRO AND MARIA AMADOR D/B/A AMADORS CONSTRUCTION to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

16. **DOCK ROBERTSON D/B/A DOCK ROBERTSON INC. AND/OR D.R.I. CONSTRUCTION**, Calhoun, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

No one was present on behalf of DOCK ROBERTSON D/B/A DOCK ROBERTSON INC. AND/OR D.R.I. CONSTRUCTION. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find DOCK ROBERTSON D/B/A DOCK ROBERTSON INC. AND/OR D.R.I. CONSTRUCTION to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

17. **MARK A. DESHOTEL D/B/A DESHOTEL'S HOME REPAIR AND REMODELING**, Sulphur, Louisiana – La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations and read the settlement offer presented by MARK A. DESHOTEL D/B/A DESHOTEL'S HOME REPAIR AND REMODELING. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand and reviewed the exhibit packet. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to accept the settlement offer as presented, which included a no contest plea. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

18. **DANIEL TOMPKINS**, Denham Springs, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

No one was present on behalf of DANIEL TOMPKINS. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Fine made a motion to find DANIEL TOMPKINS to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

19. **JAMES DAVIS D/B/A ELITE CONSTRUCTION**, Prairieville, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

No one was present on behalf of JAMES DAVIS D/B/A ELITE CONSTRUCTION. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Fine made a motion to find JAMES DAVIS D/B/A ELITE CONSTRUCTION to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

20. **JEREMY ELLIS D/B/A J&E CONSTRUCTION**, Kenner, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

No one was present on behalf of JEREMY ELLIS D/B/A J&E CONSTRUCTION. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Fine made a motion to find JEREMY ELLIS D/B/A J&E CONSTRUCTION to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

21. **RE-FRESH CONSTRUCTION LLC**, Lafitte, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

This matter was heard after matter D. 10.

22. **JAMES “JIMMY” RAMON D/B/A NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES AND/OR NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES INC.**, San Antonio, Texas –La. R.S. 37:2167(A) and La. R.S. 37:2185(A)

No one was present on behalf of JAMES “JIMMY” RAMON D/B/A NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES AND/OR NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES INC. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations and corrected the total project value from \$204,283.67 to \$185,597.07. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find JAMES “JIMMY” RAMON D/B/A NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES AND/OR NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES INC. to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

23. **JAMES “JIMMY” RAMON D/B/A NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES AND/OR NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES INC.**, San Antonio, Texas –La. R.S. 37:2167(A) and La. R.S. 37:2185(A)

No one was present on behalf of JAMES “JIMMY” RAMON D/B/A NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES AND/OR NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES INC. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find JAMES “JIMMY” RAMON D/B/A NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES AND/OR NTW REBUILDERS & SERVICES INC. to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

24. **DARYLL SHELTON D/B/A DMS GENERAL CONSTRUCTION**, Slidell, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

No one was present on behalf of DARYLL SHELTON D/B/A DMS GENERAL CONSTRUCTION. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand. Mr. Hassert reviewed the exhibit packet and provided testimony to the board. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to find DARYLL SHELTON D/B/A DMS GENERAL CONSTRUCTION to be in violation, to assess a fine of ten percent of the project value plus \$1000 in administrative costs and to issue a cease and desist order. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

25. **S & S CONTRACTING SERVICES LLC**, Lake Charles, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2167(A)

Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations and read the settlement offer presented by S & S CONTRACTING SERVICES LLC. Investigator Brad Hassert, who was previously sworn, was called to the stand and reviewed the exhibit packet. Mr. Landreneau entered the exhibit packet into evidence and it was admitted. Mr. Morse made a motion to accept the settlement offer as presented, which included a no contest plea. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

E. STATUTORY CITATIONS:

Ms. Morgan presented the statutory citations. Mr. Morse made a motion to accept the statutory citations as presented. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

F. REQUEST FOR REHEARING:

1. **KIN’S CONSTRUCTION LLC**, Montegut, Louisiana –La. R.S. 37:2175.3(A)(1)

No one was present on behalf of KIN’S CONSTRUCTION LLC. Ms. Morgan stated that the company requested a rehearing and stated the company’s reason for not appearing at the September 14, 2022, board meeting. Mr. Morse made a motion to grant the rehearing. Mr. Fine seconded. The motion was passed. Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the allegations and read the settlement offer presented by KIN’S CONSTRUCTION LLC. Mr. Morse made a motion to deny the settlement offer as presented, which included a no contest plea, and to dismiss the matter. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

- G. Consideration of additional classifications for residential licenses as listed and attached to the agenda. (Page 6)

Mr. Morse made a motion to approve the additional classifications for residential licenses as listed on the agenda. Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed.

- H. Consideration of residential applications as listed and attached to the agenda. (Pages 7-13)

Mr. Morse made a motion to approve the new residential applications as listed on the agenda. Mr. Stevens seconded. The motion passed.

- I. Consideration of home improvement applications as listed and attached to the agenda. (Pages 14-21)

Mr. Morse made a motion to approve the new home improvement registration applications as listed on the agenda, and Mr. Fine seconded. The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Morse made a motion to adjourn at 11:10 a.m., and Mr. Manceaux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Elliott Temple, Chairman

Lloyd "Chip" Badeaux, Vice Chairman