

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Electrical Contractors Licensing Board

Meeting Type: General Business Meeting
Meeting Date: May 26-28, 2004
Meeting Loc: St. Augustine

Board Members: Clarence Tibbs (Chair), Pierre Bellemare, Jeffrey M. Kiner (Vice Chair), Roger Langer, Norman H. Mugford, Kimberly A. Deberry, Lewis Roberts, Paul Sandefer, Rae Small, Arnaldo L. Abreu.

Members Absent: Donald C. Penner

Department Staff: Gail Scott-Hill, (Prosecuting Attorney)
Drew Winters, (Prosecuting Attorney)
John Knap, (Executive Director)
Greg Spence, (Government Analyst)

Other Attendees: Mary Ellen Clark, (Board Counsel)

Major Issues/Actions

- The Board considered 47 applications for examination, 25 for additional business entities, 3 transfers, 3 business entities, 2 endorsements, 2 certifications of registered license, and 1 registration.
- The Continuing Education Committee processed 72 CE courses submitted for approval by providers.
- Probable Cause Panel considered 8 administrative complaints and 6 closing orders.
- Board heard 7 disciplinary cases.
- Discussion of letter from City of Boca Raton regarding ordinance Sec. 7-63, requiring that fire alarms be installed by UL certified contractors. It is the Board's opinion that such ordinance conflicts with the State's regulatory provisions in that it requires a certification above that required by Chapter 489, Part II. A licensee damaged by the ordinance will have to bring suit to challenge its legality per Board Counsel. A committee was formed to arrange a meeting with the State Fire Marshall.
- Presentation by Richard Watson and Associates updating the progress of the privatization feasibility study for the ECLB. Discussion of the need for performance standards for the ECLB similar to those used by the architecture and engineering boards to measure the efficiency of the Board and the Department.
- Discussion of licensure requirement and scope of work for the "Solar contractor" license issued by the Construction Industry Licensing Board, particularly in the area of photovoltaic systems, which are primarily electrical in nature. After a review of F.S. 489 part I & II, Board concluded that all components of photovoltaic systems are within the scope of, and can be completed by electrical contractors.

- Discussion of change in license numbers issued to additional business approvals by Department and request for staff to research system by which numbers are issued and renewals of second entities are processed.
- Review of the March 31 third quarter financial reports for the ECLB operating and unlicensed activity accounts reflecting the beginning of renewal period.
- Report on results of ongoing workers compensation and liability insurance audit of licensees to verify compliance. 1,586 total licenses audited, to date: violations 163, cases opened 121, citations issued 29, cases to legal 12.
- Update on ongoing renewal process by Executive Director including presentation of renewal questionnaire.
- Board reviewed the exam summaries provided by the Bureau of Education and Testing including exam pass/fail statistics for the 3/2/04 to 4/2/04 period.
- Unlicensed Activity – A detailed enforcement/unlicensed activity report was presented to the Board from OGC and Division of Professions and Regulation. 31 ECLB unlicensed activity cases currently open in OGC unlicensed section.
- Prosecuting Attorney Report – 48 ECLB cases currently open in various statuses. Board requested an age report of open cases.
- Board requested Gail Scott-Hill to draft a letter to Building Officials outlining the scope of work of Limited Energy Systems Specialty contractors and the licensure requirements for individuals engaged in this area of contracting.

Legislation/Rule Promulgation

- Discussion of SB 562, enrolled legislation which would require continuing education in false alarm prevention for alarm system agents. Board voted to notice for Rule development.

Rules report presented by Board Counsel. Rule changes currently in process:

- 61G6-5.004 Requirements for Certified Qualified Agent Applicant, effective 4/12/04.
- 61G6-5.005 Financial Responsibility; Definitions, Grounds for Denial, In process.
- 61G6-5.006(1) Certification of additional new business entity or transfer, withdrawn JAPC.
- 61G6-9.005 Registration of course providers, deferred.
- 61G6-9.006 Approving of Continuing Education Courses, deferred.

John T. Knap
Executive Director
June 22, 2004

Next Meeting: Tampa, July 21-22, 2004