

**NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EXAMINERS  
FOR ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS**

4601 Six Forks Rd Suite 310  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

April 28, 2014

REC'D  
4-30-14

Willy E. Stewart, PE  
Chair  
Teresa H. Ratcliff, PE, PhD  
Vice-Chair  
Linda A. Thurman, Public  
Secretary

Richard M. Benton, PLS  
Carl M. Ellington, Jr., PE  
Nils W. Joyner, Jr., PLS  
Gary H. Pendleton, Public  
David L. Pond, PE  
Andrew G. Zoutewelle, PLS

Andrew L. Ritter  
Executive Director

The Honorable Pat McCrory  
Governor of North Carolina  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-0301

Dear Governor McCrory:

Section 89C-12 of the General Statutes requires that the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors report to you its transactions for the preceding year.

The summary report of transactions and activities for the Board Fiscal Year 2013 (December 1, 2012 – November 30, 2013) has been prepared and is enclosed for your information and review.

The audit is in the process of being prepared by Bernard Robinson & Company, LLP and will be sent under separate cover.

For the Board,

Andrew L. Ritter  
Executive Director

ALR/sd

CERTIFIED MAIL – Return Receipt Requested

cc: Secretary of State Elaine F. Marshall  
Mr. Joseph Harrison Moore, Jr., Legislative Research Assistant





# **NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS**

**2013 ANNUAL REPORT**

**TO**

**THE HONORABLE PAT McCrory  
THE GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA**



REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR

THE HONORABLE PAT McCrORY  
GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA

Presented April 28, 2014

Report of proceedings and activities of the

*North Carolina Board of Examiners*

*for*

*Engineers and Surveyors*

Fiscal Year 2013



The year 2013 was a very exciting year for the Board in several different and very distinct areas. The Board elected Willy Stewart as Chair of the Board. Mr. Stewart is the first Hispanic Chair in the Board's history. Gary Thompson, after serving 10 years as a Board member had his term expire. Mr. Andy Zoutewelle of Charlotte, NC was appointed by Governor McCrory to replace Mr. Thompson. The Board also had several members active in National Council of Examiners for Engineer and Surveyors (NCEES) activities and committees. Dr. Terri Helmlinger Ratcliff served as the NCEES Southern Zone Vice-President and served on the Foreign Experience Evaluation task force. Gary Thompson was elected to the NCEES Board as Treasurer. The Executive Director, Andrew Ritter was appointed as NCEES Chair for the committee for Member Board administrators.

The Board passed legislation to "grandfather" GIS practitioners. The legislation allows GIS practitioners who meet stringent criteria to waive out of the NCEES exams and the "grandfathering" window would expire July 1, 2014 at which time they would have to meet all license requirements in order to become licensed. The Board entered into a memo of understanding with the Japan PE/FE Engineering Council which allows qualified Japanese PEs to apply for comity in North Carolina.

In 2013 the Board continued its project to becoming environmentally efficient and paper free. Board and Board committee meetings transitioned to a paper-less format. Paperless renewals have remained at the 90% mark and licensees have been given the option to opt out of all paper communication with the board and instead receive all materials electronically. The Board also continued the transition to computer based testing as the NCEES exams will start to offer the FE and FS exams only on the computer in 2014. This transition includes re-writing the board's rules and laws concerning exam testing as well as re-writing the board's application procedures. Board staff has also begun an outreach program to insure all universities and students are aware of the transition of the exams to computer based testing.

The Board and its staff members participated as program speakers for PENC, ACEC-NC, NCSS, ASHRAE, ASME, ASCE, NCSU, numerous technical colleges, and state and local agencies. The Board participated in the Annual and Southern Zone meetings of the National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors. The Board also attended meetings of the Council of Licensure for Enforcement and Regulation and the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards. The Board also continues its program of licensure promotion. Board staff and Board members gave license promotion seminars to students at NCSU, Duke University, UNC-Charlotte, North Carolina A&T and to numerous community college programs.

The Board continues to take an aggressive approach with respect to the enforcement of the provisions of G. S. 89C and its role in protecting the public. The Board's violation section increased its productivity in 2013 as the Board now employs four full-time investigators. The Board also continues its proactive and educational approach to enforcement activities. The Board staff has given presentations and programs on the Board laws and rules and enforcement activities to code officials, inspection officials, Register of Deeds, affiliated trade associations and licensees across North Carolina.





## Licensure

At the end of Fiscal Year 2013 (November 30, 2013), a total of 23,854 Professional Engineers, 2,614 Professional Land Surveyors and 3,600 Businesses were licensed with the Board.

### LICENSURE STATISTICS - FISCAL YEAR 2013

(December 1, 2012 - November 30, 2013)

#### APPLICATIONS

Engineering Applications.....	2,106
Surveying Applications.....	<u>31</u>
Total Applications.....	2,137

#### EXAMINATIONS

Engineering Exam I - Fundamentals (8 hrs. written) .....	1,271
Engineering Exam II - Principles & Practice (8 hrs. written) .....	580
Surveying Exam I - Fundamentals (8 hrs. written) .....	25
Surveying Exam II - Principles & Practice (6 hrs NCEES and/or 2 hrs State) .....	<u>96</u>
Total Examinations.....	1,972

#### LICENSURES

Professional Corporations.....	106
Limited Liability Companies.....	140
Business Firms.....	15
Chapter 87.....	6
Professional Engineers licensed by exam.....	352
Professional Engineers licensed by comity.....	711
Professional Land Surveyors licensed by exam.....	<u>58</u>
Total Licensed.....	1,388

#### DECEASED

Deceased.....	34
---------------	----

### LICENSURE AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2013

Professional Engineers.....	23,854
Professional Land Surveyors.....	2,614
Firms.....	3,600



## EXAMINATION RESULTS

Fiscal Year 2013 (December 1, 2012 - November 30, 2013)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>	<u>Percent Passed</u>
<u>Engineering Examination I -</u>				
<u>Fundamentals</u> Spring 2013	672	506	166	75.3%
Fall 2013	<u>599</u>	<u>430</u>	<u>169</u>	71.8%
Total Fiscal Year 2013	1,271	936	335	73.6%
<u>Engineering Examination II -</u>				
<u>Principles &amp; Practice</u>				
Spring 2013	278	156	122	56.1%
Fall 2013	<u>302</u>	<u>188</u>	<u>114</u>	62.3%
Total Fiscal Year 2013	580	344	236	59.3%
<u>Surveying Examination I -</u>				
<u>Fundamentals</u> Spring 2013	16	7	9	43.8%
Fall 2013	<u>9</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	44.4%
Total Fiscal Year 2013	25	11	14	44.0%
<u>Surveying Examination II -</u>				
<u>Principles &amp; Practice (NCEES and/or State)</u>				
Jan. 2013 (State Only)	11	7	4	63.6%
Spring 2013	51	23	28	45.1%
July 2013 (State Only)	6	6	0	100.0%
Fall 2013	<u>28</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>16</u>	42.9%
Total Fiscal Year 2013	96	48	48	50.0%

## HISTORICAL DATA

(Past 10 Fiscal Years)

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
<b>APPLICATIONS</b>										
Engineer (including EIT)	1,622	1,521	1,764	1,998	2,163	2,105	2,004	2,096	2,153	2,106
Surveyor	<u>384</u>	<u>340</u>	<u>209</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>128</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>31</u>
Totals	2,006	1,861	1,973	2,121	2,298	2,233	2,102	2,206	2,256	2,137
<b>EXAMINATIONS</b>										
Engineer (Exam I & II)	1,730	1,767	1,859	1,839	1,823	1,961	1,798	1,839	1,877	1,851
Surveyor (Exam I & II)	<u>302</u>	<u>213</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>231</u>	<u>292</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>197</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>121</u>
Total	2,032	1,980	2,009	2,070	2,115	2,237	1,998	2,036	2,138	1,972
<b>LICENSURE</b>										
Exam -- Eng.	332	372	361	367	385	379	427	374	395	352
Exam -- LS	91	66	48	43	58	94	54	58	67	58
Comity -- Eng	<u>726</u>	<u>664</u>	<u>775</u>	<u>806</u>	<u>873</u>	<u>812</u>	<u>730</u>	<u>822</u>	<u>775</u>	<u>711</u>
Totals	1,149	1,102	1,184	1,216	1,316	1,285	1,211	1,254	1,237	1,121



**VIOLATIONS ACTIVITY  
FISCAL YEAR 2013**

**I SUMMATION**

During Fiscal Year 2013 Review Committees considered 122 alleged violations of Chapter 89C of the North Carolina General Statutes. All cases were investigated and processed through the Review Committees and recommendations as to the disposition of the cases were made to the full Board.

The violation case origins and dispositions for Fiscal Year 2013 were as follows:

Case Load - 2013

A. Cases carried over from 2012	67
B. New cases recorded in 2013	<u>106</u>
Total case load for 2013	173

Case Dispositions for 2013

A. Case load for 2013	173
B. Cases closed in 2013	<u>118</u>
Cases carried over to 2014	55

Disciplinary actions completed by the Board during the year resulted in:


One (1) voluntary and permanent surrender of license; one (1) refusal to renew license; one (1) refusal to renew license until passes exam; one (1) refusal to reinstate license until ethics course completed, 15 additional Professional Development Hours and civil rights restored; six (6) reprimands; fifteen (15) cease and desist letters; one (1) cease and desist letter and referral to North Carolina Board of Landscape Architects; one (1) reprimand, \$2000 civil penalty and license restriction; one (1) reprimand, \$1000 civil penalty and license restriction; one (1) reprimand, \$2000 civil penalty, 30 additional Professional Development Hours, and other conditions; one (1) reprimand and Standards of Practice course; one (1) reprimand and 15 Professional Development Hours; two (2) reprimands and ethics course; one (1) reprimand, \$5000 civil penalty and ethics course; one (1) reprimand, \$2500 civil penalty and ethics course; one (1) reprimand, \$5000.00 civil penalty; one (1) reprimand and \$2500.00 civil penalty; three (3) reprimands and \$1500.00 civil penalty; one (1) reprimand and \$1000.00 civil penalty; two (2) reprimands and \$500.00 civil penalty.



## II VERIFICATION

A. Cases carried over from 2012 to Fiscal Year 2013.....	67
B. New cases recorded in Fiscal Year 2013.....	106
C. Total case load for Fiscal Year 2013.....	173
D. Cases closed during Fiscal Year 2013.....	118
E. Cases carried over from 2013 to Fiscal Year 2014.....	55
F. Disciplinary Actions during Fiscal Year 2013.....	43
G. Cases considered by Review Committees during Fiscal Year 2013.....	122

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Ritter', written in a cursive style.

Andrew L. Ritter  
Executive Director

