

## North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors February 28, 2019

Joint Legislative Admin. Procedure Oversight Comm. 545 Legislative Office Building 300 N. Salisbury St. Raleigh, NC 27603

RE: Annual Report of Activities for 2018

Dear Sir/Madam:

The North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors is pleased to present to you this report of its activities for 2018.

The Licensing Board is comprised of nine members, serving 5-year staggered terms. The Board currently employs 17 full-time persons. As charged by our governing legislation at Chapter §87 Article 1 of the North Carolina General Statutes, the purpose of the Board is to regulate the practice of general contracting in North Carolina by evaluating licensure applications for specific criteria by granting licenses to qualified contractors. The Board also imposes disciplinary action in appropriate cases by suspending or revoking the licenses of general contractors who violate provisions of the Board's disciplinary statute. The Board receives no state funding to conduct its operations. Rather, the Board is receipt-supported, being funded entirely by application and licensing fees charged to contractors from North Carolina and other states.

Applicants must pass an examination before being licensed unless they are admitted by reciprocity. Once an examination has been passed, reexamination is not required unless a license has lapsed for a period of four or more years (N.C.G.S. §87-10(d). All failing candidates are entitled to a review of their exam, thereby allowing the candidate an opportunity to determine which examination questions were answered incorrectly.

As of December 31, 2018, there were 28,448 general contractors licensed to operate in North Carolina. North Carolina's general contractor licensing laws provide that persons, firms or corporations who bid upon or who construct projects costing \$30,000 or more are first required to be licensed to practice general contracting.

In 2018, a total of 2,419 persons, firms or corporations applied to the Board for licensure and 1,639 examinations were administered. The overall pass rate for examinations given in 2018 was 53.41%. The Board granted 1,831 general contractors licenses to persons, firms or corporations in 2018.

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For the year 2018, the Board received 606 sworn complaints regarding contractors. In 2018, the Board revoked or suspended 33 licenses, issued 27 formal reprimands, and obtained 79 injunctions in Superior Court against unlicensed contractors for the unlicensed practice of general contracting. In other formal administrative action by the Board last year, three (3) applicants were either conditionally delayed or denied issuance or reinstatement of licensure or the authorization to take an examination.

The Homeowners Recovery Fund is administered by the Board to reimburse homeowners in North Carolina who have suffered a reimbursable loss in the construction or alteration of a single-family dwelling in this state. There were 19 Recovery Fund Hearings conducted in 2018 allowing eligible claimants to present claims before the Board for reimbursement. A total of \$810,764.47 was awarded to eligible claimants.

In 2018 the Board amended, adopted or repealed thirty-three rules under 21 NCAC 12 which became effective on April 1, 2018. The Board's current Laws & Rules can be found on the Board website at www.nclbgc.org.

We will provide electronic copies of audited financial statements for fiscal year(s) ended December 31, 2017 and 2018, as they become available later during 2019.

We hope that you have found this description of the Board's activities helpful.

Sincerely,

C. Frank Wiesner Executive Director

C. Frank Wiesnes

## 2018 Members of the Licensing Board:

J. David Stike, Chairman
Lee Thomason, Vice-Chairman
Rex Bost, Past Chairman
Bobby Lasater, P.E.
Gray E. Pendleton
Benton Albritton

Lyle D. Gardner Sherry Harris (Resigned 4/30/18)

Henry Lanier Robyn Hicks Guinn (Appointed 8/10/18)