# BEFORE THE ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF TECHNICAL REGISTRATION

|                                       | TOTAL REGISTRATION                              |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| In the Matter of:                     | Case No.: P21-072                               |
| Monica Acuna Arizmendi Non-Registrant | CONSENT AGREEMENT<br>and<br>ORDER OF DISCIPLINE |
| Respondent                            |   |

In the interest of a prompt and judicious resolution of the above-captioned matter before the Arizona State Board of Technical Registration ("Board") and consistent with the public interest, statutory requirements, and the responsibilities of the Board, and pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-101 et seq., and A.A.C. R4-30-120(G), the undersigned party, Monica Acuna Arizmendi, Non-Registrant, ("Respondent") and the Board enter into the following Recitals, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Consent Agreement") as a final disposition of this matter.

#### **RECITALS**

- 1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and has had the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney, or has waived the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney.
- 2. Respondent understands that she has a right to a public administrative hearing concerning this case. She further acknowledges that at such formal hearing she could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Respondent knowingly, voluntarily, and irrevocably waives her right to such an administrative hearing, as well as rights of rehearing, review, reconsideration, appeal, judicial review or any other administrative and/or judicial action concerning the matters set forth herein.
- 3. Respondent affirmatively agrees that this Consent Agreement shall be irrevocable.

- 4. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement or any part of the agreement may be considered in any future disciplinary action by the Board against her.
- 5. The Consent Agreement, any record prepared in this matter, all investigative materials prepared or received by the Board and all related exhibits and materials, are public records (as defined in A.R.S. § 41-158.18) upon acceptance by the Board of this Consent Agreement and may be retained in the Board's files pertaining to this matter.
- 6. Respondent understands this Consent Agreement deals with Board case number P21-072 involving allegations that Respondent engaged in conduct that would subject her to discipline under the Board's statutes and rules. The investigation into these allegations against Respondent shall be concluded upon the Board's adoption of this Consent Agreement.
- 7. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of any other matters currently pending before the Board, if any, and does not constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding.
- 8. Respondent also understands that acceptance of this Consent Agreement does not preclude any other agency, subdivision, or officer of this State from instituting any other civil or criminal proceedings with respect to the conduct that is the subject of this Consent Agreement.
- 9. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that, upon signing this Consent Agreement and returning this document to the Board's Executive Director, she may not revoke her acceptance of the Consent Agreement or make any modifications to the document regardless of whether the Consent Agreement has been signed on behalf of the Board. Any modification to this original document is ineffective and void unless mutually agreed by the parties in writing.
- 10. This Consent Agreement is subject to the approval of the Board and is effective only when accepted by the Board and signed on behalf of the Board. If the Board does not accept this Consent Agreement, the Board retains its authority to hold a

formal administrative hearing pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-128(E). In the event that the Board does not approve this Consent Agreement, it is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon nor introduced in any action by any party, except that the parties agree that should the Board reject this Consent Agreement and this case proceeds to hearing, Respondent shall assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this document or any records relating thereto.

- 11. If a court of competent jurisdiction rules that any part of this Consent Agreement is void or otherwise unenforceable, the remainder of the Consent Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
- 12. Respondent understands that any violation of this Consent Agreement may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of the registration under A.R.S. § 32-150.
- 13. Respondent agrees that the Board will adopt the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of Engineering and Land Surveying in the state of Arizona.
- 2. Respondent is not registered with the Board as an Engineer or Land Surveyor.
- 3. Beginning in September 2019, Respondent began a business association with Alleger, who is a Registered Land Surveyor and Civil Engineer that was later terminated by Alleger in March 2021.
- 4. In May 2020, Respondent was involved in the submission of a total of three professional documents to Santa Cruz County, Arizona, two of which were Record of Surveys specific to an area on Pennsylvania Avenue in Patagonia, Arizona. The involved parcel number is: APN 106-27-008. All three documents had a forged professional seal and signature of the Alleger.
  - 5. On February 18, 2021, an Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Engineering Review-Notice of Intent to Discharge On-Site Wastewater Treatment Facility Application was submitted to Santa Cruz County, Arizona for a residence located at 1713 Camino Barrera in Rio Rico, Arizona, APN 125-01-214. Respondent is responsible for the submission of the application that included a total of four forged professional seals and signatures of the Alleger.

- 6. Respondent engaged in both Land Surveying and Engineering practice primarily in Santa Cruz County, Arizona. The Respondent submitted both Land Surveying and Engineering project work to Alleger, who reviewed and applied his professional stamp for Respondent. The Respondent compensated the Alleger for his review and professional stamp and signature on related documents.
- 7. On April 26, 2021, Alleger submitted a complaint in which he alleged Respondent fraudulently applied his professional seal and signature on a number of professional documents later submitted to Santa Cruz County, Arizona without his knowledge.
- 8. On June 29, 2021, Respondent accepted "full responsibility" for one instance, in which a total of four professional documents related to the Camino Barrera project, were submitted with a fraudulently applied seal and signature of the Alleger. Respondent denied being actually involved in the forged signatures and seals and offered that a "Draftsman" friend actually committed the forgeries. The Draftsman, during a subsequent interview, said Respondent previously asked him to admit involvement for her sake and not to answer telephone calls from the United States. The Draftsman conveyed that he had no involvement in the case.
- 9. On August 4, 2021, Alleger specifically identified a total of seven professional documents, involving Respondent, with a fraudulently applied seal and signature of Alleger later submitted to authorities in Santa Cruz County, Arizona:
  - a) Records received from Alleger, show Alleger's Professional Engineer seal and his signature affixed to a Percolation Test Datasheet, Soils Report, Site Investigation Report and Septic System Site Plan, all dated February 15,

- 2021 for the Camino Barrera project in Rio Rico, Arizona. Alleger indicated that he had no involvement with this project and his seal and signature were applied to the professional documents without his knowledge.
- b) Records received from Alleger show Alleger's Registered Land Surveyor Seal and his signature affixed to two Record of Survey documents and Parcel Addition Description all related to the Patagonia Townsite Eastside Addition project in Patagonia, Arizona. Alleger indicated that he had no involvement with this project and that his seal and signature were applied to the professional documents without his knowledge.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-101, et seq, including A.R.S. § 32-106.02(A).
- 2. The conduct alleged in the Findings of Fact, constitutes grounds for discipline pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-145(1), in that Respondent engaged in the practice of Land Surveying and Engineering on two projects in Santa Cruz County, Arizona, without Board registration.
- 3. The conduct alleged in the Findings of Fact, constitutes grounds for discipline pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-145(4), in that Respondent used the registration of another on seven professional documents related to two projects in Santa Cruz County, Arizona.

#### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board issues the following Order:

1. CIVIL PENALTY. Within Twelve (12) months from the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to be submitted to the Board by cashier's check or money order made payable to the Arizona State Board of Technical Registration, according to the provisions

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of A.R.S. § 32-106.02(A).

- COST OF INVESTIGATION. Within Ninety (90) days from the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent shall pay the cost of investigation of this case to the Board in the amount of Three Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty Four Dollars (\$3,334.00) by certified check or money order made payable to the State of Arizona Board of Technical Registration, according to the provisions of A.R.S. § 32-128(H).
- 3. OBEY ALL LAWS. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, related to the practice of Engineering and Land Surveying in the State of Arizona. The Board shall consider any violation of this paragraph to be a separate violation of the statutes governing the Arizona Board of Technical Registration.
- EFFECTIVE DATE. The effective date of this Consent Agreement is the date the Respondent and Board sign the Consent Agreement. If the dates are different, the effective date is the later of the two dates.
- COSTS OF COMPLIANCE. Respondent shall pay all costs associated with complying with this Consent Agreement.
- 6. NONCOMPLIANCE. If Respondent violates this Order in any way or fails to fulfill the requirements of this Order, the Board may seek a Petition for Injunction in accordance with the provisions set forth in A.R.S. § 32-106.01.

Jack Gilmore, P.L.A., Vice-Chairperson

Arizona State Board of Technical Registration

Consent Agreement and Order, No. P21-072 accepted this 2 day of

CAODEX, 2021.

Monica Acuna Arizmendi, Respondent

ORIGINAL filed this 🥰 day of

|    | November  |
|----|---|
| 1  | October, 2021, with:  |
| 2  | Arizona State Board of Technical Registration   |
| 3  | 1110 W. Washington, Suite 240<br>Phoenix, AZ 85007  |
| 4  | COPY of the foregoing mailed via Certified Mail   |
| 5  | No. 9214 8901 9434 4600 0856 09 and First Class mail this 3 day of November, 2021, to     |
| 6  | 30 30 30 30 30 30   |
| 7  | Craig L. Cline Esq., on behalf of Monica Acuna Arizmendi 4801 E. Broadway Blvd. Suite 400 |
| 8  | Tucson, Arizona 85711   |
| 9  |   |
| 10 | By:   |
| 11 |   |
| 12 | Gragory M. Roeln<br>Investigater-BTR  |
| 13 | Investigater-BTR  |
| 14 |   |
| 15 |   |
| 16 |   |
| 17 |   |
| 18 |   |