



MSBOA News

November 2024

See the articles below for official news from the Mississippi State Board of Architecture (MSBOA) regarding the regulation of architecture, landscape architecture, and certified interior design.

Board Recommendation regarding Title Blocks

The MSBOA recommends that drawings, specifications, reports or other professional work which were not prepared by or under the responsible control of the architect but are shown on unsealed documents containing the architect's title block, contain a disclaimer similar to the following:

"The drawings, specifications, reports or other professional work shown on this sheet were NOT prepared under the responsible control of the architect or architect's firm whose title block appears on this sheet. Neither the architect nor the architect's firm assume any responsibility for the accuracy of the information contained on this sheet and anyone relying on such information should independently verify the information contained hereon."

The purpose of the disclaimer is to avoid confusion regarding the architect's degree of responsibility. Although the Board is discussing a rule change to require that such a disclaimer be used, this is currently only a recommendation of the Board.

New Architect Rules



New architect rules adopted by the MSBOA took effect on November 9, 2024. The following rules have been amended/added:

- Rule 2.1.1 is amended to exempt Mississippi residents from the application/registration fee for initial registration.
- Rule 3.2.8.1 is added to specifically allow a non-resident architect, who is not registered in Mississippi but is registered in another state, to serve as a consultant to an architect registered in this state if all construction documents and specifications are prepared under the responsible control of and are signed and sealed by the Mississippi-registered architect.
- Rule 3.2.16, regarding construction administration services, is amended to clarify the wording and add the Board of Architecture to the list of individuals and entities who must be notified if an architect is not providing construction administration services for a project.
- Rule 4.3.5 is amended to bring the rule into conformity with *Miss. Code Ann. § 11-75-1* (the Mississippi Architects and Engineers Good Samaritan Act).
- Rule 4.5.2 is amended to clarify the responsible control requirements and address the use by an architect of third-party off-site drafting services. See the article on responsible control requirements in this newsletter for additional details.

Please contact the Board office if you have any questions regarding the new rules.

[View the Rules](#)

Board Amends Responsible Control Rule

After extensive discussion of the responsible control requirements, the MSBOA has amended Board of Architecture Rule 4.5.2, effective November 9, 2024. The prior version of the rule defined “responsible control” as “control over all phases of the practice of architecture as is ordinarily exercised by architects applying the required professional standard of care, including, but not limited to control over and detailed knowledge of the content of technical submissions throughout preparation by the architect and the architect’s employees” (emphasis added). The updated version of the rule replaces “the architect’s employees” with “others over whom the architect exercises supervisory direction and authority,” and allows an architect to make use of third-party off-site drafting services if the following criteria are met:

1. A written agreement exists between the architect and the drafting service showing that the architect assumes full professional responsibility for the work in relation to the client, spelling out in detail the services to be provided by the drafting service including necessary disciplines and types of services. This agreement may be a standing agreement pertaining to more than one project; and
2. The technical submissions prepared by the drafting service are taken from complete information provided by the architect whose seal will appear on the documents; and
3. The drafting service’s preparation shall not consist of any original design work whatsoever produced by that drafting service, including decisions for use of previously drawn or stored work. The architect shall retain documented evidence for at least five (5) years to prove the source of such original design work is that of the architect and make such records available to the Board upon request. Such records include written project agreements, time records, site visit logs, records of meetings and communications among project participants, documentation of research or investigations conducted on behalf of the project, design calculations, design sketches at various stages of development indicating the progress of the project, and notations memorializing reviews, corrections or revisions of documents prepared for the project.

The new rule still requires direct contact between the client and the architect or a person under the supervisory direction and authority of the architect and the architect’s involvement throughout the preparation of technical submissions. The rule further provides that “Review, or review and correction, of technical submissions after they have been prepared by individuals not under the supervisory direction and authority of the architect does not constitute the exercise of responsible control because the reviewer has neither control over nor detailed professional knowledge of the content of such submissions throughout their preparation.”

Please contact the Board office if you have any questions regarding the amended rule.

New Research: Exploring Public Opinion of Licensing and Artificial Intelligence

The Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing (ARPL) recently released new research findings on public perception of professional licensing and artificial intelligence (AI). A survey conducted by the Benenson Strategy Group showed that a majority of voters are wary

of AI supplanting human expertise for critical decision making and believe that state licensing boards are best equipped to ensure AI is used responsibly within their respective professions. [Read the executive summary.](#)

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) Board of Directors released a [position statement](#) on use of AI in the architectural profession in October 2024. Among other things, the statement affirms that AI is a tool—not a replacement for professional judgment.

NCARB Releases New Competency Standard

In October 2024, NCARB released a new framework that establishes competency-based qualification as the foundation of initial licensure as an architect. The *NCARB Competency Standard for Architects* will be used to update the current experience and examination programs required to become a U.S. architect, as well as guide the evolution of future licensure processes. [Read the NCARB press release.](#)



NCARB Report Highlights Key Skills for Entry-Level Architecture Positions

NCARB recently released a new report providing insight into the top knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) expected for an entry-level role in architecture. Intended to help bridge the gap between architectural education and practice, the [Workforce Readiness Report](#) provides a framework for incorporating the top skills recent graduates need into all types of architectural education.

Did You Know?

Board of Architecture Rule 3.2.16 requires architects to provide written notification to the building official, the Board of Architecture, the owner, the client, and the contractor if they are not providing construction administration services for a project as defined in the rule. This notice assures that all parties to the construction project are aware that construction administration is not being performed by the architect of record or is limited in scope. A [form](#) is available on the Board's website for this purpose, although architects are not required to use the form.

The Mississippi State University Landscape Architecture program will be celebrating its 60th anniversary on April 4-6, 2025.

Congratulations!

Recent Disciplinary Actions

Every effort is made to ensure that the following information is correct. Before making any decision based on this information, you should contact the MSBOA. Disciplinary actions taken against registrants in the past three (3) years, along with copies of orders/agreements, are displayed in the [license search system](#).

Michael William Byrd, Architect #4391

St. Louis, Missouri

Violation: Practice of architecture on an inactive license.

Penalty: Public reprimand and payment of \$1,000 fine.

Consent Agreement: April 16, 2024

Timothy Pattison Taylor, Sr., Architect #2146

Jackson, Mississippi

Violation: Sealed plans prepared outside his responsible control.

Penalty: Public reprimand and payment of \$2,500 fine.

Consent Agreement: August 6, 2024

Governor Appoints Members

Governor Tate Reeves recently reappointed three (3) members to the Board of Architecture and its Committees:

Board of Architecture

Richard H. McNeel, Jackson

Landscape Architecture Advisory Committee

Brantley Snipes, Greenwood

Interior Design Advisory Committee

Paula B. DeYoung, Clinton

Congratulations!

A complete list of Board and Committee members is available on the Board's [website](#).



Board of Directors

Beth Miller, Chair of the Interior Design Advisory Committee, received a certificate of appreciation from Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ) President Erin Jennings at the 2024 CIDQ Annual Meeting for her service on the CIDQ Board of Directors. Ms. Miller concludes a two-year term on the Board of Directors in December 2024.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM MSBOA!

The mission of the Mississippi State Board of Architecture is to serve the State of Mississippi by protecting and preserving the life, health and property of the Mississippians and others who live, work, and play in the built environment through the regulation of the professions of architecture, landscape architecture and certified interior design.

Mississippi State Board of Architecture

Landscape Architecture Advisory Committee

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