Notice Regarding Drafting Services for Projects Located in Nevada

November 2018

The Nevada State Board of Architecture, Interior Design and Residential Design is charged with protecting the health, safety and welfare of the public. In support of this mission, the board educates business owners who may unknowingly be violating the law by providing services that fall under the practices of architecture, registered interior design or residential design.

In order to lawfully provide drafting services that fall under the definition of the practice of architecture, registered interior design or residential design, and depending upon the scope of work, one of the following three elements is required:

1. A certificate of registration issued by this Board;
2. The individual drafting the plans must work under the “responsible control” of an architect, registered interior design or residential designer, or the “responsible charge” of a licensed engineer; or
3. The individual drafting the plans must be a legally recognized employee of a general contractor (W-2 employee) and the plans must be for the general contractor's own construction activities.

Drafting services may not work directly for the general public or subcontract with general contractors without being in violation of Nevada law.

If an individual or firm is found to be providing drafting services that fall within the definition of the practice of architecture, registered interior design or residential design, they are subject to the following penalties:

NRS 623.360 Prohibited acts; penalties; injunctive relief.
1. It is unlawful for any person to:

NRS 623.360.1(a) Hold himself or herself out to the public or to solicit business as an architect, registered interior designer or residential designer in this State without having a certificate of registration or temporary certificate issued by the Board. This paragraph does not prohibit a person who is exempt, pursuant to NRS 623.035, from the provisions of this chapter from holding himself or herself out to the public or soliciting business as an interior designer.

NRS 623.360.1(b) Advertise or put out any sign, card or other device which indicates to the public that he or she is an architect, registered interior designer or residential designer or that he or she is otherwise qualified to:
   (1) Engage in the practice of architecture or residential design; or
   (2) Practice as a registered interior designer, without having a certificate of registration issued by the Board.
NRS 623.360.1(c) Engage in the practice of architecture or residential design or practice as a registered interior designer without a certificate of registration issued by the Board.

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 623.365 states that in addition to any other civil penalty provided by law, a person who violates any provision of NRS 623 or any regulation adopted by the board is subject to a civil penalty of not more than $10,000 for each violation.

The Board is interested in providing education and assistance to help people avoid these violations. If you have any questions regarding the drafting services you are providing, please contact this agency for further clarification.

If your business is interested in preparing plans for residential or commercial projects for the public, please contact the Board to find out the minimum qualifications required to become a licensed architect or residential designer in Nevada.

This information is being provided to drafting services to assure compliance with Chapter 623 of the Nevada Revised Statutes.