

FOCUS

The Newsletter of the Nevada State Board of
Architecture, Interior Design and Residential Design

May 2021
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Board Issues Guidance to Registrants on Design Review Committees

The board issued a notice regarding potential conflicts of interest for Nevada architects and residential designers serving on design review committees (DRC). It states, in part:

“Design professionals sitting on DRCs serve an important purpose. Their voice adds professional expertise to the body and can help protect the public. Architects and residential designers who serve on DRCs should be aware of potential conflicts of interest that may arise due to their service on the committee and consider best practices.”

The letter outlines potential conflicts and best practices including:

- Architects and residential designers serving on a DRC should not review their own plans and should abstain from participating in the DRC’s deliberations regarding those plans.
- Architects and residential designers should not deny another design professional’s project in hopes of poaching the client and project for themselves.
- Architects and residential designers who serve on a DRC in the community where they live should not review plans that affect their own property if they cannot remain impartial.
- Architects and residential designers should not review plans if their judgment may be affected by a relationship with the design professional who designed the plans under consideration.

The letter was sent to all Nevada registrants. Additionally, a companion letter was sent to all Nevada Homeowners Associations. [Download the letter and guidance.](#)

COVID-19 Response Update

The NSBAIDRD office continues to be closed to walk-in visitors. Any applicants, registrants or members of the public may make an appointment to visit the office by calling 702-486-7300. Staff can also be contacted via email. Find [direct email addresses for each staff member](#) on the board website.

The June 9, 2021 board meeting will be held via Zoom, however the



Calendar

June 9, 2021
Board Meeting
Virtual

August 21, 2021
Board Meeting
Reno (tentative)

Board Members

James Mickey
Chair

William E. Snyder
Secretary/Treasurer

Kimberly Ciesynski

Gregory L. Erny

Ann Fleming

George F. Garlock

John Morelli

Nathaniel Waugh

Tina Wichmann

Board Staff

Monica Harrison
Executive Director

board has tentatively planned to resume in-person board meetings for its August 18, 2021 board meeting, scheduled for Reno. Updates will be posted on the board's website and social media channels.

Legislative Update

Each legislative session, the board monitors bills that may affect the regulation of architecture, registered interior design and/or residential design in the state. There are currently two bills the board is tracking. As of April 30, 2021, both bills were in the Senate Finance Committee.

SB 335

This bill would create a new Division of Occupational Licensing within the NV Department of Business and Industry. The bill abolishes the Board of Homeopathic Medical Examiners, Board of Dental Examiners, Board of Oriental Medicine, Board of Athletic Trainers, and Board of Massage Therapy. The powers of those boards would be transferred to the Division of Occupational Licensing. The new division would be funded by revenue from the abolished boards, plus five percent of the fees received by certain health care boards. According to testimony given at a Senate committee hearing, it is expected that eventually all Nevada boards and commissions would be abolished and their duties transferred to the new division. More information on SB 335, including full text, status and fiscal notes, can be [found on the Nevada Legislature website](#).

SB 402

This bill would authorize regulatory bodies to enter into reciprocal licensing agreements for an applicant who is an active member or veteran of, spouse of an active member or veteran of, or the surviving spouse of a veteran of, the US Armed Forces. It requires those licenses be issued within 30 days and reduces licensing fees for those applicants by half. More information on SB 402, including full text, status and fiscal notes, can be [found on the Nevada Legislature website](#).

NSBAIDRD already expedites reciprocal licensing applications for architects who identify themselves as veterans or military spouses. For more information on the expedited process, please contact the board at 702-486-7300.

NSBAIDRD on Social Media

Follow the board on Facebook and Twitter for the latest happenings, upcoming deadlines, CEU opportunities and more.

Join the conversation:



www.facebook.com/NSBAIDRD



[@nsbaidrd](https://twitter.com/nsbaidrd)

Laura Bach
Chief Investigator

T. Nani Aguada
Executive Assistant

Stacey Hatfield
*Public Information Officer
Newsletter Editor*
shatfield@nsbaidrd.nv.gov

Jessica Hernandez-Ramos
Administrative Assistant

Leilani Quenga
*Licensing Specialist/
Bookkeeper*

Moving? Changing Jobs?

Registrants have 30 days to notify the board of a change of address or place of employment per NRS 623.720.

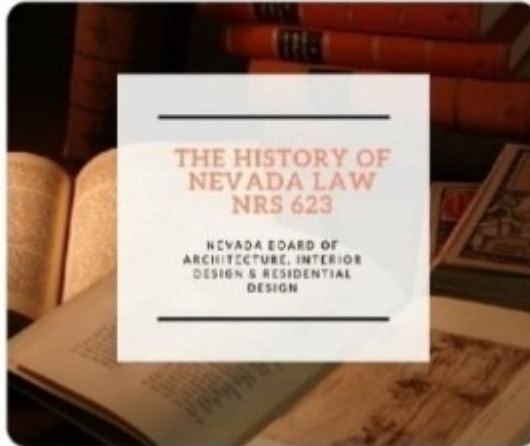
Download a [change of address form](#), or [email the following information](#)

to the board office:

- Full name
- Registration Number
- Prior Address & Phone #
- New Address & Phone #
- Email Address
- Effective Date of Change
- Type of Change (Business or Home)



NSBAIDRD @nsbaidrd · ·
 #OnThisDay in 1997, the first Nevada registered interior designers were sworn-in. Because of its high standards and strong public protection component, the Nevada law serves as a model for other states seeking #interiordesign licensing.



Residential Designers Awarded Dewey Jones Scholarship

Nathan Tolbert (399-RD) was awarded the Dewey Jones Residential Design Exam Scholarship at the March 2021 board meeting. The scholarship, which covers the cost of the RD Exams, is awarded to any residential design candidate who passes all four exams on the first attempt. The scholarship is funded by members of the residential design community.

Additionally, residential designers Eric Dunbar (165-RD) and Ryan Scott (251-RD) were awarded the scholarship in recognition of their passing all exam sections on the first attempt. Dunbar and Scott became residential designers prior to the implementation of the Dewey Jones Scholarship. Five residential designers have now been awarded the scholarship.

The Dewey Jones Scholarship was created in 2013 to honor the late Dewey Jones (029-RD). Jones was instrumental in the creation of the residential design law and was a board member. Former board member and scholarship creator Larry Tindall (052-RD) stated the intent behind the scholarship is to demonstrate that "with hard work there comes reward."

For more information about the scholarship contact the board office or [download the application](#).



Larry Tindall presents Dewey Jones Scholarship Award to Eric Dunbar.



Larry Tindall presents Dewey Jones Scholarship Award to Ryan Scott.

Exam Updates

ARE Test Administrator Migration

Last fall NCARB announced it would be changing testing administrators in Summer 2021 and the ARE would be administered through PSI instead of Prometric. NCARB recently announced that the migration is now likely to take place in early 2022 to ensure a smoother transition. Candidates will receive at least a three months' notice prior to the migration so they can plan future testing appointments. NCARB is assuring candidates that their appointments with Prometric will not be cancelled and they should continue to book testing appointments when they are ready to test.

More information at [NCARB](https://www.ncarb.org).

NCIDQ Exam April Test Results

CIDQ announced that all test results from the Spring testing window will be released approximately six to eight weeks after the testing window closes (April 30). All candidates will receive an email once the exam scores are added to their MyNCIDQ accounts.

For more information contact CIDQ at 202-721-0220.

New Registrants By Examination

Ten new registrants by examination were sworn-in at the March 2021 board meeting.

Architects

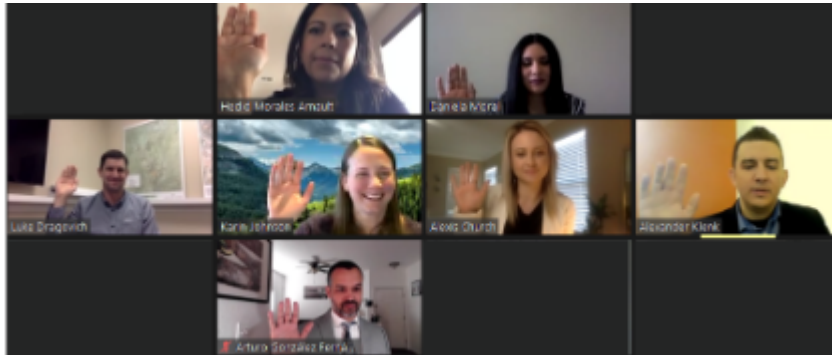
Alexis Church (Las Vegas) #8564
 Luke Dragovich (Reno) #8565
 Arturo Gonzalez (Las Vegas) #8566
 Karin Anne Johnson (Truckee, CA) #8567
 Alexander S. Klenk (Las Vegas) #8568
 Heidi Morales-Arnault (Las Vegas) #8569
 Daniela Moral Pereira (Reno) #8585

Registered Interior Designers

Marie Grillo (Las Vegas) #268-ID
 Karyn N. Israel (Las Vegas) #269-ID

Residential Designer

Nathan E. Tolbert (Minden) #399-RD



CEU Opportunities

NSBAIDRD / AIALV Announce Dates for Annual CEU Seminar

The 9th Annual NSBAIDRD / AIALV CEU Seminar is scheduled take place on November 5, 2021. In response to attendee feedback, this year's seminar will again be held in a virtual format. Speaker line-up and further details will be announced later this year.

NCARB Seismic Mitigation Mini-Monographs

NCARB has updated its six-part Continuum Education course series on seismic mitigation. The series, originally published in 2017, has been updated for 2021. The series includes:

- Part 1: Earthquakes and Their Effects (1.75 HSW)
- Part 2: Seismic Vulnerability of Buildings and Sites (3.0 HSW)
- Part 3: Design for Better Seismic Response (1.5 HSW)
- Part 4: Design for Better Seismic Response (1.25 HSW)
- Part 5: Improving on Existing Construction & Mitigation of Seismic Forces (1.75 HSW)
- Part 6: Managing Design and Construction, and Design Resources (1.25 HSW)

All courses are free for active NCARB record holders and available for purchase for individuals without an NCARB record. For more information on the seismic mitigation series and other Continuum Education courses, [visit NCARB](#).

Firm Owners: Don't Forget to Update the Board of New Firm Ownership and/or Management

[NAC 623.740](#) requires every firm using a corporate or fictitious name have its name approved by the board. We refer to this as "firm name approval." These firms are required to notify the board in writing within 30 days after there are any changes in the ownership or management of the firm. Additionally, if the firm decides to change its name, it must have the new firm name approved by the board.

[NRS 623.349](#) allows registrants to form business organizations or associations with persons who are not licensed, as long as two-thirds of the ownership is held by design professionals licensed under NRS 623, 623A or 625. We refer to this as "firm registration." If these firms are corporations, they must give the board a complete list of all stockholders with their initial application and update the board annually thereafter within 30 days of the corporation's annual meeting.

For information about firm name approval and firm name registration, please see our [website](#) or contact the board office.

Disciplinary Actions

(October 19, 2020 through January 19, 2021)

Inquiries are routinely sent to both registrants and non-registrants for alleged violations of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Codes (NAC).

There were five cases this period that were submitted for board consideration and approved. Additionally, 11 cases were closed because there was no basis for the allegations or the complaint did not fall within the board's jurisdiction.

The following cases were closed by means of settlement agreement; as part of the agreement respondents agreed to assure compliance with Chapter 623. Should the respondents be involved in a subsequent case and found to have again violated NRS, NAC or Rules of Conduct, the case may be used as an aggravating factor. Every effort is made to ensure that the following information is correct. Before making any decision based on this information you should contact the NSBAIDRD.

Working Outside the Exemption for a Contractor Licensed Pursuant to NRS 624 and Holding Oneself Out, Advertising, and Unlicensed Practice of Architecture: NRS 623.035.1(d) and NRS 623.360.1(a)(b)(c)

Case 21-017N

The allegations against *Damon Fischer* and *Copious Interests* were that they worked outside the exemption for contractors, held themselves out as being qualified to provide services that fall under the practice of architecture, and engaged in the practice of architecture, without having a certificate of registration with the board. The matter was resolved through a settlement agreement incorporating an administrative penalty of \$2,500 plus investigative costs of \$1,300.

Holding Oneself Out and Advertising Qualifications to Practice Architecture, Registered Interior Design or Residential Design: NRS 623.360.1(a)(b)Case 21-022R

The allegations against *Edward Breakell* and *BAM Design* were that they held themselves out and advertised that they were qualified to provide services that fall under the practice of architecture, without having a certificate of registration issued by the board. The matter was resolved through a settlement agreement incorporating an administrative penalty of \$2,500 plus investigative costs of \$1,500.

Holding Oneself Out, Advertising, and Unlicensed Practice of Architecture, Registered Interior Design or Residential Design: NRS 623.360.1(a)(b)(c)Case 21-020N

The allegations against *Mohammad Abutarboush* and *Studio 27* were that they held themselves out as being qualified to provide services that fall under the practices of architecture and residential design and engaged in the practices of architecture and residential design, without having a certificate of registration with the board. The matter was resolved through a settlement agreement incorporating an administrative penalty of \$12,500 plus investigative costs of \$1,500.

Case 21-031N

The allegations against *Matthew Metcalf* and *Matthew Metcalf Architecture* were that they held themselves out as being qualified to provide services that fall under the practice of architecture and engaged in the practice of architecture, without having a certificate of registration with the board. The matter was resolved through a settlement agreement incorporating an administrative penalty of \$3,500 plus investigative costs of \$1,200.

Case 21-032N

The allegations against *William Casler* and *William Casler Design Group Inc.* were that they held themselves out as being qualified to provide services that fall under the practice of architecture and engaged in the practice of architecture, without having a certificate of registration with the board. The matter was resolved through a settlement agreement incorporating an administrative penalty of \$7,500 plus investigative costs of \$1,500.

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2080 E. Flamingo Rd., Suite 120, Las Vegas, NV 89119
(702) 486-7300nsbaidrd@nsbaidrd.nv.govnsbaidrd.orgClick [here](#) to unsubscribe

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