MEMORANDUM

TO: All Professional Registrants

FROM: Executive Board Administrator

SUBJECT: RIGHTFUL SEALING/SIGNING ON DOCUMENTS

Hafa Adai! The Professional Engineers, Architects and Land Surveyors (PEALS) Board, in its effort to closely monitor the practice of engineering, architecture, landscape architecture, land surveying and construction management reminds all registered individuals and business firms to comply with the Law, its policies, rules and procedures in providing professional services.

Recently, we were informed that some engineers have placed their seals and signatures on documents other than their respective engineering licensed disciplines on a project being built inside the military base (Naval Station). Although the PEALS Board has no jurisdiction within military installations, the Law prohibits engineers, architects, landscape architects and land surveyors from signing or sealing a document outside of his/her area of competence and authorized practice. This action is illegal and a direct violation of the registration law (5 GCA Title 22 §32109(i)).

It is critically important that you, as professionals, uphold your professional standards in your practice. The Board cautions you that only applicable seals must be used or applied to applicable drawings, i.e. architect’s seals on architectural drawings, civil engineer’s seal on civil engineering drawings, mechanical engineer’s seal on mechanical drawings, etc. (5 GCA Title 22, §32116). Whether the work is for a private, public or federal project, you must still comply with the requirements of the registration law. Clearly, if you prepare and seal the document, you are certifying that the work was done under your responsible charge. But if you are sealing documents prepared by others without your direct supervision, it boils down to plan stamping. Did you cross the line into plan stamping?

Public Law 30-35, “The Professional Engineers, Architects and Land Surveyors Law” strengthened the PEALS Board provisions and enforcement powers to uphold the integrity of the professions. We strongly suggest that you make the effort to read the law and understand its provisions, and its enforcement effort as it may affect your profession while you practice on Guam.

Should you have any questions, please visit the Board’s website (www.guam-peals.org), or contact the PEALS Board at 646-3113 or 646-3138.

Ms. AMOR A. PAININGAN

Concurred by:

PAUL L. SANTOS, P.L.S.
Chairman

PB09-1042
MEMORANDUM

TO: All Professional Registrants

FROM: Executive Board Administrator

SUBJECT: REVISED LAW, NEW PROVISIONS

Hafa Adai! The Professional Engineers, Architects and Land Surveyors Board reminds you that in July 20, 2009 Public Law 30-35 (Bill 25LS) was adopted and implemented. An electronic copy (CD) was mailed to you earlier along with your new registration card. Some of the revised, new provisions are as follows:

Section 32116. Certificate/Seals, Sealing on documents:

1. Your certificate of registration shall be displayed in a conspicuous place in your place of business or employment;

2. Your professional seal shall be an image, imprint or other medium approved by the Board.

3. The seal and your dated signature shall be placed on all engineering, surveying, architecture, and landscape architectural drawings, maps, reports, etc.

4. Only the applicable seal shall be used or applied on applicable drawings.

Section 32117. Expiration and Renewals:

1. Individual registration expires on April 30 of each year.

2. Business firms’ COA expires on October 31 of each year.

3. After sixty (60) days of failing to renew, registrant shall be required to submit an Application for a Reinstatement of registration.

Section 32125. Contract Law Language.

A Professional Engineer, Architect, Landscape Architect or Land Surveyor shall use a written contract when contracting to provide professional services to a client. The written contract shall be executed by the professional registrant and the client, or their representative, prior to the professional’s commencing work, unless the client knowingly states in writing that work may commence before the contract is executed.
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As of this day, we have noticed that several registrants have not updated their seals and signatures are not dated. The PEALS Board is giving you until December 15, 2009 to abide by this transition. After this date, all drawings or plans submitted for BPI Clearance will be returned to the applicant without clearance.

Therefore, in order to avoid delays in your project and possible disciplinary action by the Board, please abide with the above requirements, and finally, read the LAW.

Ms. AMOR A. PAKINGAN

Concurred by:

PAUL I. SANTOS, P.L.S.
Chairman

PB09-1143