# INTERChange

Informing Professional Engineers of developments that influence their honored profession

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Mr. Garth Thomas, Jr., PE Board President South Charleston, WV

Dr. Larry Nottingham, PE Board Vice-President Duck, WV

> Mr. L.A. Gates, PE Board Secretary Beckley, WV

Mr. Edward Robinson, PE Lewisburg, WV

> Mrs. Carol Stevens, PE Alum Creek, WV



West Virginia State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers

> 300 Capitol Street Suite 910 Charleston, WV 25301

> > TEL 304-558-3554 800-324-6170 FAX 304-558-6232

#### WWW.WVPEBD.GOV

Lesley L. Rosier-Tabor, PE Executive Director Lesley@wvpebd.gov info@wvpebd.gov

Message from the Executive Director	2
Celebrating a New Era!	
Board Updates	
2023-2024 Board Leadership Election Results	3
Historic Moment: First Female Engineer Appointed to Board	3
Reappointment of Garth Thomas Jr., PE	4
Gone But Not Forgotten	4
Rubenstein Honored For Four Decades of Public Service	5
Professional Issues and Legal Corner	
Board Disciplinary Actions	6
Counsel's Column - Lessons Learned: A Cautionary Tale	8
PE / COA Renewal Updates	
Current WV PE Board Statistics	10
Upcoming WV COA Renewal Reminder	10
WV PE Renewal Season Summary	10
NCEES Updates	
CBT Exam Transition Complete!	10
NCEES Committee Appointments	11
New Exam Specifications & Standards	11
Advancing Licensure for Public Protection	11

Calendar of Events......12



#### LESLEY L. ROSIER-TABOR, PE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR









# **Celebrating a New Era!**

The Taylor Swift-Barbie era is a time that has brought forth powerful and influential women who are challenging norms, breaking barriers, and shaping the cultural landscape. During this unique period, strong female voices have emerged that resonate with millions of young people worldwide. Whether it's through the music of country-turned-pop star Taylor Swift or the enduring appeal of the doll named Barbie, a new generation of leaders are on the scene, inspiring and empowering others with their creativity, confidence, and authenticity.

Here in our small corner of the world, we are celebrating a new era as well. I am thrilled to be here to witness our first female engineer being appointed to the West Virginia State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers. Governor Jim Justice naming Mrs. Carol A. Stevens, PE, to the WV PE Board is a significant milestone in our agency's 102-year existence. I have known Carol for over 30 years and have served alongside her in a variety of professional engineering society roles. She is a small business owner, a leader in the engineering community, and brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the Board. A few weeks ago, we sat down for several hours for Board orientation and I immediately knew she would be a great fit. She is smart, observant and committed to fulfilling the duties of protecting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of our state.

In addition, I just returned from the 2023 Annual Meeting of the National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors, where I witnessed NCEES Member Boards elect the second-ever female to the organization's highest office. Laura Sievers, PE, of Iowa, began her term as 2023-24 NCEES president at the conclusion of the organization's 102nd annual meeting, held August 15-18 in Boston, Massachusetts. Patty Mamola, PE, of Nevada, accepted the office of NCEES president in August 2014 and was the organization's first female president since its founding in 1920. The inclusion of female engineers on the Board of Directors at both our state and the national level sends a powerful message to the engineering community and beyond. It underscores the importance of diversity in leadership which can lead to more innovative solutions and better decision-making.

In closing, I hope these historic moments serve as an inspiration for aspiring female engineers who may have previously felt discouraged by the lack of representation at the highest levels of their profession and society in general. My own daughter is currently well into her senior year of high school, with aspirations of pursuing STEM studies in college. It is my sincere hope she will see a different classroom composition than I did 35 years ago. I had no female professors leading lectures in my engineering classrooms, not a single one at the undergraduate or graduate levels of two different universities. There were no females in leadership positions as Department Chairs, in the Dean's Office or higher. Years later, when I returned to my alma mater to serve as the first female professor in the civil engineering department, still the only other female staff in the building were the administrative assistants (some of whom, by the way, became my very dear and lifelong friends). I do not want that for my daughter. I want her to see female role models who are educating young minds and imparting their wisdom and knowledge to the next generation. I want her to recognize that with talent, determination and the right opportunities, women can (and do) rise to the top in traditionally male-dominated fields.

I know the safer path for a woman is to be humble and modest, but we need to celebrate and know the glass ceilings will shatter as women help other women break through ... and I am here for it!



# **Board Updates**

# HISTORIC MOMENT: FIRST FEMALE ENGINEER APPOINTED TO BOARD

The West Virginia State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers is pleased to announce a new appointment to the Board. Per a gubernatorial notification made by Governor Jim Justice on August 2, 2023, Mrs. Carol A. Stevens, PE, was appointed to her first term ending on June 30, 2026. Mrs. Stevens is filling a partial term, succeeding Mr. Bhajan Saluja whose final 3-term service expired on June 30, 2021. As permitted per WV Code §30-13-4, Mr. Saluja continued

to faithfully serve the Board for the last two years until the receipt of the Governor's notification that his successor had been named.

Carol A. Stevens, F.ASCE, earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from West Virginia University in 1984 and a master's of engineering degree in engineering science from The Pennsylvania State University (Harrisburg) in 1989. After working in the defense industry for four years, Mrs. Stevens began her career in design of building structures. She is currently president of CAS Structural Engineering, Inc., a structural consulting firm located in Alum Creek, WV and, is registered as a professional engineer in 6 states. In addition to new construction and renovation projects, she has been involved with restoration and preservation of a number of historic structures, including the West Virginia Capitol Building, the West Virginia Governor's Mansion and various historic structures in the area. Carol has also been a team member on several AIA award winning projects. An ASCE member since 1982, Carol has progressed through the local branch and state officer positions and also served as the Region 4 Governor for West Virginia.

Mrs. Stevens is a member of a number of other professional societies including, but not limited to, the National Society of Professional Engineers, the West Virginia Society of Professional Engineers, the American Concrete Institute, and the American Institute of Steel Construction. She also volunteers her time to serve on the West Virginia University Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Advisory Committee, the West Virginia University Institute of Technology Department of Civil Engineering Advisory Committee, and as head judge of many ASCE Steel Bridge Competitions at the Virginias' Conference over the last few decades.

Mrs. Stevens resides in Lincoln County, in the Seventh Senatorial District, and lives in Alum Creek, West Virginia, with her husband Jeff.

Left to right in photo:

Mr. L.A. Gates, PE Board Secretary Term expires June 30, 2025

**Dr. Larry Nottingham, PE**Board Vice-President
Term expires June 30, 2027

**Mr. Edward Robinson, PE, PS**Board Member
Term expired June 30, 2019

Mrs. Carol Stevens, PE Board Member Term expires June 30, 2026

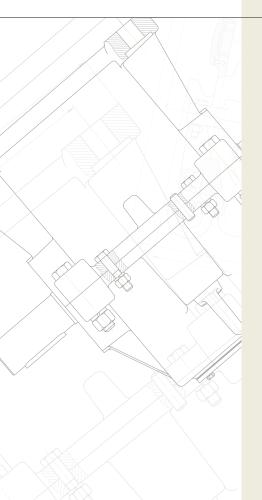
Mr. Garth Thomas, PE Board President Term expires June 30, 2028

#### 2023-2024 BOARD LEADERSHIP ELECTION RESULTS

During the May 24, 2022 Board meeting, the WV PE Board discussed the need for FY2023 officer elections and Mr. Robinson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Saluja, to retain the same Board officers for the upcoming fiscal year. Upon unanimous vote, the current officer slate remained unchanged:

- Mr. Garth Thomas, Jr., PE Board President
- Dr. Larry Nottingham, PE Board Vice-President
- Mr. L.A. Gates, PE Board Secretary

### **Board Updates Continued**





# REAPPOINTMENT OF GARTH THOMAS, JR, PE

The West Virginia State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers received a welcomed reappointment to the Board. Per a gubernatorial notification made by Governor Jim Justice on August 2, 2023, Mr. Garth E. Thomas, Jr, PE, was reappointed to his second full 5-year term ending on June 30, 2028. Mr. Thomas was originally appointed on June 8, 2016 to

succeed Dr. William Pierson who left a partial term, and then Garth received his first full 5-year appointment on August 29, 2018. Mr. Thomas is current serving in his third year as President of the Board. He had a long career as a faculty member, Department Chair of Chemical Engineering, and Associate Campus Provost at the West Virginia University Institute of Technology. In addition, he is a dedicated 20-year member of the NCEES Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Exam Development Committee and has served on numerous national NCEES Committees during his 7-year tenure on the WV PE Board.

Mr. Thomas is from Kanawha County, in the Seventeenth Senatorial District, and lives in Charleston, West Virginia, with his wife Darlene.

#### **GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN ...**

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of our first Board Investigator, our dear friend, Don Johnson, PE. Don joined our Board staff in 2003, and is credited with developing and growing our first true Enforcement Program into the success that it is today. He was a dedicated staff member with exemplary work ethic and everyone he encountered, no matter what side of the Board room table you may have been on, would attest to him being honest, sincere, thoughtful and simply a true gentleman.



Don earned his degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Alabama, and he was an avid

supporter through the years (this is where he would have said "Roll Tide!") He had a long career with Monsanto/Flexsys and, after retiring, he went back to work for the WV Board of Professional Engineers for 11 years. Following his last retirement from state government, he could be found working alongside his wife in her pottery studio and gardens.

Don was 77 years old when he passed away on January 25, 2023 at home with his family after a long battle with Dementia and Parkinson's disease. He is dearly missed.





# RUBENSTEIN HONORED FOR 4 DECADES OF PUBLIC SERVICE

In the realm of public service, commitment and dedication often stand as the cornerstones of a successful career. It is with immense pride and gratitude that we celebrate the remarkable four-decade journey of Sue Rubenstein serving our state government.

Sue has been the backbone of efficient operations at the Board office for the last 16 years, and one of the unsung heroes behind the scenes. However, her journey in public service began over 40 years ago in Morgantown. Sue served as the Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of New Student Orientation Programs at West Virginia University from 1982 to 1990. Her family then moved to Charleston and she accepted the position as Bar Admissions Administrator for the Board of Law Examiners and served in that capacity from 1991 to 2007.

To mark this momentous occasion, Sue was invited to the state's annual Public Service Recognition Week celebration. Unable to attend this event, the Board recognized Sue at their May 2023 Board meeting where she was presented with flowers, a lapel pin, a formal certificate from Governor Jim Justice and sweet treats from a favorite local bakery.

In a world where public service often goes unnoticed or underappreciated, it is crucial to take a moment to celebrate individuals like Sue who have dedicated their entire career to making our state a better place. Congratulations to Sue Rubenstein on 40 years of outstanding dedication to our state and its people!



# **Board Disciplinary Actions**

Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to ensure that the enforcement information is correct; however this information should not be relied upon without verification from the Board office or website. It should be noted that the names of companies and individuals listed may be similar to the names of parties who have not had enforcement actions taken against them. Should you have any specific questions regarding the disciplinary actions noted below, please contact the Board office.

In meeting its mission of safeguarding life, health and property, and to promote the public welfare, the WV Board actively enforces the statutes and rules that fall within its jurisdiction. Below is a summary of formal complaints that resulted in disciplinary action since the 2022 newsletter. Numerous other investigations were conducted, some resulting in formal complaints which are still pending; some dismissed because the charges were unsubstantiated or considered trivial; and some closed after acceptable corrective action or warning.

Disciplinary actions can be either a result of a formal hearing resulting in a Board Order or settled informally resulting in a Consent Order. These orders are public records. If you are interested in knowing more about the nature of the complaint, you may request a copy pursuant to the State's Freedom of Information Act. All Orders are posted on the Board website.

All civil penalties are deposited in the state's general fund. Administrative costs are made payable to the WV PE Board and are retained by the Board to offset costs incurred in the investigation and complaint resolution efforts. Administrative costs may be waived if the complaint is resolved with a minimum of expense.

Case #:	C2022-35 CTL Engineering of WV, Inc.	Case #:	C2023-03 William C. Blackwell
Violation:	Aiding or assisting another to violate Engineering Law. Failure to Seal. [§30-13-16(c), §30-13-21(a)(8)]	Violation:	Provided misinformation to the Board. [§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution:	Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 11/16/22.	Resolution:	Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 12/20/22.
Case #:	C2022-35 Michael C. Sun	Case #:	C2023-04 Motz Consulting Engineers, Inc.
Violation:	Failure to Seal. [§30-13-16(c), §30-13-21(a)(4)]	Violation:	Provided misinformation to the Board. [§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution:	Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 11/16/22.	Resolution:	Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 1/18/23.
Case #:	C2023-01 RESPEC Company, LLC	Case #:	C2023-05 Berardi + Partners, Inc.
Violation:	Aiding or assisting another to violate Engineering Law. Failure to Seal. [§30-13-16(c), §30-13-21(a)(8)]	Violation:	Provided misinformation to the Board. [§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]
Resolution:	Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 11/22/22.	Resolution:	Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 12/20/22.
Case #:	C2023-02 Atom Engineering, PLLC	Case #:	C2023-08 Underhill Engineering, LLC
Violation:	Provided misinformation to the Board. [§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)]	Violation:	Practicing engineering without a Certificate of Authorization. [§30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4)]
Resolution:	Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 1/18/23.	Resolution:	Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$250 paid. Case closed 4/25/23.

C2023-09 Case #: C2023-18 Case #: **Kirby Building Systems LLC Kennedy Structural Engineers, PLLC** Violation: Practicing engineering without a Certificate of Violation: Practicing engineering without a Certificate of Authorization. [§30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4)] Authorization. [§30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4)] Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$250 paid. Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$250 paid. Case closed 7/5/23. Case closed 3/7/23. C2023-10 C2023-19 Case #: Case #: **Enhanse LLC American Building Company Illinois LLC** Violation: Practicing engineering without a Certificate of Violation: Practicing engineering without a Certificate of Authorization. [§30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4)] Authorization. [§30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4)] Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$250 paid. Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$250 paid. Case closed 3/7/23. Case closed 7/5/23. C2023-15 C2023-20 Case #: Case #: Thomas & Litton, Inc. MBA Structural Engineers, Inc. Violation: Aiding or assisting another to violate Violation: Practicing engineering without a Certificate of Engineering Law. Failure to Seal. Authorization. [§30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4)] [§30-13-16(c), §30-13-21(a)(8)] Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$250 paid. Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 4/29/23. Case closed 3/7/23. C2024-03 Case Number: Case #: C2023-16 Jose L. Parada **Heiberg Engineering and Forensic Services** Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board. [§30-13-Practicing engineering without a Certificate of 21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)] Violation: Authorization. Aiding and assisting the practice of engineering services without a license. Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. [§30-13-2, §30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4), Case closed 9/26/23. §30-13-21(a)(8)] C2024-08 Case #: Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Afsar Hasan Case closed 8/21/23. Violation: Provided misinformation to the Board. C2023-17 [§30-13-21(a)(4), §30-13-21(a)(12)] Case #: **Nucor Corporation** Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$500 paid. Case closed 8/21/23. Violation: Practicing engineering without a Certificate of Authorization. [§30-13-17, §30-13-21(a)(4)] Resolution: Consent Order signed. Civil penalty of \$250 paid. Case closed 7/5/23.



# Lessons Learned: A Cautionary Tale For App-Based Engineering Work

#### **COUNSEL'S COLUMN**

MS. DEBRAHAMILTON, RETIRED BOARD COUNSEL

Ms. Debra Hamilton retired on June 30, 2018. Debra had been practicing law for nearly 40 years and spent over 20 years in state government as counsel to the WV Legislature in the 1980's and then the last 16 years of her career as Managing Deputy Attorney General as well as counsel to the WV PE Board. However, she emerged from retirement in recent months to assist the Board due to an unexpected absence of her successor. The Board would like to sincerely thank Debra for stepping up and stepping in without question or hesitation. With the Board's current counsel now back in good health and back in the office, we again bid farewell to this cherished member of our team so she may return to her retirement adventures.

A recent Board-initiated complaint was brought against an engineering design firm that is a national provider of architectural, engineering and consulting services. The complaint was initiated in a common way. The Board's investigator and in-house counsel was reviewing drawings, which had been uploaded to a publicly accessible plan room, and saw a set of drawings that indicated they were "ISSUED FOR BID / PERMIT" and had not been signed and sealed.

After presentation to the Board at a regular meeting, a complaint was filed and served upon the Respondent. The firm was represented in this matter by their in-house counsel. Communications between the attorneys ensued, and a Verified Response to the Complaint was received. The following information comes from that response.

#### The Issue

Respondent is a growing company that serves clients in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Understandably, the firm set out to zealously defend against the allegations set forth in the Complaint. After describing their scope of work for the West Virginia project in question, its counsel proceeded to explain that the Client's standard operating procedure for this and other projects is to collaborate on work-in-progress with those doing the professional work as facilitated through a real estate management application, also referred to as an asset management system.

The firm went on to explain that these work-in-progress design documents "were accessible to a general contractor ... through no control of Respondent." Unbeknownst to Respondent, the contractor uploaded these work-in-progress documents to a public plan room, making them available for bidding purposes to any entity

subscribing to this service. The effect being that undated, unsigned, and unsealed plans became available to the public.

#### **The Response**

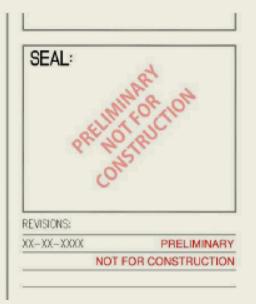
During the Respondent's internal investigation, their counsel asked the firm who was the expeditor on the project to assist with determining what had occurred, stating Respondent was unfamiliar with the bidding process. It was confirmed that all final documents had been properly signed, sealed, and dated. "Respondent was not responsible for submitting any request for proposals with general contractors or subcontractors and did not publicly post any work-in-progress or final plans for bidding purposes."

The Board's counsel and the Respondent's counsel had several communications regarding the matter, culminating in an informal conference before the Board at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. The Respondent's counsel was accompanied by two professional engineers who had worked on the project in question. They answered many of the questions that had been propounded by Board counsel during discussions of the complaint, as well as many questions asked by the Board, such as:

- Why had the Client's template not been modified or redacted so as to make it clear the documents were a work-in-progress?
- Why weren't questions asked and precautions taken regarding the security of the platform to prevent unfinished work product from being accessed, utilized, uploaded, etc., by a third-party?
- How do you plan to keep similar situations from occurring in the future?

The Respondent's representatives addressed the various questions and also detailed the best practices that it has instituted to avoid something like this from ever happening again. Some of the precautions undertaken include the following:

All issued documents, either hard copy or electronic, that are intended for preliminary review and/or reference shall meet the following standards.



- Remove any reference to "permit, bid, construction, as-built, or record" from the cover sheet, title block, drawing index, etc.
- Apply Watermark to Seal Box and add submission notes to the Title Block indicating one of the following:
  - Preliminary
    - Not for Construction
  - Progress Drawings
    - Not for Construction
  - Client Review
    - For Review Purposes Only

#### **A Learning Opportunity**

When Ms. Hamilton (the Board's former counsel from the Attorney General's Office) agreed to return from retirement to assist the Board with interim duties, she had been asked to consider contributing to the upcoming newsletter. Even with her years of experience with the Board, she opined that in her experience this was an unusual, if not unique, set of facts that could provide a learning opportunity for the engineering community. She inquired whether Respondent would be amenable to collaboration on an article to educate the engineering community about the document control problems that prompted this complaint. The Respondent agreed to collaborate and has contributed to this article.

It is unclear the extent to which engineering firms are now being requested or required to work through the client's asset management system. The Respondent provided the following estimate of the number of their clients requesting or requiring usage of an outside-controlled asset management system that houses or may house design work-in-progress for communicative, conceptual, presentative, or rendering purposes:

#### **Key Takeaway**

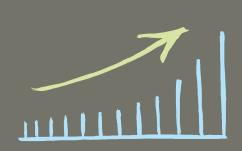
Given this complaint is now resolved, the Board thought it would be of benefit to the engineering community to become aware of such pitfalls as you steer clear of or work through the various challenges brought on by technological changes, especially as we enter the age of advanced artificial intelligence.

It is our hope that the situation presented here, and the changes made in the firm's standard operating procedures provide food for thought and possibly upgrades to your own best practices. The key take-away here is if your drawings are not ready for bid or are not final, something should appear on the face of all documents to indicate the status of the document in every instance where others outside your office can view work-in-progress. Otherwise, the security of the documents is not assured.

Remember, as Stevie Wonder might say, until they're "signed, sealed, delivered, they're yours," and the West Virginia Board will hold YOU responsible.



## PE / COA Renewal Updates



#### CURRENT WV PE BOARD STATISTICS

The following is a numerical summary of registered individuals and firms as of September 1, 2023.

Active PEs	9535
Retired PEs	260
Active COAs	3527
Engineer Intern	5566
TOTAL1	8,885

# PE RESIDENCY SUMMARY AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2023:

Active PEs living in WV ......1577 (16.5%)
Active PEs living outside WV ......7958 (83.5%)

# COA SUMMARY AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2023:

firm record address

Active COAs with firm record address in WV.......449 (12.7%)
Active COAs with

outside WV ...... 3078 (87.3%)

#### **UPCOMING WV COA RENEWAL REMINDER**

It's time to renew your firm Certificate of Authorization! All firms in possession of an active WV COA will be required to be renew by December 31, 2023. As outlined in WV Engineering Law, our agency is required to send notification at least 30 days prior to the expiration of a license, meaning no later than December 1st of odd numbered years for COAs and December 1st of even numbered years for PEs and Retired PEs. Renewal notifications are typically mailed in mid-late November and the WV State Treasurer's Office activates our online license renewal system at the same time. If you have an active COA, renewal instructions were enclosed with this newsletter and a live COA renewal link is posted on our website as well. A number of courtesy email notifications will also be sent to the record email address(es) throughout the renewal season until successfully renewed.

If you have any questions regarding the COA renewal process, please do not hesitate to contact Tiffany Coleman as she handles all COA matters for the WV PE Board. You may email her at tiffany@wvpebd.gov or call 304-558-3554.

#### WV PE RENEWAL SEASON SUMMARY

#### PE Status Summary for Recent 2023-2024 PE Renewal

- Active PEs receiving PE Renewal Notification in November 2022 = 9786
- Retired PEs receiving Retired PE Renewal Notifications in November 2022 = 245
- Non-Responding PEs resulting in Lapsed Status in February 2023 = 372

#### **PDH Audit Summary**

- 350 WV PEs (3.9 %) audited in February 2023
- 8 PEs requested Inactive status during the audit
- Only 1 PE invalidated due to no response to audit

To view or download a complete roster of the Active PE licenses, Firm Certificates of Authorization (COAs), and Retired PEs, simply visit our website License/COA Verification page at services.wypebd.gov/verification. There you will find access to a real-time, online verification search tool that shows if a particular individual and/or firm is authorized to practice or offer engineering services in West Virginia.

#### **CBT EXAM TRANSITION COMPLETE!**

As of 2024, all NCEES FE and PE exams will be transitioned to Computer-Based Testing (CBT). This CBT conversion process began with the FE exam in 2011 and will end with the PE Structural Exams in the fall of 2023. Some CBT exams are administered year-round. NCEES constructs these exams using a linear-on-the-fly (LOFT) algorithm. This means that all examinees for a particular exam are required to answer the same number of questions in the same topics; however, no examinees will have the same set of questions. The algorithm will assemble a unique exam within the same specification framework (i.e., the same number of questions per topic area) and the same relative level of difficulty. Other CBT exams that have a smaller examinee population use a different high-stakes testing model and are administered on a single day each year. All examinees taking these exams receive the same questions. The question formats used on both types of exams are the same, independent of the statistical model employed.

# National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying Updates

#### NCEES COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

In June of 2023, the following individuals received notification from the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) regarding their selection by then President-Elect Laura Sievers to NCEES Committees for the 2023-24 administrative year.

- Mr. Garth Thomas, Jr., PE, who serves as the current President of the WV PE Board, was appointed to serve as a Member on the Committee on Examination Policy and Procedures Committee.
- Lesley L. Rosier-Tabor, PE, who serves as the WV PE Board's Executive Director, was appointed to serve as a Member of the Member Board Administrators Committee.

The WV PE Board would like to thank President Sievers for her confidence in their capability to make meaningful contributions when addressing her assigned committee charges in the coming year. In addition, the appointees would like to thank the WV PE Board for their continued support of their involvement with NCEES in our efforts to assist the Member Boards in safeguarding the health, safety and welfare of the general public.

#### **NEW EXAM SPECIFICATIONS & STANDARDS**

The Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exam tests for a minimum level of competency in a particular engineering discipline. It is designed for engineers who have gained a minimum of four years' of post-college work experience in their chosen engineering discipline.

For the most up-to-date exam information, including exam specifications and standards, as well as the relevant exam schedules, please visit the NCEES website and select your engineering discipline at ncees.org/engineering/pe. Once registered with NCEES and approved by their State Board, examinees may reserve their seats at a Pearson VUE test center for NCEES exams.

#### Below is a list of the most recent PE Exam Updates published by NCEES for the Fall of 2023 and the Spring of 2024:

- PE Agricultural and Biological The PE Agricultural and Biological exam has new specifications and design standards as of October 2023 and have been posted to the NCEES website.
- PE Petroleum The PE Petroleum exam will have new specifications and design standards as of October 2023 and have been posted to the NCFES website.
- PE Structural The PE Structural exam was offered for the last time in pencil-and-paper format. Beginning November 1, 2023, examinees register and schedule CBT appointments available year-round for the Vertical and Lateral Forces breadth sections. The new exam administrations for the Vertical and Lateral Forces (both depth and breadth sections) will begin in April 2024.
- PE Civil The PE Civil exam will have new specifications and design standards starting in April 2024 and will be posted on the NCEES website.
- PE Control Systems, PE Electrical and Computer: Electronics, Controls, and Communications, and PE Fire Protection - The final October administration of these PE exams was October 2023. All 3 PE exams shift to administration each April beginning in 2024.





# ADVANCING LICENSURE FOR PUBLIC PROTECTION

As part of its virtual outreach programming, NCEES distributes a podcast series, launched in September 2020. Hosted by NCEES Chief Operating Officer Davy McDowell, P.E., Advance: An NCEES Podcast Series highlights professional engineers and surveyors across the country and their critical work to help safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

NCEES also distributes P.E. and P.S. Profiles. In this series, NCEES explores the benefits of licensure and how professional engineers and surveyors are working on a daily basis to protect the public. The profiles are featured on the NCEES website and social media channels.



# CALENDAR of events - 2024

JAN	16	Board Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV
Feb	18-24	National Engineers E-Week (various Board activities/speaking engagements)
MAR	19	Board Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV
MAR	20-21	WV Construction & Design EXPO (continuing education), Charleston, WV
MAY	2-4	2024 NCEES Northeast Zone Meeting, Washington, DC
MAY	21	Board Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV
JUL	16	Board Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV
AUG	14-17	2024 NCEES Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL
SEP	17	Board Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV
NOV	19	Board Meeting, WV PE Board Office, Charleston, WV
As of 2024, the transition of all NCEES exams to computer-based testing (CBT) will be complete. For information on NCEES FE and PE Exam dates, registration		

guidelines and deadlines, visit www.ncees.org.

INTERChange

