

CHAIR'S REPORT



Changing board and partnerships

*By Ron Blich
FAIA, FACHA, Hon. FCARM*

Your licensing board has been busy this spring with a few important issues.

Richard LeBlanc

First, I would like to recognize the retirement of Richard LeBlanc from the LSBAE Board of Directors.

Richard has been a vital member of the board for 17 years. He was appointed to the board in 2006 and was actively involved in LSBAE work on multiple committees. He has also served nationally, and throughout his time with LSBAE, he always volunteered to serve on NCARB committees, including the Committee on Professional Development, the Continuing Education Evaluation Workgroup, and the Certification Alternatives Review Team.

Richard was also involved in transitioning the ARE from 4.0 to 5.0 by serving on several committees and task forces.

Richard attended most NCARB regional and annual meetings during his time with the LSBAE. In addition, he actively participated in our original Blue Sky planning sessions in 2017, resulting in the board's first strategic plan, which guides the objectives and goals of the board.

We wish Richard and Suzanne all the best and will miss them very much. The

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Firm registration renewals due now!

The firm registration renewal period runs from May 1 through June 30 each year. To access your firm's renewal application, please sign in to the [LSBAE Licensing Portal](#) and select the "Firm Profile" tab in the blue header at the top of the page. You can then update "Point of Contact" to begin your application.

Renewal applications must be submitted with payment by June 30, 2023. Applicants can pay in one of two ways: with a credit card or by mailing a check, payable to LSBAE, to the board office.

Paper applications are no longer available. Applications not completed on or before June 30, 2023 will be assessed a delinquent fee equal to the renewal fee of \$75 (in-state) or \$150 (out-of-state), in addition to the regular renewal fee for a total of

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Updating a firm's Point of Contact

During renewal, firms may update their Point of Contact (POC), who will act as their agent to receive communications regarding their registration and to conduct business with the board on their behalf. To update a POC, a firm must do the following:

- Log in to the [LSBAE Licensing Portal](#).
- Click the "Firm Profile" tab at the top of the page.
- Click the blue "Update Point of Contact" button to access the renewal application.
- Confirm or update the POC information to begin the renewal application.

If a new POC is attached to the firm, an email message will be generated and sent to the newly designated POC.

- The new POC should then visit the [LSBAE Licensing Portal](#) and create an account (The User ID must be the e-mail address for the POC.)
- Once the account has been created and their email address confirmed, the POC can log in to access the firm's record and complete the renewal application.

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Coming soon!

The LSBAE will be unveiling a Louisiana architect laws & rules quiz soon.

The quiz will be available online and will be worth 1 HSW Continuing Education Hour.

Watch for it at [LSBAE.com!](https://www.lsbae.com)

CHAIR'S REPORT

Changing board and partnerships

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Board recognized Richard for his service at the May 25th Board meeting.

Chris Elberson of Shreveport is Richard's District 5 replacement on the board. We welcome Chris and encourage him to become involved with NCARB nationally. Historically, the Louisiana Board has had almost 100%-member participation in NCARB committees and NAAB participation, and has had total attendance at most regional and national level NCARB meetings, including senior staff members.

AIA Louisiana

The LSBAE and AIA LA have recently enjoyed a renewed and close working relationship. The recent discussion related to incidental practice between architects and engineers, as well as the currently attempted modification of the civil engineering exemption, will allow both boards to continue to work closely with the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board (LAPELS), the American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana, and the Louisiana Engineering Society.

The LSBAE has also recently started holding its fall board meeting in conjunction with AIA Louisiana's annual conference. This will continue to strengthen our partnership and keep the lines of communication open between both organizations.

Civil Engineer Exemption

Since 1946, Louisiana has allowed civil engineers an exemption to practice architecture without architectural education, training, or examination. This exemption is believed to be related to a dual architecture/engineering degree offered by Tulane and LSU in the 1940s.

The exemption was not removed when the dual programs transitioned to programs that led to a Bachelor of Architecture. Thus, Louisiana is now the sole jurisdiction out of 55 national jurisdictions with this loophole. Please see Paul Spaht's article on Page 6 for more information, including the outcome of this legislation.

Firm registration renewals due now

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\$150 (in-state) or \$300 (out-of-state) respectively.

Firms that continue to practice while delinquent for more than 90 days may also be subject to fines in addition to the delinquent fees and may need to complete a firm reinstatement application.

Below is some key information you should know as you prepare to renew your certificate of authority.

Professional Architectural Corporations: The Professional Architectural Corporation Law (R.S. 12:1086-1101) establishes owner and director requirements which must be met for registration with the board. The Licensing Portal has been designed to validate that your firm meets these requirements. Please be sure to have information regarding the number of shares authorized for your firm, the total number of shares the firm has issued, the total number of shares owned by Louisiana-licensed architects, the total number of directors, and the directors licensed to practice architecture in Louisiana.

Architectural-Engineering Corporations and Architectural Firms: The Architectural-Engineering Corporation Law (R.S. 12:1171-1181) and the board rules for architectural-engineering corporations and architectural firms require you to designate one or more supervising professional architect(s). The supervising professional architect is responsible for performing or directly supervising the performance of all architectural services provided by the firm. This means unrestricted, unchecked, and unqualified command of, and legal accountability for, the architectural services performed. Specifications, drawings, or other related documents will be deemed to have been prepared by the supervising professional architect or under such architect's direct supervision only when the requirements of the board rules have been fully satisfied. Only individuals licensed by the board who are full-time active employees of the firm and whose primary occupation is with the firm may be designated as supervising professional architects.

Chris Elberson named to LSBAE Board for District 5



Christian “Chris” Elberson, AIA, has been appointed as the new LSBAE Board member for District 5. He replaces Richard LeBlanc, who retired.

Chris is a native of Lafayette, Louisiana, and received his Bachelor of Architecture degree from LSU in 1994. Born and raised in the design field, he follows a family passion for art and the development of the built environment. In over 26 years of professional practice, Chris has led the design of complex projects in a wide range of building types.

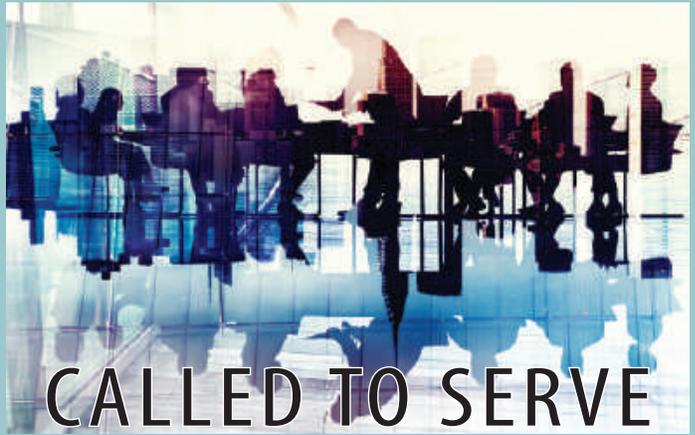
As Director of Design for Somdal Associates, he oversees the design of all projects, from concept to construction documents, working closely with a team of designers to ensure the consistent quality level that drives his practice.

With a range of experience on many different types of projects, he specializes in healthcare design. Elberson works with regional healthcare providers in Louisiana, Texas, and Arkansas.

Chris is a Past-President of AIA Louisiana and AIA Shreveport and now serves as an active professional mentor within the region. Chris is also passionate about community leadership, serving on several non-profit community boards.



Virgin Hotel
Mathes Briere Architects



LSBAE seeking candidates for La. Architects Selection Board

LSBAE seeks candidates from *Districts 1 and 5* to serve on the Louisiana Architects Selection Board from September 15, 2023, to September 14, 2024.

Any resident architect holding a current Louisiana license desiring nomination must deliver a written nomination on a current form and/or reproduction obtained from the board office. This must be submitted to the board office in Baton Rouge, signed by not less than 10 resident architects holding a current Louisiana license, no later than July 15, 2023, at 5 p.m.

The nomination shall state the parish where the nominee resides and the district for which election is sought. Nominations received on or before the deadline shall be considered timely delivered. Confirmation of receipt is the sole responsibility of the nominee.

District 1: consists of the Parishes of Orleans, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard.

District 5: consists of the Parishes of Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Caldwell, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, DeSoto, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, LaSalle, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Red River, Richland, Tensas, Union, Webster, West Carroll, and Winn.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Tyson J. Ducote, Executive Director

Here we are, already at the mid-point of 2023. The LSBAE staff has been busy during the first part of the year, and we look forward to the second half.

One of the exciting developments that I'd like to share is that the board will begin a partnership with CE Broker, a continuing education tracking company that staff will start utilizing for the annual continuing education audits. This year's CE audit will take place in the fall.

Beginning next year, the CE audit will return to the spring, where it has traditionally been conducted. You'll receive emails about claiming your free basic account in the coming months. The basic account should be an excellent tool for CE tracking by individuals who may not utilize the AIA transcript.

Speaking of continuing education, LSBAE is proud to unveil our Louisiana Architect Laws & Rules Quiz, which is available here www.lsbae.com and can be taken for one (1) continuing education hour in HSW. The open book quiz is an outgrowth of the board's desire for licensees to stay familiar with the laws and rules that govern the practice of architecture in Louisiana. The quiz is free and can be taken once a year.

New CE tracking, new quiz, and newly updated strategic plan

Finally, as reported in the December 2022 newsletter, the board went through a strategic planning exercise last year, reviewing the 2017 LSBAE Strategic Plan goals and objectives, assessing accomplishments, and discussing the next steps. As a result, the board completed several of its 2017 goals and related objectives and made significant progress on others. This deep dive resulted in streamlining, updating, and replacing the remaining 2017 goals. The three newly formed goals have five shared Fields of Focus: Education, Legislation, Licensure, Service, and Technology. The 2023 LSBAE Strategic Plan can be viewed on our website and in the chart below.

I hope everyone has a great summer, and as always, if you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please feel free to contact me.

By the numbers... as of June, 2023

Total Architects	3,475	Total Firms	1,234
Residents	1,282	Residents	462
Non-Resident	2,193	Non-resident	772

GOALS

Laws and Rules

Reorganize and streamline Louisiana laws and rules to improve understanding and remove impediments to licensure while maintaining public safety

Communication

Proactive outreach to schools, students, licensees, legislators, and industry organizations to facilitate licensure and nurture diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.

NCARB

Actively foster strong relationships at the national level to be at the forefront of changes in the regulation of architects

Strategic Plan





LICENSING ADVISOR'S REPORT

By Lindsay Trisler Stewart, AIA, NCARB

Goodbye rolling clock, hello licensure

For the past nine years, ARE candidates have been operating under a Rolling Clock Policy set forth by NCARB, requiring candidates to complete the ARE exams within a five-year span or face the threat of having previously passed exams expire. In recent years, NCARB has been studying the effectiveness of this policy and the impact it has had on candidates. These studies have found the Rolling Clock Policy to be unnecessarily restrictive and on April 30th, 2023, the Rolling Clock Policy was officially retired.

With the retirement of the Rolling Clock comes the adoption of the Score Validity Policy. Under this new policy, passed exams will remain valid through the entire delivery of the version of the exam under which they were taken. When a new version of the exam is implemented, the score validity policy will use the previously passed exams to establish credits under the new exam version. NCARB describes the new policy as no longer "time-bound but instead version-bound" and assures candidates that an 18-month notice will be given before an exam version is retired.

So, what's the best way to take advantage of this new policy change? Well...

If you have expired 4.0 exams, NCARB reinstated these exams on May 1, 2023. Use the [ARE 5.0 Transition Calculator](#) to determine what credits you will be given for ARE 5.0. Many candidates with expired exams have gotten discouraged and let their NCARB record lapse. Now through the month of June, NCARB is waiving reactivation fees! This is a great time to get your NCARB Record up to date and make licensure a priority again.

If you started testing in ARE 5.0, you can rest assured that your passed exams are not in imminent threat of expiring. While NCARB has yet to provide a date for when candidates can expect the implementation of ARE 6.0, it has been said that it is still several years away. With less pressure to rush the process, you can focus on ways to create a balance between exams, work, and life. This balance can lead to more efficient studying and less burnout.

If you haven't taken any exams, now is the time to start! You're no longer locked into a set period in which you must complete your exams. Start your examination process as early as possible in ARE 5.0 to take full advantage of the new Score Validity Policy.

LSBAE welcomes new Licensing Advisor

Lindsay Stewart has been named the new Licensing Advisor for LSBAE. She is a Louisiana native from the small town of St. Francisville, and currently lives and works in Baton Rouge.



After receiving her Master of Architecture degree from LA Tech University in 2015, Lindsay began her career in commercial architecture with a focus on K-12 planning and design. Now a project manager at Kern Architects, she manages various commercial projects from conception through construction all over south Louisiana.

Lindsay earned her license in the State of Louisiana in June 2022. At the start of 2023, she became an NCARB Architect Licensing Advisor, began working closely with the Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners, and volunteers her time to help others pursue licensure.

Lindsay has always had a passion for helping the future generation of architects, often training and onboarding interns as they start their new roles in a firm. Over the course of her career, Lindsay developed a special interest in building science and detailing.

Outside of the office, Lindsay enjoys adventures that include mountain views, creating art for her home, and sitting in Alex Box Stadium watching LSU Tiger baseball with her husband.

Congratulations to our new licensees by examination

The LSBAE is pleased to announce that the following individuals were licensed by examination between December 7, 2022 and June 2, 2023.

NAME	CITY	NAME	CITY
Mr. Jeremiah Opara Anyaele II	Baton Rouge, LA	Miss Xueru Lan	Baton Rouge, LA
Mr. Kade Allen Brandon	West Monroe, LA	Mr. Logan Chandler Osborn	New Orleans, LA
Ms. Giulia Irwin	River Ridge, LA	Mr. Raphael Tramaine Reed	Baton Rouge, LA
Mr. Dixon Bartlett Jelich	New Orleans, LA	Mrs. Julie Moak Windham	Baton Rouge, LA



BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT

By Paul H. Spaht, LSBAE Board Attorney

Legislation seeks to sunset exemption of civil engineers

Since 1946, licensed civil engineers have been exempted from the architect licensing law, provided such engineers do not use the designation “architect” or any term derived therefrom. When the exemption was originally enacted, LSU and Tulane both offered Bachelor of Science degrees in “Architectural Engineering.” This degree is no longer offered by either university. Around 1960-62 the schools separated the educations and training curricula, but the exemption has remained.

In 2019, House Bill 354 of 2019 sought to repeal the exemption. The American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana (ACEC-L), Louisiana Engineering Society (LES), Louisiana Municipal Association, and others offered testimony in opposition to the removal of the exemption. The bill died in the House Commerce Committee (HCC).

In the 2023 legislative session, HB 333 of 2023, by Representative Thomas Pressly, sought to sunset the exemption, not repeal it. Under HB 333, the exemption would be limited to licensed civil engineers established as practicing architecture and licensed as a civil engineer before January 1, 2023, provided such engineers do not use the designation “architect” or any term derived therefrom.

At the HCC meeting in late April of 2023, representatives of AIA Louisiana explained that the bill was being presented as a result of years of meetings and conversations concerning this outdated loophole and as a compromise. The bill would not do away

with or abolish the exemption; rather, it would grandfather civil engineers who had practiced in this area and who were licensed as civil engineers before January 1, 2023. It would not deny anyone their livelihood but would sunset a loophole.

At the HCC meeting, representatives of the ACEC-L and the LES testified that they were against the bill and wanted to reconvene the Incidental Practice Task Force (Task Force) to come up with more agreeable language and expressed their commitment to do so. The Task Force, composed of architects and engineers, had previously met over a period of several years to consider issues related to the incidental practice of architecture and engineering.

After the HCC meeting, ACEC-L and LES formally proposed to AIA Louisiana in writing that the Task Force be reengaged to discuss the parameters and specifications of exemption from an architect license for civil engineers as described in HB 333. Further, the letter recommended that the Task Force conduct monthly meetings during the next six months in its charge to develop a statutory compromise concerning the civil engineer exemption.

The HCC was advised that while a joint letter was received from ACEC-L and LES, it did not express specific commitment to closing the loophole or sunsetting the exemption. However, in good faith, AIA Louisiana agreed to reconvene the Task Force to provide relevant research and discuss the potential path to

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Ochsner
GHC Architects

BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Legislation seeks to sunset exemption of civil engineers

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closing the loophole, keeping the goal of the bill in mind. Therefore, HB 333 was deferred for the remainder of the 2023 legislative session with the intent of presenting it again during the 2024 legislative session.

Rule-making concerning dependents of healthcare professionals – This rule-making, mentioned in previous articles, has now been completed. The amendment and new rule are posted and available on the board website. See amendment to Rule §1103. Individuals Registered in Other States and new Rule §1111. Dependents of Healthcare Professionals.

As a reminder, during the 2021 regular legislative session, the legislature mandated that professional and occupational licensing boards issue a license, certification, permit pending normal license, or registration to dependents of healthcare professionals who relocate to and establish legal residence in Louisiana, provide healthcare service in Louisiana, and satisfy certain statutory requirements.

As mandated by the legislature, the requirements for architectural licensure in the amended rule and newly adopted rule vary depending on whether the dependent of the healthcare professional holds an out-of-state license in architecture from another state, whether licensure by endorsement or reciprocity is provided for by law, or whether the applicant works in a state that does not use an occupational license or government certification to regulate the practice of architecture.

Since licensure by reciprocity is currently provided for by the laws of every state, out-of-state dependents of healthcare professionals seeking to be licensed to practice architecture in Louisiana will be required to submit to the board an NCARB (blue cover) certificate, just like every other out-of-state applicant. Accordingly, it is anticipated that this rule-making will have minimal effect upon the registration of out-of-state dependents of healthcare professionals who seek to practice architecture in Louisiana.

Is your La. architectural license current?

Following the 2022 architect renewal cycle, which ended on December 31, 2022, it was noted that 128 architects still needed to renew their Louisiana licenses. The break-down is as follows:

In-State:

Architects – 16

Emeritus Architects - 9

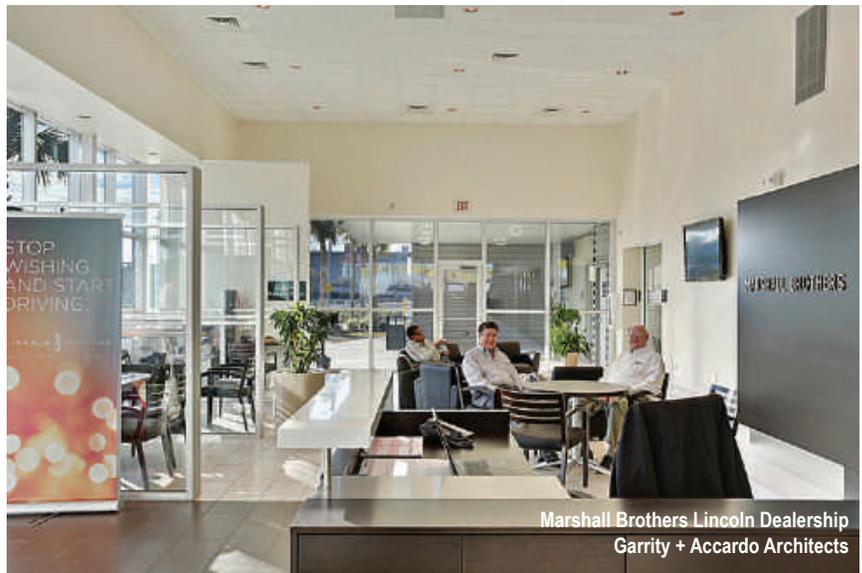
Out-of-State:

Architects - 91

Emeritus Architects - 11

Please verify the status of your Louisiana architectural license by using the [Find an Architect](#) search function on our website, www.lsbac.com.

La. R.S. 37:152(B), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(3), and La. R.S. 37:154(A) prohibit the practice and/or offering to practice architecture in Louisiana with an expired license. **An individual practicing architecture with an expired license is in violation of the licensing law and is subject to discipline.**



Marshall Brothers Lincoln Dealership
Garry + Accardo Architects



Residence
Sabatier Architecture



ENFORCEMENT REPORT

By Justin Owens, Deputy Director

LSBAE disciplinary and enforcement actions

One important function of the Board is to investigate alleged violations of the statutes and rules which regulate the practice of architecture in Louisiana. Substantiated violations result in disciplinary or enforcement action being taken either through a Consent Order or by Board Order following a formal hearing. The following are summaries of the disciplinary actions taken by the Board since the previous issue of our newsletter.

Multiple Laws/Rules Violations

Dean Hotard & Associates, P.A.C. (hereinafter "Respondent"), a professional architectural corporation (license #AC0561), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for practicing or offering to practice architecture in Louisiana with an expired certificate of authority in violation of La. R.S. 37:152(B) and La. R.S. 37:154(A). On June 30, 2020, Respondent's certificate of authority to practice architecture expired. On June 14, 2021, Respondent submitted to the Board an application for reinstatement of its certificate of authority to practice architecture, certifying thereon that it had not practiced architecture in Louisiana without a current license during the last five years. Information received from the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office, however, indicated that Respondent had submitted sixty-seven (67) projects for review between July 2, 2020, and June 14, 2021. Respondent has entered into a Consent Order with the Board wherein it admitted to the referenced violation of the above laws and agreed to pay a fine of \$1,500; to pay administrative costs of \$658.28; to the publication of this Consent Order on the Board's website; to the printing of a summary of this matter in the official newsletter of the Board, Louisiana Architect, identifying Respondent by name, and to the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB)

Disciplinary Database, identifying Respondent by name.

Marc A. Robert (hereinafter "Respondent"), a licensed architect (license #8243), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for practicing architecture in Louisiana with an expired license in violation of La. R.S. 37:152(B), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(3), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(6), La. R.S. 37:153(A)(7), and La. R.S. 37:154(A). On December 31, 2018, Respondent's license to practice architecture expired. On July 27, 2022, Respondent submitted to the Board an application for reinstatement of his license to practice architecture, certifying thereon that he had not practiced architecture in Louisiana without an active license in the last five years. Information received from the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office, however, indicated that Respondent had submitted two (2) projects for review between May 29, 2019, and July 27, 2022. Respondent has entered into a Consent Order with the Board wherein he admitted to the referenced violation of the above laws and agreed to pay a fine of \$3,000; to pay administrative costs of \$455.81; to the publication of this Consent Order on the Board's website; to the printing of a summary of this matter in the official newsletter of the Board, Louisiana Architect, identifying Respondent by name, and to the reporting of this matter to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards ('NCARB') Disciplinary Database, identifying Respondent by name.

Disclaimer: Every effort has been taken to ensure that the aforementioned information is correct; however, it should not be relied upon without verification from the Board office. Please note that the names of companies and individuals listed may be similar to other parties who have not had disciplinary or enforcement actions taken against them.



Delgado Community College
Advanced Technology Center
Holly & Smith Architects



OSFM PLAN REVIEW CORNER

By: Joe Delaune, Chief Architect

Submittals, energy code, foam insulation and shop drawings

We're off to another strong start for 2023. Between January 1 and April 30, we've seen a slight 2% increase in volume. We had received 6,461 plan submittals thus far as compared to 6,327 received during this time period last year. The scope of the projects however are down approximately 5.5%, with an estimated construction cost of \$2.53 billion*, opposed to \$2.68 billion last year. The architectural projects appear to be predominately renovations, additions and other smaller scopes of work.

These numbers continue to trend upward in the past few years with an average increase of about 7% per year. As such, this report once again represents the highest volume of plan submittals ever received during this time period by this office.

Comparison of projects January - April

Year	Projects Received	Estimated construction cost billion*
2023	6,461	\$2.53 billion*
2022	6,327	\$2.68 billion*
2021	5,852	\$4.39 billion*
2020	5,237	\$2.65 billion*
2019	4,820	\$3.64 billion*

*Note: The "estimated construction cost" is derived by our system and is only used to define the scope of a project and for comparing "apples to apples". It is NOT an accurate representation of the actual construction cost associated with the projects.

ENERGY CODE ADOPTION:

Act 635 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session, effective August 1st 2022, had repealed the former Commercial Building Energy Conservation Code and replaced it with the 2021 edition of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) for commercial buildings, and with Part IV of the IRC for 1- & 2-family dwellings. These replacement codes become effective on July 1st of this year. Here's a summary of the key provisions of the law:

1. The former ASHRAE Standard 90.1 is now replaced with the 2021 edition of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) for commercial buildings, and with Part IV of the IRC for 1- & 2-family dwellings. The 2021 editions of these codes, with amendments, is mandated to be adopted by the LSUCC Council with an effective date of July 1, 2023.
2. A temporary one-time commission was formed to amend the codes prior to initial adoption. As of this writing, the proposed amendments have been submitted to the Legislative Oversight Committees and to the Office of State Register for publication. Until these rules are approved, published, and posted, they can be viewed in the March edition (starting on page 589) of the Louisiana Register found here: <https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/osr/louisiana-register/>. The final rule is currently scheduled to be published sometime in June.

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AMCREF
Community Capital
Chase Marshall Architects

OSFM PLAN REVIEW CORNER

Submittals, energy code, foam insulation and shop drawings

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3. The IECC was added to the list of codes to be periodically adopted by the LSUCC Council within 5 years of publication of newer editions (LRS 40:1730.28).
4. Training and technical assistance will be provided by the technology assessment division of the Department of Natural Resources as funding allows.
5. Each parish and municipality is required to provide enforcement. Other than for Industrialized Building module construction, this office, OSFM, has no authority to enforce or make determinations regarding the energy codes. We will only include plan review on behalf of parishes and municipalities where contracted for full LSUCC review.
6. The former “Commercial Building Energy Conservation Code” law (LRS 40:1730.41 et seq.) is now the “State Building Energy Conservation Code,” is applicable only to state owned buildings, and Facility Planning and Control is the AHJ providing enforcement.

Louisiana’s first energy code law was established in 1998 and the OSFM had been charged with administering it. Since the passage of Act 635, we have not been involved with energy codes and have further focused our resources on fire protection and life safety. Please reference [Interpretive Memorandum 2023-01](#) for further elaboration on this. The provisions of the former Commercial Building Energy Conservation Code did not

provide for full enforcement and only plan reviews for compliance had been performed. Beginning July 1st, full enforcement will be mandated and construction may be halted by a parish or municipal permit office for non-compliance.

FOAM PLASTIC INSULATION:

Spray foam may work great as an insulator, but it’s not so great for fire safety. It is gaining popularity and may continue to do so, especially with the upcoming energy code requirements.

The fire and building codes refer to spray foam as “foam plastic insulation”. These materials are made with polyurethane, a flammable petroleum based product, and burns with intense heat that generates thick dark highly toxic smoke. The burn rate can be slowed down with fire retardant additives, but it is still hard to stop once ignited. When installed, the codes require it to be covered with either a thermal barrier, which is minimum ½ inch gypsum board, or with an intumescent coating, which is either painted or sprayed on. The provisions of IBC Section 2603 address these requirements and provide for alternative materials to be used as the barrier in specific applications or in pre-manufactured products. In general, the code requires any exposed foam plastic to be covered. This includes attic spaces, most crawl spaces, and spaces above suspended ceilings (lay-in ceiling tile does not qualify as the barrier). There is no exception for automatic sprinkler protection. Sprinkler systems cannot be relied upon to extinguish these fires since

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Rupa & Tarun Jolly Science & Technology Building at Isidore Newman School Woodward Design+Build

OSFM PLAN REVIEW CORNER

Submittals, energy code, foam insulation and shop drawings

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the foam is typically placed above the sprinkler heads, or placed in spaces where sprinkler heads are not installed.

Most foam plastic insulation manufacturers test and list their products with the thermal barrier or intumescent coating in place during testing, however they are sold separately and produced by different manufacturers. There may be a few products that contain enough fire retardant additives to pass these tests without barriers or coatings, however they are more expensive. Part of our challenge is that most installers of these products are not currently required to be licensed or regulated, making it much harder to get this information out to them.

In summary, foam plastic insulation must be specified as a complete system that includes both the thermal barriers and intumescent coatings where applicable. The foam manufacturer's literature alone may or may not address the barriers or coatings that are typically provided by other manufacturers.

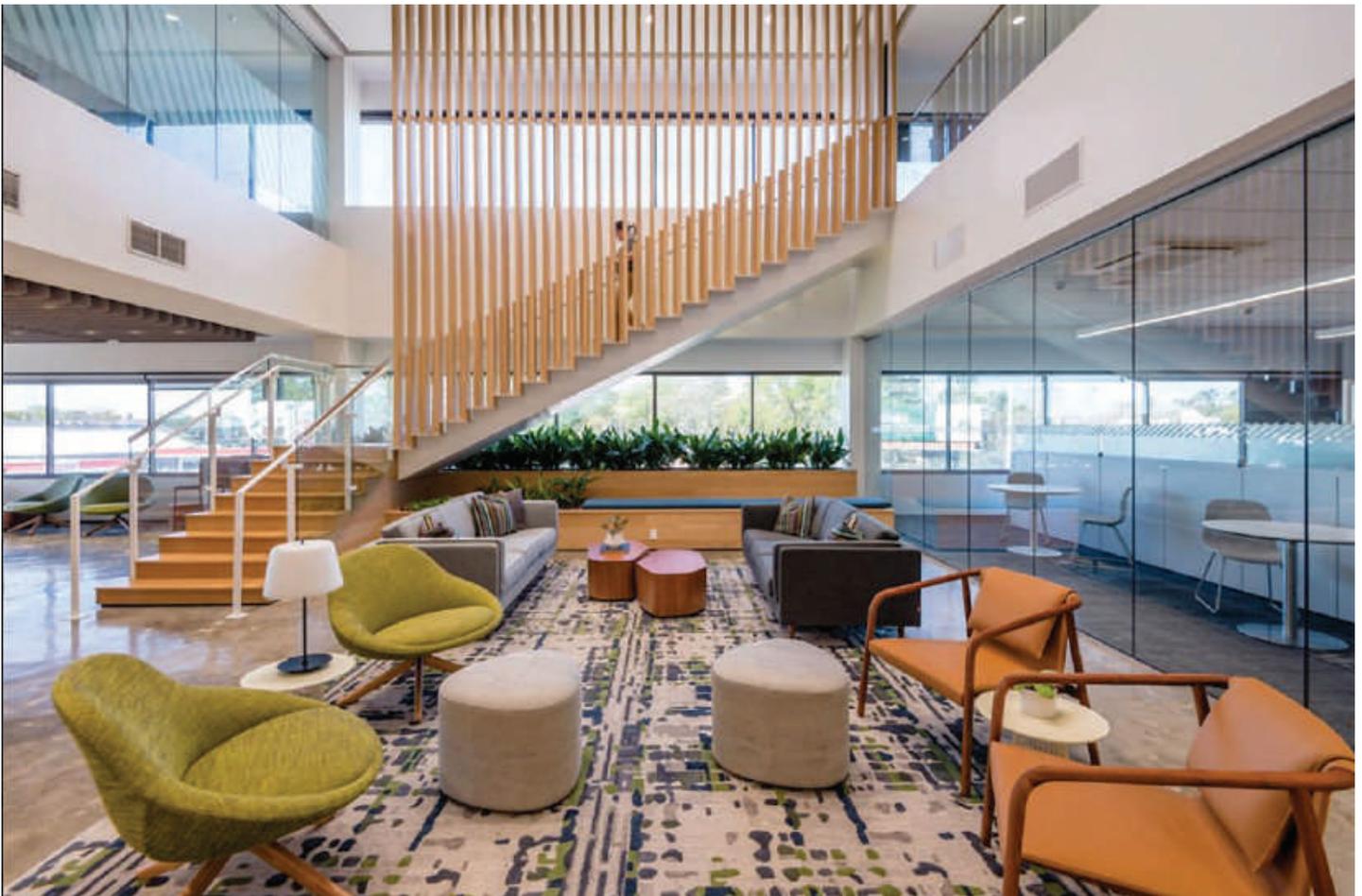
LIFE SAFETY SYSTEM SHOP DRAWINGS:

Reminder: Architectural reviews are released for construction by

this office with the provision that the required life safety systems (sprinkler, fire alarm, suppression, locking, etc.) are subsequently submitted for review. This allows the bid process to occur and a licensed installer and equipment manufacturer(s) to be selected. These systems are considered to be an integral required part of the architectural review for which the Professional of Record (POR) is responsible.

Shop drawings are required to be reviewed and approved by a POR, either the project architect or his/her professional engineer consultant prior to plan submittal. Either a shop drawing review stamp on the drawings or the "send PIN" electronic review process is acceptable. Please never forward the PIN to anyone; this process was established as a courtesy and convenience to you and does not relieve any responsibility. Please also take a moment to watch the short video titled "IMS Shop Drawing Review Process" found on the Plan Review page of our website here: http://lasfm.org/pr_announcements.htm.

Thank you all once again for your support and partnership with this office!



LWCC Corporate Renovation
Easkew + Dumez + Ripple

NCARB answers top AXP supervisor questions

Here are answers to frequently asked questions, plus resources, for Architectural Experience Program (AXP) supervisors and candidates.

1. What are my main responsibilities as an AXP supervisor?

As a supervisor, you're responsible for managing a candidate's work on a daily basis and supporting their progress through the AXP. A successful supervisor:

- Understands the AXP's goals, expectations, and requirements
- Supports their candidate's professional development by assigning diverse tasks across the program's [six practice areas](#)
- Schedules regular meetings with their candidate to review ongoing work and opportunities for growth
- Reviews and discusses experience reports in a reasonable timeframe
- Fosters a safe and respectful work environment

To learn more about what's expected of both supervisors and candidates, download our [AXP Candidate and Supervisor Expectations document](#).

2. I'm a new supervisor—what resources can I review to get up to speed?

Every supervisor and licensure candidate should read the [AXP Guidelines](#), which outline the program's requirements, experience settings, and reporting policies. Many supervisors use NCARB's interactive [Licensing Requirements Tool](#) to explore state-specific requirements.

To best support the entire supervisor community, including AXP Portfolio supervisors, our Continuum Education Program now offers [two free supervisor training courses](#) that are eligible for Health, Safety, and Welfare (HSW) Learning Units (LUs). You can also learn about your role as a supervisor on our website page dedicated to [supervisors and mentors](#).

3. How do I review my candidate's experience reports?

Your [NCARB account](#) allows you to review and approve your candidate's experience reports. Don't have an NCARB account? Register for your NCARB account today—it's free! Your account allows you to view any reports your candidate submits. Learn more about [reviewing experience reports](#).

4. How frequently should my candidate report their experience?

To earn full credit for their work, candidates must submit experience within an eight-month time frame, known as the

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Tolliver Hall at La. Tech University
Tipton Associates

NCARB answers top AXP supervisor questions

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reporting requirement. The largest block of time a candidate can submit in one experience report is six months—so if they wanted to report experience earned over the past eight months, they would need to submit at least two experience reports. Experience reported beyond this eight-month period—and as far as five years back—is still eligible to receive 50 percent credit toward the AXP. Once a candidate has submitted a report, you will be automatically notified via email. You should work with your candidate to discuss mutual expectations for submitting reports in a time frame that works for you both.

5. Will my candidate lose hours if I take a long time to review reports?

Once a candidate submits a report for review, they will not lose hours for delays caused by a supervisor or if their supervisor returns a report for edits. However, we recommend scheduling

regular meetings with your candidate to review their AXP progress and guide their professional development.

6. Employees at my firm often telework—does this impact how I supervise candidates?

Direct supervision can occur through face-to-face contact or remote communication as long as you maintain knowledge of and responsibility for the candidate's work. Share these tips with your candidate for completing the **Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®)** remotely.

7. My candidate submitted an experience report, but I didn't receive an email notification.

First, check your junk or spam filter. Then log in to your **NCARB account** and go to the supervisor portal. If the email is still missing or you don't have access to the supervisor portal, please contact our **Customer Relations** team.



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