

BEFORE THE ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINING BOARD
OF THE STATE OF IOWA

Architecture
Board / Commission
Signature, Executive Officer

IN THE MATTER OF:) Case No. 19-05
)
)
Taal Safdie)
Architect license 05642) STATEMENT OF CHARGES
) AND CONSENT ORDER
)
Safdie Rabines Architects)
1101 Washington Place)
San Diego, CA 92103)
)
Respondent.)

A. Statement of Charges

1. The Iowa Architectural Examining Board ("Board") has jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, and 544A (2019).

2. Respondent holds architectural license number 05642, issued by the Board on July 28, 2004, which is now active and due for renewal on June 30, 2020.

3. Respondent's license lapsed on June 30, 2007. She submitted a reinstatement application on or about February 22, 2019.

4. The online application form asks if the applicant "Have you ever been subject to disciplinary action of any type by any state board or similar licensing body, a governmental agency before which you practiced, or any professional organization of which you are a member?" There are radial buttons for "Yes" and "No." The Respondent answered "No."

5. The online application asks the applicant to agree to "I acknowledge that making a false or erroneous statement to the above questions may subject me to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, immediate revocation or suspension of my registration. Under penalty of perjury, I hereby affirm/attest that all information provided on this entire application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge." Respondent checked the box to agree.

6. During routine investigation and subsequent follow-up, Board staff discovered Respondent has been had been subject to a consent order by the Nevada State Board of Architecture, Interior Design and Residential Design, Case Number 19-003N, signed October 24, 2018 for unlicensed practice. Respondent should have disclosed the consent order on the reinstatement application.

7. Respondent provided erroneous information on her reinstatement application, which is a violation of Iowa Code section 544A.25(2)(b). The Board may deny an application based on a misstatement of this nature. Instead, the Board reinstated the Respondent's license, but is now subjecting her to further scrutiny based on her misstatement. Providing truthful information is important in the application process and more generally in the practice of architecture.

8. Respondent is charged with violating section 544A.25(2)(b). Misstatements of this nature are also considered a practice harmful or detrimental to the public under Iowa Code sections 272C.10(3) and 544A.13(1)(c). See also Iowa Administrative Code rr. 193B—4.1(4), 4.1(5).

9. The Board considers all such misstatements serious matters, but there is a mitigating factor here as the nature of the consent order would not have resulted in a denial of the application if properly disclosed.

10. The Board and Respondent have agreed to fully resolve these charges through the following Consent Order, rather than proceed to contested case hearing.

B. Settlement Agreement and Consent Order

11. Respondent has a right to a hearing on the charges, but waives her right to hearing and all attendant rights, including the right to seek judicial review, by freely and voluntarily entering into this Order. This Consent Order is the final agency order in the contested case pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.10 and Iowa Administrative Code rule 193—7.4. Respondent acknowledges she had the opportunity to consult with legal counsel before signing this Consent Order.

12. Respondent agrees the State's counsel may present this Order to the Board and may have ex parte communications with the Board while presenting it.

13. This Order shall be part of the permanent record of Respondent and shall be considered by the Board in determining the nature and severity of any future disciplinary action to be imposed in the event of any future violations.

14. This Combined Statement of Charges and Consent Order is a public record available for inspection and copying in accordance with the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 22.

15. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Order may be grounds for disciplinary action. However, no action may be taken against Respondent for violations of these provisions without a hearing, or waiver of hearing.

16. This Order is subject to approval of the Board:

(a) If the Board fails to approve this Order, it shall be of no force or effect on either party and it shall not be admissible for any purpose in further proceedings in this matter.

(b) If the Board approves this Order, it shall fully dispose of all issues in this case.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

A. Reprimand

Respondent is reprimanded for failing to disclose a prior consent order in her reinstatement application.

B. Continuing Education

Respondent agrees to attend an ethics course of a minimum of one (1) hour of continuing education. The hour shall not count towards Respondent's continuing education requirement for renewal. Respondent is solely responsible for all costs associated with obtaining the hour. Respondent shall provide the Board proof of completion of the one (1) continuing education hour within sixty (60) days of the Board's approval of this Consent Order.

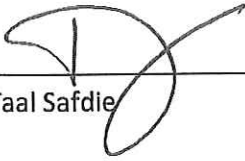
C. Civil Penalty

Respondent agrees to pay a civil penalty in the amount of fifty dollars (\$50) within thirty (30) days of the Board's approval of this Consent Order. All civil penalty payments shall be deposited into the State of Iowa general fund.

D. Future Compliance

Respondent is ordered to obey all applicable Iowa laws and rules in the future.

The Respondent

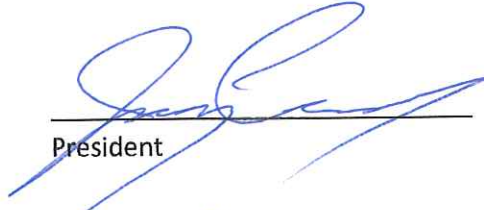


Taal Safdie

7-18-19

Date

Iowa Architectural Examining Board



President

9/19/19

Date