



# FOCUS

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## Calendar

### February 15, 2008

Residential Design  
Written Exam  
*Las Vegas and Reno*

### March 11, 2008

CEU Town Hall Meeting  
*Reno*

### March 12, 2008

NSBAIDRD Board Meeting  
*Reno*

### March 27-29, 2008

WCARB Regional Meeting  
*Englewood, Colo.*

### April 4-5, 2008

Spring 2007 NCIDQ Exam

### June 4, 2008

NSBAIDRD Board Meeting  
*Las Vegas*

## Moving? New Job?

Download a [change of address form](#), or send the following information to the board office:

- Full name
- Registration number
- Old address, phone and fax numbers
- New address, phone and fax numbers

## Board Moves Forward With Continuing Education Requirement Seeks Feedback from Registrants and Public

At the board's January 2008 meeting, board members decided to move forward with a proposal mandating continuing education as a requirement for license renewal. Board members stressed the importance of gathering feedback from registrants and the public before moving forward with a regulation.

NRS 623.255 allows the board to implement a requirement that registrants earn a certain number of continuing education units (CEUs) for license renewal. In 2006, the board formed a committee to study the issue. The committee, comprised of board members and representatives from each of the board's three regulated professions, presented a draft regulation at the January meeting.

While drafting the regulation, the committee members took into consideration all of the comments received at town hall meetings in 2006, when the board last looked at this issue. Most importantly, committee members wanted to regulation to be meaningful and help protect the health, safety and welfare of the public. They also wanted it to be applicable to all the board's regulated professions and not be too burdensome for registrants.

The proposed regulation will require all registrants to earn eight CEUs in the areas of health, safety and welfare each year, prior to renewal of their certificate of registration. A minimum of four units must be earned in a structured setting, and a maximum of four units may be earned in a self-directed setting. Additionally, two of the eight units must be obtained from code-related research or learning. Registrants may carryover four units to the next year.

The proposed regulation provides exemptions for registrants called to active duty in the armed forces. Registrants with medical issues or physical disabilities that prevent them from earning the CEUs may request an exemption from the board. Board members plan to add an exemption for registrants who have taken emeritus status once the required statutory change implementing that status is made.

Full text of the regulation can be [downloaded from the board's Web site](#).

The board will hold town hall meetings to gather feedback on this proposal. The northern Nevada meeting will be held on March 11 at 6:00p.m. at the Siena Hotel, Lupa Conference Room, One S. Lake St., Reno. A southern

- Email address  
- Effective date of change

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### Newsletter Editor

Stacey D. Hatfield  
[shatfield@nsbaird.nv.gov](mailto:shatfield@nsbaird.nv.gov)

Nevada meeting will be scheduled for later in the spring. Registrants or members of the public who cannot attend a town hall meeting are encouraged to submit their comments in writing. Written comments should be directed to Gina Spaulding, Executive Director, at [gspaulding@nsbaird.nv.gov](mailto:gspaulding@nsbaird.nv.gov) or mailed to the board offices at 2080 E. Flamingo Rd., Suite 120, Las Vegas, NV 89119.

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## Board to Amend Regulations

Board members voted to move forward with changes to three sections of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), Chapter 623, at the January board meeting. A workshop on the proposed amendments will be held on March 11 at 5:30p.m. at the Siena Hotel, Lupa Conference Room, One S. Lake St., Reno. A public hearing, prior to final adoption, will be held on March 12 at 10:00a.m. at the same location.

The first proposal will amend NAC 623.0185, the definition of “responsible control.” The changes more specifically outline what constitutes “responsible control” in today’s practice. Final language, as approved by the Legislative Counsel Bureau, is not yet available. Draft language can be [viewed here](#).

The second proposal will amend NAC 623.900, regarding the architect and residential designer Rules of Conduct. The changes outline the steps that will be taken each year to update the rules. It will also amend NAC 623.905, which outlines requirements for filing a complaint with the board. Full text of the proposed amendments can be [downloaded here](#).

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## Enforcement Actions

(October 11, 2007 – January 16, 2008)

Inquiries are routinely sent to both registrants and non-registrants for alleged violations of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Codes (NAC). One case this period resulted in an administrative hearing; Case No. 05-053N (Spaulding vs. Neu) was heard on January 16, 2008. The findings for this case are detailed below under [Board Finds Non-Registrant in Violation of Law](#).

There were four cases this period that were submitted for board consideration and approved. Additionally, eight 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 respondent be involved in a subsequent case and found to have again violated a NRS or NAC, 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 board office.

**Holding Oneself Out and Unlicensed Practice: NRS 623.360.1(a)(b)(c)**

**Case No. 08-012N**

The allegations against **Ron Trombly** and **Ron Trombly Construction, Inc.** were that they held themselves out as being qualified to provide architectural and residential design services and engaged in the practices of architecture and residential design, without having a certificate of registration issued by the board. The matter was resolved by a settlement agreement assessing an administrative penalty of \$4,800 and investigative costs of \$1,000.

**Case No. 08-013N**

The allegations against **James Flick, Matt Mars** and **Flick Mars, LP** were that they held themselves out as being qualified to provide services that fall under the practices of architecture and registered interior design and practicing as architects and registered interior designers, without having a certificate of registration issued by the board. The matter was resolved by a settlement agreement incorporating an "Effect on Licensure" clause and assessing an administrative penalty of \$15,000 and investigative costs of \$1,500.

**Case No. 08-029N**

The allegations against **Paul Ruffing** were that he held himself out as being qualified to provide architectural services and engaged in the practice of architecture, while his Nevada certificate of registration had lapsed. The matter was resolved by a settlement agreement incorporating a requirement that Mr. Ruffing complete and pass the "Nevada Registration Quiz" and assessing an administrative penalty of \$5,000 and investigative costs of \$1,200.

**Unlicensed Practice: NRS 623.360.1(c)**

**Case No. 08-003N**

The allegations against **Stephen Andrews** and **Andrews Chapman Architecture** were that they engaged in the practice of architecture without having a certificate of registration issued by the board. The matter was resolved by a settlement agreement incorporating an "Effect on Licensure" clause and assessing an administrative penalty of \$9,000 and investigative costs of \$3,000.

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## **Board Finds Non-Registrant in Violation of Law**

**Case No. 05-053N**

The respondent, Nili Neu, is alleged to have violated NRS 623.360.1(a) and 623.360.1(b) by holding herself out to the public and soliciting business as an architect and/or registered interior designer in Nevada, and advertising or putting out a device to the public that she was an architect and/or registered interior designer or that she was otherwise qualified to engage in the practice of architecture and/or registered interior design, without having a certificate of registration or temporary registration issued by the board.

The board unanimously found Ms. Neu to be in violation of NRS 623.360.1(a) and 623.360.1(b). The board imposed an administrative fine of \$20,000 and ordered Ms. Neu to pay all costs and fees for the hearing and the \$2,500 fine from a 2002 administrative action. The board also ordered Ms. Neu to immediately cease and desist from soliciting business as an architect and/or registered interior designer, including removing her Web site from the internet and listings of her business from other sites, and to cease practicing activity that is covered by NRS 623. If Ms. Neu does not comply with the board's order, the matter will be referred to the District Attorney's Office for criminal prosecution and to the Attorney General's Office for other civil remedies.

If Ms. Neu complies with all provisions of the board's order within 30 days, the board will reduce the administrative fine to \$10,000 and will not forward the case to the District Attorney's Office or the Attorney General's Office for further action.

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## **Future Architects: Don't Forget...**

The ARE 4.0 will be released in FIVE months. For more information about the new exam, visit <http://www.ncarb.org/are>.

Currently taking ARE 3.1? Concentrate on passing Building Technology and Site Planning before the transition ends (June 2009). See the [transition chart](#) for more information.

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## **New Registrants By Examination**

The board extends congratulations to the following individuals who were sworn-in as new Nevada registrants at the January 2008 meeting:

### **Architects**

- 6110 Ponn P. Virulrak (Irvine, Calif.)
- 6111 Theresa M. Labus (Las Vegas)
- 6112 Deepika Padam (Henderson)
- 6116 Molly M. Olson (Tahoe City, Calif.)
- 6117 Brian M. Gardner (Las Vegas)

### **Registered Interior Designer**

- 139-ID H. Danielle Rios (Las Vegas)

### **Residential Designers**

- 270-P Richard M. Quezada (Las Vegas)
- 271-P Joshua K. Warner (Las Vegas)

*New architects registered at the  
January 2008 meeting: Brian*



*Gardner, Theresa Labus, Deepika Padam, Ponn Virulrak and Molly Olson.*

*Secretary/Treasurer Bill Snyder with new registered interior designer Danielle Rios.*



*New residential designers registered at the January 2008 meeting: Joshua Warner and Richard Quezada.*

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## **Reminder: EduCode Scheduled for February 25-29**

EduCode 2008 will be presented February 25-29 in Las Vegas, at the Orleans Hotel & Casino. This year's classes begin at 7:30 a.m. and conclude at 4:30 p.m.

More information about EduCode can be found at [www.educode.us](http://www.educode.us) or by calling 1-888-ICC-SAFE, ext. 33817.

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## **Updated Study Guide Released**

A new Residential Design Exam Study Guide was released in January 2008. The updated study guide pairs with the new version of the written exam, which was recently updated to reference the 2006 International Codes. The first administration of the new exam will be on February 15.

The updated study guide can be [downloaded from the Web site](#). If you would like a copy mailed to you, please contact the board office.

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## **Do You Like the New Newsletter? We Want Your Feedback**

As you've noticed, Focus newsletter is now a true E-newsletter, with the content going straight to your inbox. What do you think? Do you like it? Is it too long or too short? Do you want all the text in the email, or do would you like to link to another page for more information?

Let us know what you like and don't like about the new format so we continue to improve it. Email your opinions to [Stacey Hatfield](#).

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## **Expired and Inactive Licenses Current as of February 6, 2008**

[See a list of certificates of registration that expired on December 31, 2007.](#)

Registrants whose certificate of registration expired and have failed to renew their registration must pay a late renewal fee of \$220, in addition to the \$150 annual registration fee.

Per NAC 623.280, registrants who do not renew their certificate of registration within one year of its expiration can renew it before the end of the third year by:

- a. Submitting a letter of application for renewal;
- b. Obtaining the board's approval; and
- c. Paying the required late registration fee (\$300).

Registrants who have not renewed their registration within three years of the certificate's expiration date are no longer entitled to have it renewed, but may have their certificate restored. The board will issue a new registration number and certificate if the person complies with the following procedure:

- a. If the expired certificate was obtained through reciprocal registration, the person must reapply to the board using the same procedure.
- b. If the expired certificate was obtained through examination in Nevada, the person must:

- (1) Submit a new application to the board;
- (2) Submit a certificate of good standing from every state in which he is licensed; and
- (3) Appear for an oral interview.

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