

# FOCUS

The Newsletter of the Nevada State Board of  
Architecture, Interior Design and Residential Design

September 2021  
Vol. 30, No. 4

## NSBAIDRD / AIA 9th Annual CEU Seminar Registration Open

The 2021 NSBAIDRD / AIA Annual CEU Seminar will be a virtual event. It is scheduled for Friday, November 5, 2021, 8:00am – 5:30pm. Registration for all four classes is \$95. Full-day attendees will earn all eight CEUs required for registration renewal in Nevada.

To see course descriptions, a detailed schedule, or to register, visit [AIA Las Vegas](#).

The Post-Pandemic Built Environment

Presented by Thomas Fisher / Director, Minnesota Design Center,  
Dayton Hudson Chair in Urban Design, University of Minnesota

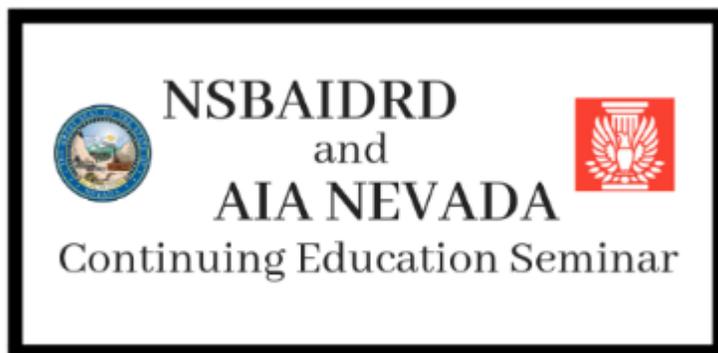
State of the Industry: Modular Construction

Presented by Tom Hardiman, CAE / Executive Director, Modular Building  
Institute

Tricks of the Trade: Code Analysis Tips from a Fire Protection Engineer

Presented by Jim Begley, PE, FSFPE, CFM / Principal Fire Protection  
Engineer, TERPconsulting

Presentation by the International Well Building Institute  
Speaker TBD



## Residential Design Profession Examined in First Practice Analysis



### Calendar

#### October 20, 2021

Board Meeting  
Public Hearing  
*Virtual*

#### November 5, 2021

Annual CEU Seminar  
*Virtual*

#### November 12-13, 2021

CIDQ Annual Meeting  
*Minneapolis, MN*

#### December 31, 2021

Registration Renewal  
Deadline

### Upcoming Board Office Holiday Closures

October 29  
*Nevada Day*  
November 25-26  
*Thanksgiving Holiday*  
December 24  
*Christmas Day*  
December 31  
*New Year's Day*

### Board Members

James Mickey  
*Chair*

William E. Snyder  
*Secretary/Treasurer*

## New Exams in the Works

In 2020, the NSBAIDRD decided to begin a practice analysis of the residential design profession. The profession was first legally recognized by the Nevada legislature in 1975. Over time the profession has changed, and the board determined it was time to make sure the registration requirements and exams are valid and protect the public.

The board contracted with NCARB to assist in the analysis because NCARB has many years of experience doing practice analyses of the architecture profession. The analysis began with a board-appointed committee creating and validating a list of responsibilities, knowledge, and skills necessary in the practice of the profession. Next, a survey was sent to all Nevada residential designers, giving current practitioners the opportunity to review the list through a survey and provide feedback, based on their experience practicing residential design.

Results from the survey were synthesized into 126 Knowledge and Skill Areas (KSAs). These KSAs represent the critical responsibilities, knowledge, and skills required for the competent practice of residential design. A committee reviewed the KSAs and determined if they are learned during the education and experience phases, or if they should be tested during the examination phase (and if so, in which section of the exam they should be included).

The final phase of this work will result in new residential design exams. The board has indicated it will create an exam writing committee to complete this work. The board is confident that through this rigorous practice analysis and review of the profession, it can continue to protect the public in the area of residential design.

## New Registrants By Examination

Four new registrants by examination were sworn-in at the August 2021 board meeting.

### Architect

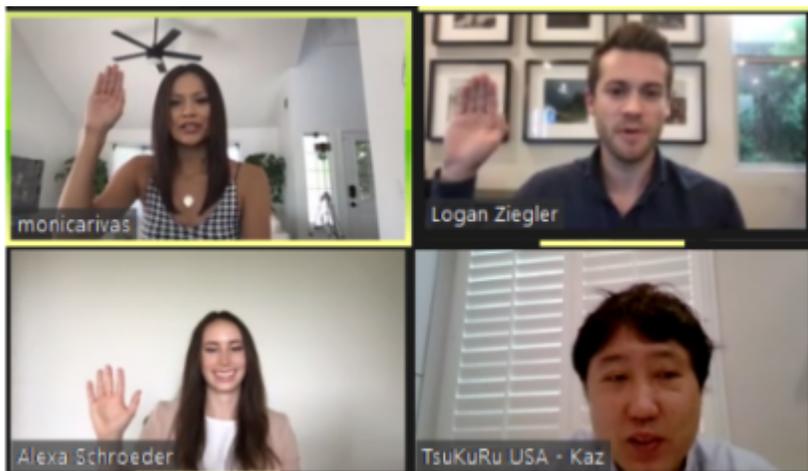
Logan E. Ziegler (Las Vegas) #8698

### Registered Interior Designers

Kazuaki Mitsuda (Gardena, CA) #273-ID

Monica Rivas (Las Vegas) #274-ID

Alexa M. Schroeder (San Francisco, CA) #275-ID



Kimberly Ciesynski

Gregory L. Erny

Ann Fleming

George F. Garlock

John Morelli

Nathaniel Waugh

Tina Wichmann

## Board Staff

Monica Harrison  
*Executive Director*

Laura Bach  
*Chief Investigator*

T. Nani Aguada  
*Executive Assistant*

Stacey Hatfield  
*Public Information Officer*  
*Newsletter Editor*  
[shatfield@nsbaidrd.nv.gov](mailto:shatfield@nsbaidrd.nv.gov)

Jessica Hernandez-Ramos  
*Administrative Assistant*

Leilani Quenga  
*Licensing Specialist/*  
*Bookkeeper*

## Moving? Changing Jobs?

Registrants have 30 days to notify the board of a change of address or place of employment per NRS 623.720.

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

- Full name
- Registration Number
- Prior Address & Phone #
- New Address & Phone #
- Email Address
- Effective Date of Change
- Type of Change (Business or Home)

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## Renewal Notices Will Be Emailed in October

Renewal notices will be emailed to the email address on file for all registrants in October. Renewal notices are not being sent via US Mail. If you received this newsletter email directly from the board, we have your current email address. If this newsletter was forwarded to you by a colleague or downloaded from our website, we likely do not have your current email address. Please contact our office at 702-486-7300 or [nsbaidrd@nsbaidrd.nv.gov](mailto:nsbaidrd@nsbaidrd.nv.gov) to update your contact information.

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## Applications for CEU Exemption Due Sept 30

[Nevada law](#) requires that registrants must complete eight CEUs for registration renewal each year. 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. Nevada law does not require in-person CEUs.

Registrants who are unable to meet the continuing education requirements due to illness, physical disability or undue hardship may apply to the board for an exemption from the requirement. Applications for the exemption must be submitted by September 30, 2021 and can be found on the [board website](#).

The following registrants are exempt from the CEU requirement and are not required to fill out an application for exemption:

1. A registrant holding an initial certificate of registration issued by the board, not including a temporary certificate of registration, is exempt from the requirements for continuing education for the year in which the certificate of registration was issued and the following year.
2. A registrant who serves on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States for a period of more than 120 consecutive days during a calendar year is exempt from the requirements for continuing education for that calendar year.

If you have any questions about the exemption, please contact the board office.

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## Board to Hold Hearing for Permanent Adoption of Regulation

In January the board approved a temporary regulation to add an option for candidates who are enrolled in an Integrated Pathway to Architectural Licensing (IPAL) option from a NAAB-accredited program and allow them to take the Architect Registration Examination before obtaining their degree under NAC 623. During the October 20 board meeting, the board will hold a public hearing to make this regulation permanent.

A [notice of the hearing](#) and copy of the [proposed regulation \(LCB No. R005-21\)](#). Can be found on the [meetings page of the board website](#).

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed action may appear virtually at the scheduled public hearing or may address their comments,

data, views or arguments, in written form by mail or [email](#) to the Executive Director of the Nevada State Board of Architecture, Interior Design and Residential Design, 2080 E. Flamingo Road, Suite 120, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119. Written submissions must be received by October 19, 2021.

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## UNLV Recruiting Architect Mentors

The UNLV School of Architecture is bolstering its Clinical Internship program and preparing students for increased responsibilities in the profession. If you (individually or your firm) would like to play a supporting role, please contact the School's Architect Licensing Advisor at [glenn.nowak@unlv.edu](mailto:glenn.nowak@unlv.edu) or 702-885-7262 to be on the contact list for future programming.

Mentors can get involved in fall and/or spring semester activities:

- Workshops
- Resume and Portfolio Critiques
- Mock Interviews
- Office Tours
- Construction Site Visits
- Continuing Education Shadowing
- ARE Study Sessions
- Internship and Career Fair

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## ARE Migration to PSI



Starting early next year, the Architect Registration Exam (ARE) will no longer be administered through Prometric, it will be administered through PSI. NCARB has stated numerous benefits to this migration, including more test centers, smoother test delivery, and adjusted rescheduling policies for greater candidate flexibility. The earliest the migration will roll out is early February 2022.

NCARB is currently in the testing phase to help ensure the migration will go smoothly. Once NCARB has completed testing on its end, it will roll out an "operational pilot." During

this pilot program, NCARB will be recruiting 300-400 volunteers to take the exam, both at test centers and online. Candidates taking part in the operational pilot will be able to take a section of the exam for free, in exchange for providing NCARB with feedback on the user experience under PSI. NCARB will begin recruiting for the operational pilot in October, with exams potentially being administered in late December to early January. If you are interested in volunteering, read and subscribe to [NCARB's ARE Updates](#) for more information.

NCARB has assured candidates that the test itself will not change – this is only a change in test administrators. NCARB says candidates should continue to prepare to pass the exam as they are currently.

Additional benefits of the migration will include:

- Updated ARE 5.0 Guidelines
- Enhanced demo exam
- Free full-length practice tests for each division (coming Summer 2022)
- Updated "fail" score reports with expanded feedback

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## NSBAIDRD on Social Media

Follow the board on Facebook and Twitter for the latest happenings, upcoming deadlines, CEU opportunities and more.

Join the conversation:



@NSBAIDRD



@nsbaidrd



**NSBAIDRD** @nsbaidrd · 17 Aug

"Had I left college more informed of the steps toward licensure, I may have jump-started the process sooner. Equity through education is the key to leveling the playing field for all..."

Contact us to schedule a speaker about careers in architecture! [@CCSDMagnet](#)  
[@WCSDTweet](#) [@NCARB](#)



**Renewable Farah, RA, L...** · 16 Aug

Honored to share my views via [@NCARB](#), on the #Architecture profession + diversity. Including my tips for success for growing in the field. Check it out! Let me know if it ...

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## Firm FAQs



We started a FAQ series on social media in August all about firms. Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to see all the questions and answers!

**Do I need to have a physical office located in Nevada if my firm is approved by this board?**

No, the board does not require any firm to have a Nevada office. Nevada law only requires that the firm be approved before conducting business.

More questions about the firm application process? Please contact the board at 702-486-7300.

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## **CEU Opportunities**

The following courses were recently released by NCARB's Continuum Education Program. They are free for NCARB certificate holders.

**[Historic Preservation Part 4: Economics & Sustainability \(2 HSW\)](#)**

This course presents examples of how to fund preservation work and addresses the complexities and considerations for doing such work in an environmentally sustainable manner. This course is the fourth of the five-part Historic Preservation series.

**[Historic Preservation Part 5: Modern Heritage, Social Justice, Equity & Inclusion \(1.75 HSW\)](#)**

The past several decades have seen discussions of why preserving modern heritage is different from traditional heritage and how addressing systemic racial and social injustices is key to telling the full American story. "Modern Heritage, Social Justice, Equity & Inclusion" examines 21st century preservation and addresses the complexities that modern heritage, intangible heritage, and social justice have added to preservation.

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## **Disciplinary Actions**

**(June 10 through August 18, 2021)**

Inquiries are routinely sent to both registrants and non-registrants for alleged violations of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Codes (NAC).

There were two cases this period that were submitted for board consideration and approved. Additionally, 11 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 respondents be involved in a subsequent case and found to have again violated NRS, NAC or Rules of Conduct, 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 NSBAIDRD.

### **Advertising and Unlicensed Practice of Architecture, Registered Interior Design or Residential Design: NRS 623.360.1(b)(c)**

#### Case 21-061N

The allegations against *Jaime De La Vega* and *De La Vega Complete Home Repair* were that they advertised as being qualified to provide services that fall under the practice of architecture and engaged in the practice of architecture, without having a certificate of registration with the board. The matter was resolved through a settlement agreement incorporating an administrative penalty of \$2,000 plus investigative costs of \$1,500.

#### Case 22-008N

The allegations against *Stephen Levy* and *Levy Architects PLLC* were that they put out a device (proposal) implying that they were qualified to provide services in Nevada that fall under the practice of architecture and engaged in the practice of architecture, without having a certificate of registration with the board. The matter was resolved through a settlement agreement incorporating an administrative penalty of \$3,000 plus investigative costs of \$1,300.

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

#### Case No. 21-019N

The respondents, *Scott Corridan* and *Scott Corridan Design*, were alleged to have violated NRS 623.360.1(a)(b)(c) by holding themselves out as being able to practice as registered interior designers and practicing as registered interior designers, without having a certificate of registration issued by the board.

The board unanimously found *Scott Corridan* and *Scott Corridan Design* to be in violation of NRS 623.360.1(a)(b)(c). The board imposed an administrative fine of \$4,500 and ordered the respondents to pay all costs and fees for the investigation and hearing, not to exceed \$3,000.

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2080 E. Flamingo Rd., Suite 120, Las Vegas, NV 89119  
(702) 486-7300

[nsbaidrd@nsbaidrd.nv.gov](mailto:nsbaidrd@nsbaidrd.nv.gov)  
[nsbaidrd.org](http://nsbaidrd.org)

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