# STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING BOARD OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDERS AND MAINTENANCE AND ALTERATION CONTRACTORS

In the Matter of

## CHRISTOPHER ROBERT HUNT License Number: 21-01-185967

File Number: 21-15-326954 Docket Number: 15-061671

### FINAL ORDER

On October 28, 2015, a <u>Formal Complaint</u> (Complaint) was executed that charged Christopher Robert Hunt (Respondent) with violating sections 604(c), 604(d), 604(g), 604(l), 2411(2)(a), and 2411(2)(j) of the Occupational Code, 1980 PA 299, as amended; MCL 339.101 <u>et seq</u>.

Based upon the Complaint, the Department summarily suspended Respondent's license to practice as a builder by <u>Order of Summary Suspension</u> dated October 29, 2015.

An administrative hearing was held in this matter before an administrative law judge who, on February 23, 2016, issued a <u>Hearing Report</u> setting forth Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

The Michigan Board of Residential Builders and Maintenance and Alteration Contractors (Board), having reviewed the administrative record, considered this matter at a regularly scheduled meeting held in Lansing, Michigan on June 14, 2016, and received the administrative law judge's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in the <u>Hearing Report</u>. Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that the <u>Order of Summary Suspension</u> dated October 29, 2015, is DISSOLVED, as of the effective date of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that for violating sections 604(c), 604(d), 604(g), 604(l), 2411(2)(a), and 2411(2)(j) of the Occupational Code, <u>supra</u>, Respondent's license to practice as a builder in the state of Michigan is REVOKED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that for the cited violations of the Occupational Code Respondent is FINED \$2,000.00 to be paid to the State of Michigan within 60 days from the effective date of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the fine shall be mailed to the **Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Legal Affairs Division, Compliance Section, P.O. Box 30189, Lansing, MI 48909.** The fine shall be paid by check or money order made payable to the State of Michigan, and the check or money order shall clearly display file number **21-15-326954**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that for the cited violations of the Occupational Code Respondent shall pay RESTITUTION satisfying the <u>Judgment</u> for case number 13-4604-SC, State of Michigan, 74th District Court within 60 days from the effective date of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent shall submit evidence of the satisfied judgment for case number 13-4604-SC, to verify payment of the restitution, as required by this Order, to the **Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Legal Affairs Division, Compliance Section, P.O. Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.** 

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that reinstatement of a license which has been revoked is not automatic and, in the event Respondent applies for reinstatement of the license, application shall be in accordance with section 411(5) of the Occupational Code, <u>supra</u>.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, in accordance with sections 411(3)(c), 602(c), and 604(k) of the Occupational Code, <u>supra</u>, no application for licensure, renewal, relicensure, or reinstatement shall be granted until all final orders of the Board have been satisfied in full.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event Respondent violates any provision of this Order, the Board may proceed to take disciplinary action pursuant to section 604(k) of the Occupational Code, <u>supra</u>.

This <u>Final Order</u> is a public record required to be published and made available to the public pursuant to section 11(1)(a) of the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, 1976 PA 442, as amended; MCL 15.241(1)(a).

## CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order shall be effective on the date

signed by the Chairperson of the Board or authorized representative, as set forth below.

Dated: 83/2016

MICHIGAN BOARD OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDERS AND MAINTENANCE AND ALTERATION CONTRACTORS

By:

Kim Gaedeke, Directo

Bureau of Professional Licensing

This is the final page of a <u>Final Order</u> in the matter of Christopher Robert Hunt, File Number 21-15-326954, Docket Number 15-061671, before the Michigan Board of Residential Builders and Maintenance and Alteration Contractors, consisting of four pages, this page included.

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# STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

# DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS, BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING,

Complainant,

Complaint No. 21-15-326954 (consolidated with 21-15-322836)

V

CHRISTOPHER ROBERT HUNT, License No. 21-01-185967,

Respondent.

## ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

A formal complaint has been issued against Respondent under the Occupational Code, 1980 PA 299, as amended, MCL 339.2401-2412, promulgated rules, and the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, as amended; MCL 24.201 et seq.

After consideration of the documentation obtained in investigating this matter and after reviewing the attached affidavit from Regulation Agent Thomas W. Colburn, the Department concludes that the public health, safety and welfare requires emergency action, as allowed by section 505(1) of the Occupational Code and section 92 of the Administrative Procedures Act.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Respondent's license to practice residential building, maintenance, and alternation in the State of Michigan shall be summarily suspended commencing on the date this order is served.

Under MCL 339.505(2), Respondent has the right to petition for the dissolution of this order of summary suspension. This petition shall clearly state that it is a <u>Petition for Dissolution of Summary Suspension</u> and shall be filed with the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Professional Licensing, P.O. Box 30670, Lansing, Michigan 48909, with a copy served upon the Department of Attorney General, Licensing & Regulation Division, P.O. Box 30758, Lansing, Michigan, 48909. Questions concerning the Order of Summary Suspension may be directed to (517) 373-1146. Upon receipt of such a petition, an administrative hearing will immediately be scheduled before an administrative law judge, who shall dissolve the order of summary suspension unless sufficient evidence is produced to support a finding that the public health, safety, or welfare requires emergency action and a continuation of the suspension order.

> DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS, BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

Jaulch By\_

Kim Gaedeke, Director Bureau of Professional Licensing

Dated: (0/24)

LF: 2015-0122349-A/Hunt, Christopher Robert, 326954 (Bldr)/Order - of Summary Suspension - 2015-10-23

## STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

# DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS, BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING,

Complainant,

Complaint No. 21-15-326954 (consolidated with 21-15-322836)

V

CHRISTOPHER ROBERT HUNT, License No. 21-01-185967,

Respondent.

Board: Residential Builders & Maintenance and Alteration Contractors

### FORMAL COMPLAINT

NOW COMES Bill Schuette, Attorney General, and Andrew J. Hudson, Assistant Attorney General, on behalf of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Professional Licensing, Complainant, pursuant to section 339.101-605 of the Occupational Code, 1980 PA 299, as amended, MCL 339.101 et seq, and its rules promulgated thereunder, files this Formal Complaint against Christopher Robert Hunt, Respondent, alleging upon information and belief as follows:

1. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Respondent has been licensed as a residential builder pursuant to Article 24 of the Occupational Code, MCL 339.2401-2412. 2. After conducting an investigation, the Department may issue an order summarily suspending a license or a certificate of registration issued pursuant to Articles 8 to 25 of the Code based on an affidavit by a person familiar with the facts set forth in the affidavit, or, if appropriate, based upon an affidavit on information and belief, that an imminent threat to the public health, safety, and welfare exists. MCL 339.505(1).

3. Section 604(c) of the Code requires the Board to penalize a licensee for a violation of a rule of conduct of an occupation.

4. Section 604(d) of the Code requires the Board to penalize a licensee who demonstrates a lack of good moral character, meaning "the propensity on the part of the person to serve the public in the licensed area in a fair, honest, and open manner," MCL 338.41.

5. Mich Admin Code, R 338.1534 indicates that a builder or contractor shall keep and maintain a complete, accurate set of books and records.

6. Mich Admin Code, R 338.1551(5) indicates that standards of construction shall be in accordance with the local building code, or in the absence of a code in accordance with the building code of the nearest political subdivision having a building code.

7. The 2009 Michigan Residential Code was adopted pursuant to the Stille-DeRossett-Hale single state construction code act, effective March 9, 2011.

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8. Section 604(g) of the Code requires the Board to penalize a licensee who commits an act which demonstrates incompetence, which is defined as a "departure from, or a failure to conform to, minimal standards of acceptable practice for the occupation," MCL 339.104(8).

9. Section 604(l) of the Code requires the Board to penalize a licensee who aids or abets another person in the unlicensed practice of an occupation.

10. Section 2411(2)(a) of the Code requires the Board to penalize a residential builder for abandonment without legal excuse of a contract, construction project, or operation engaged in or undertaken by the licensee.

11. Section 2411(2)(j) of the Code requires the Board to penalize a residential builder for aiding or abetting an unlicensed person to evade this article, or knowingly combining or conspiring with, or acting as agent, partner, or associate for an unlicensed person, allowing one's license to be used by an unlicensed person, or acting as or being an ostensible licensed residential builder or licensed residential maintenance and alteration contractor for an undisclosed person who does or shall control or direct, or who may have the right to control or direct, directly or indirectly, the operations of a licensee.

12. After conducting an investigation, the Department may issue an order summarily suspending a license or a certificate of registration issued pursuant to articles 8 to 25 based on an affidavit by a person familiar with the facts set forth in the affidavit, or, if appropriate, based upon an affidavit on information and belief,

that an imminent threat to the public health, safety, and welfare exists. MCL 339.505(1).

#### ALLEGATIONS

#### Contract abandonment and other violations at the Sheppard residence

13. David Sheppard, a resident of Oregon, contacted Respondent regarding repairs Mr. Sheppard wanted to his home in Michigan.

14. In or about September 2013, Respondent directed an unlicensed person, Matthew Cnudde, to contract with Mr. Sheppard's mother, a resident of Michigan, to complete the agreed-upon work. The heading on the contract form was for "MC Builders"<sup>1</sup> and included the names and phone numbers of Mr. Cnudde and Respondent. The contract contains a notation indicating that Mr. Cnudde is a subcontractor for Respondent's company, and in correspondence with the Department, Respondent admitted that Mr. Cnudde was acting as his subcontractor. Thus, Respondent aided and abetted a person engaged in unlicensed activity as a residential builder.

15. When asked by the Department to provide documentation outlining the subcontractor relationship between Respondent and Mr. Cnudde, Respondent could not produce any such documentation. Thus, Respondent has failed to keep and maintain a complete, accurate set of books and records.

16. After beginning work on the Sheppard home, Mr. Cnudde abandoned the property and left large gaps in the roof deck without proper tarping. This

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> MC Builders is also unlicensed and was dissolved as a corporation on July 15, 2005.

exposed the interior of the home to the elements, resulting in damage to both the home and contents. In correspondence with the Department, Respondent admitted that he knew the work was incomplete. He indicated that he intended to complete the work himself but failed to do so. Mr. Sheppard attempted to contact Respondent multiple times about finishing the work, but Respondent did not reply. Thus, Respondent abandoned the contract, construction project, or operation without legal excuse.

17. On November 19, 2013, Bay City, Michigan Building Inspector, James Galford, examined the condition of the Sheppard home. Mr. Galford cited Respondent for failure to obtain proper permits, as required by § R105 of the 2009 Michigan Residential Code. Mr. Galford also noted that Respondent failed to conform with the minimal standards of acceptable practice for a residential builder when he left the home in an unsafe condition and exposed to the elements.

#### Criminal Convictions

18. On April 21, 2014, Bay County law enforcement responded to a call alleging violation of a personal protection order.

19. Woman #1 indicated that she had a personal protection order against Respondent, yet Respondent continued to come onto her property and walk past her home multiple times per day, staring into her home for several minutes on each occasion. Bay County authorities arrested Respondent the same day.

20. On June 22, 2014, while formal charges on the above incident were pending, Bay County law enforcement responded to a call from Woman #2. She

reported that Respondent would drive back and forth in front of her home for approximately 20 to 30 minutes at a time on a regular basis. Neighbors of Woman #2 reported seeing Respondent hiding in the bushes outside of Woman #2's residence. Woman #2 indicated that Respondent had come to her home and told her that he knew her husband worked out of town and that she had two pets. She had not spoken to Respondent prior to this incident.

21. On December 4, 2014, Respondent pled no contest in Bay County Circuit Court to one count of Felony Stalking-Aggravated. The Court sentenced Respondent to time served, 157 days in jail, with 208 days deferred; 5 years' probation with terms including: continued substance abuse and mental health treatment, specifically indicating that "the defendant has been diagnosed with severe mental health issues which are being treated by the Veterans Administration." Additionally, Respondent pled no contest to Misdemeanor Stalking and received a sentence concurrent with his felony conviction.

#### COUNT I

22. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes a failure to keep and maintain a complete, accurate set of books and records, contrary to Mich Admin Code, R 338.1534, in violation of section 604(c) of the Code.

#### COUNT II

23. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes a failure to conform to the standards of construction in accordance with the local building code,

or the building code of the nearest political subdivision having a building code, contrary to Mich Admin Code, R 338.1551(5), in violation of section 604(c).

#### COUNT III

24. Respondent's conduct, as described above, demonstrates a lack of good moral character in violation of section 604(d) of the Code.

#### <u>COUNT IV</u>

25. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes incompetence in violation of section 604(g) of the Code.

#### <u>COUNT V</u>

26. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes aiding and abetting a person engaged in unlicensed activity as a residential builder in violation of sections 604(l) and 2411(2)(j) of the Code.

#### COUNT VI

27. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes abandonment of a contract, construction project, or operation without legal excuse in violation of section 2411(2)(a) of the Code.

WHEREFORE, Complainant, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, hereby commences proceedings pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201-328 and the Occupational Code, *supra*, to determine whether disciplinary action should be taken by the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, pursuant to the Occupational Code, for the reasons set forth herein.

FURTHER, Complainant requests that pending the hearing and final determination Respondent's license to work as a residential builder in the State of Michigan continue to be summarily suspended pursuant to section 92 of the Administrative Procedures Act and § 505(1) of the Occupational Code for the reason that, based upon the allegations set forth herein, to permit Respondent to continue to practice the profession constitutes a danger to the public health, safety, and welfare requiring emergency action.

Respectfully submitted,

BILL SCHUETTE Attorney General

Andrew J. Hudson (P76092) Assistant Attorney General Licensing & Regulation Division P.O. Box 30758 Lansing, MI 48909 Phone (517) 373-1146; Fax (517) 241-1997

Dated: October  $\frac{18}{2}$ , 2015

LF: 2015-0122349-A/Hunt, Christopher Robert, 326954 (Bldr)/Complaint - Formal Complaint - 2015-10-23

## STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

# DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS, BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING,

Complainant,

Complaint No. 21-15-326954 (consolidated with 21-15-322836)

v

CHRISTOPHER ROBERT HUNT, License No. 21-01-185967,

Respondent.

STATE OF MICHIGAN ) ) ss. COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

## AFFIDAVIT OF THOMAS W. COLBORN

Thomas W. Colborn, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that:

1. I make this Affidavit in support of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs' request for summary suspension of Respondent's license set forth above; that the following facts are within my personal knowledge or my knowledge and belief; that I am competent to testify to the facts and will do so if called as a witness.

2. I am a Regulation Agent with the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Professional Licensing. I am responsible for investigating complaints from the general public and the Department alleging violations of Michigan's Occupational Code, 1980 PA 299, as amended MCL 339.101

et seq. and the associated administrative rules.

3. In the course of my duties, I reviewed reports and other documents and

substantiated the following:

- a. In or about September 2013, Respondent aided and abetted an unlicensed person to act as a residential builder when he directed an unlicensed subcontractor to contract with homeowner David Sheppard. After the unlicensed subcontractor stopped working, Respondent failed to complete the project, thus abandoning the Sheppard contract.
- b. In November 2013, Bay City Building Inspector, James Galford, found that Respondent failed to obtain proper permits for the work performed at the Sheppard residence and in abandoning the Sheppard contract, failed to meet the minimal standards of acceptable practice for a residential builder.
- c. In the spring of 2014, Bay County law enforcement investigated two complaints against Respondent for stalking and harassing behavior toward women, one of whom had previously obtained a personal protection order against Respondent.
- d. On December 4, 2014, Respondent pled no contest to one count of Felony Stalking- Aggravated and one count of Misdemeanor Stalking. He was sentenced to time served, 157 days in jail, with 208 days deferred; 5 years' probation with terms including: continued substance abuse and mental health treatment, as, according to the Order of Probation, "the defendant has been diagnosed with severe mental health issues which are being treated by the Veterans Administration."
- 4. Respondent's conduct referenced above constitutes conduct that is

contrary to statutory provisions governing residential builders and maintenance and alteration contractors.

5. Respondent's conduct referenced above justifies summary suspension

of his license as a residential builder, under § 505 of the Code, MCL 339.505.

Further, Affiant saith not.

- W (Sloom

Thomas W. Colborn

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29<sup>44</sup> day of October 2015

mto

Notary Public County of <u>Wayne</u> Acting in the County of <u>Wayne</u> My commission expires: <u>71822019</u>

LF: 2015-0122349-A/Hunt, Christopher Robert, 326954 (Bldr)/Affidavit – of Thomas Colburn – 2015-10-23