

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

ROYCE ALLEN MEISTE  
License No. 21-01-170764

Complaint No. 21-16-331256

CONSENT ORDER AND STIPULATION

CONSENT ORDER

A formal complaint was filed on June 5, 2017, charging Royce Allen Meiste (Respondent) with having violated sections 604(h) and (l), 2404a, and 2411(2)(a), (e), and (j) of the Occupational Code, MCL 339.101 *et seq.*

The parties have stipulated that the Board may enter this consent order and that the facts alleged in the Formal Complaint are true and constitute a violation of sections 604(h) and (l), 2404a, and 2411(2)(a), (e), and (j) of the Occupational Code. The Board has reviewed the stipulation contained in this document and agrees that the public interest is best served by resolution of the outstanding complaint.

Accordingly, for these violations, IT IS ORDERED:

Respondent's license is **SUSPENDED** for a period of one year. The license shall be automatically reinstated when the one year period has elapsed, provided Respondent has complied with all terms of this order.

Respondent is **FINED** \$2,500 to be paid by check, money order, or cashier's check made payable to the State of Michigan (with complaint number 21-16-331256 clearly indicated on the check or money order), and shall be payable prior to

obtaining automatic reinstatement. The timely payment of the fine shall be Respondent's responsibility. Respondent shall mail the fine to: Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Professional Licensing, Enforcement Division, Compliance Section, P.O. Box 30189, Lansing, Michigan 48909.

Respondent shall be responsible for all costs and expenses incurred in complying with the terms and conditions of this consent order.

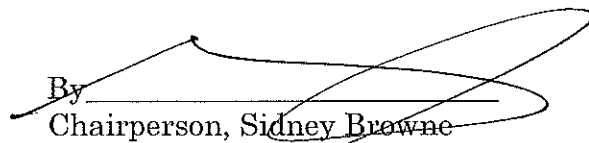
Respondent shall be responsible for the timely compliance with the terms of this consent order, including the timely filing of any documentation. Failure to comply within the time limitations provided will constitute a violation of this order.

If Respondent violates any term or condition set forth in this order, Respondent will be in violation of section 604(k) of the Occupational Code.

This order shall be effective thirty days from the date signed by the Chairperson or the Chairperson's designee, as set forth below.

Signed on 12/12/17

MICHIGAN BOARD OF RESIDENTIAL  
BUILDERS AND MAINTENANCE AND  
ALTERATION CONTRACTORS

By   
Chairperson, Sidney Browne

STIPULATION

The parties stipulate as follows:

1. The facts alleged in the complaint are true and constitute a violation of the Occupational Code.

2. The Director of the Bureau of Professional Licensing, or her designee, must approve this consent order and stipulation before it is submitted to the Board for final approval.

3. Respondent understands and intends that, by signing this stipulation, he is waiving the right under the Occupational Code, rules promulgated under the Occupational Code, and the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, MCL 24.201 *et seq.*, to require the Department to prove the charges set forth in the complaint by presentation of evidence and legal authority, and to present a defense to the charges. Should the Board reject the proposed consent order, the parties reserve the right to proceed to hearing.

4. This matter 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, MCL 15.231 *et seq.*

5. The Board may enter the above Consent Order, supported by Board conferee Sidney Browne. Mr. Browne or an attorney from the Licensing and Regulation Division may discuss this matter with the Board in order to recommend acceptance of this resolution.

6. Mr. Browne and the parties considered the following factors in reaching this agreement:

- A. Respondent's company is now licensed.
- B. During a compliance conference, Respondent represented that he placed a temporary safety rail at the top of the staircase before quitting the job.

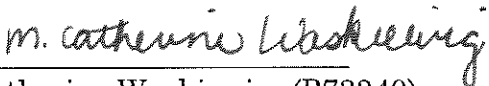
C. Respondent also represented that after being notified of the complaint, he offered to complete the work himself and alternatively provided the name of another builder who was willing to complete the work for the remaining balance due under the contract.

D. Respondent has been licensed since 2004 without any prior disciplinary action against his license.


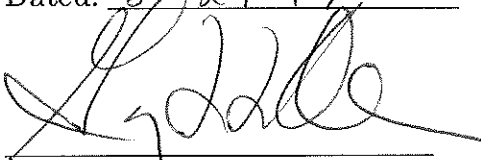
E. Respondent desires to resolve this matter without the time and expense of an administrative hearing.

By signing this stipulation, the parties confirm that they have read, understand, and agree with the terms of the consent order.

AGREED TO BY:

  
M. Catherine Waskiewicz (P73340)  
Assistant Attorney General  
Attorney for Complainant  
Dated: 9-5-17

AGREED TO BY:

  
Royce Allen Meiste  
Respondent  
Dated: 8/24-17  
  
Garry L. Walton (P31199)  
Attorney for Respondent  
Dated: 8/29/17

Bureau of Professional Licensing  
Approved by:

  
Kim Gaedeke, Director

09/08/2017  
Date

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

ROYCE ALLEN MEISTE  
License No. 21-01-170764

Complaint No. 21-16-331256

---

FORMAL COMPLAINT

Attorney General Bill Schuette, through Assistant Attorney General M. Catherine Waskiewicz, on behalf of Complainant Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Professional Licensing, files this Formal Complaint against Respondent Royce Allen Meiste, alleging upon information and belief as follows:

1. The Board of Residential Builders and Maintenance and Alteration Contractors is an administrative agency established under Article 24 of the Occupational Code, MCL 339.101 *et seq.*
2. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Respondent was licensed as a residential builder pursuant to the Code. Respondent owned and operated Builders Etc, Inc., an unlicensed entity.
3. Section 2404a requires a licensee to provide information relating to his or her individual license and to any license issued to that person as a qualifying officer of another entity in the contract.

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

5. Section 2411(2)(e) of the Code requires the Board to penalize a licensee for a willful violation of the building laws of this state or a political subdivision of this state.

6. Section 2411(2)(j) of the Code requires the Board to penalize a licensee for aiding or abetting an unlicensed person to evade Article 24, 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.

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

8. Section 604(h) of the Code requires the Board to penalize a licensee for violating any other provision of the Code or a rule promulgated under the Code for which a penalty is not otherwise prescribed.

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

10. Section 514 of the Code authorizes the Board to assess penalties against licensees under section 602 of the Code based on an administrative law hearing examiner's hearing report.

#### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

11. On June 18, 2015, Respondent, on behalf of Builders Etc, Inc., signed a contract with Andrew to finish the third floor of his home in Lawton, Michigan. The contract amount was \$24,465.

12. The contract failed to include Respondent's license number.

13. Pursuant to the contract, Mr. made payments totaling \$19,945 to Builders Etc, Inc. in June and October 2015.

14. On or about June 29, 2015, Respondent provided a statement to Mr. with the company's name listed at the top of the document underneath the word "licensed."

15. Respondent commenced the work in July 2015.

16. On October 15, 2015, Respondent, on behalf of Builders Etc, Inc., signed a document with Mr. to replace three windows on Mr. home for \$1,595, with the company's name listed at the top of the document underneath the word "licensed."

17. On or about March 7, 2016, Respondent informed Mr. that he was quitting the project. Respondent did not secure an open staircase before or after quitting the job, which posed a safety hazard.

18. On March 8, 2017, a building inspector inspected the property and found a violation of Rule 105 of the 2015 Michigan Residential Code for failing to pull permits.

COUNT I

19. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes a failure to include license information in a contract, contrary to section 2404a of the Code, in violation of section 604(h) of the Code.

COUNT II

20. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes abandonment, contrary to section 2411(2)(a) of the Code, in violation of section 604(h) of the Code.

COUNT III

21. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes a violation of the building laws of this state, contrary to section 2411(2)(e) of the Code, in violation of section 604(h) of the Code.

COUNT IV

22. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes aiding or abetting an unlicensed person to evade Article 24, contrary to section 2411(2)(j) of the Code, in violation of section 604(h) of the Code.

COUNT V

23. Respondent's conduct as described above constitutes aiding or abetting another person in the unlicensed practice of an occupation, in violation of section 604(l) of the Code.

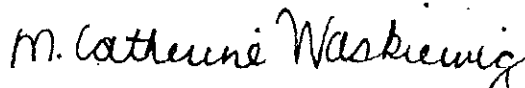


THEREFORE, Complainant Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs hereby commences proceedings pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, MCL 24.201 *et seq.*, the Occupational Code, MCL 339.101 *et seq.*, and the associated administrative rules to determine whether disciplinary action should be taken by the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, pursuant to the Occupational Code, for the reasons set forth herein.

Any written response shall be submitted to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, P.O. Box 30670, Lansing, Michigan 48909, with a copy to the undersigned assistant attorney general.

Respectfully submitted,

BILL SCHUETTE  
Attorney General



M. Catherine Waskiewicz (P73348)  
Assistant Attorney General  
Licensing & Regulation Division  
525 W. Ottawa, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Williams Bldg.  
P.O. Box 30758  
Lansing, Michigan 48909  
(517) 373-1146

Dated: June 5, 2017

LF: 2017-0180946-A/Meiste, Royce Allen, 331256 (Res Bldr)/Formal Complaint – 2017-06-01