

Melissa Matarrese

From: SECB [office@secertboard.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 3:05 PM
To: office@secertboard.org; execdir@ncsea.com
Subject: News from SECB

This new version reflects Ron's changes.

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STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING CERTIFICATION BOARD

SECB Quarterly News

July 2010



Dear Melissa Matarrese:

Recently, the California Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors ("BPELS") published in its Spring 2010 quarterly "bulletin" a notice regarding the use of the "SECB" designation in California. Specifically, BPELS states that the "SECB" designation should not be used in signature blocks, resumes or other professional promotional materials in California by persons who are not licensed by the State as structural engineers.



This action by BPELS is the latest in a series of complaints about claimed misuse of the SECB title in California. Interestingly, BPELS has informed us that all of these actions have been initiated by structural engineers, licensed to practice as such in California, who take exception to professional engineers who do not possess California SE licensure, calling themselves structural engineers, something that is specifically precluded by California law.

SECB shares and endorses BPELS' goal of ensuring that all structural engineers in California are duly qualified and licensed. Nonetheless, we disagree with the position that BPELS is taking on this specific issue. SECB disputes BPELS' interpretation of their ability to regulate the use of SECB which is an abbreviation for Structural Engineering Certification Board, not Structural Engineer. SECB has attempted to negotiate acceptable resolutions with BPELS including modification of the SECB acronym and placement of disclaimer statements as footnotes to the use of the title. In our opinion, California's position is akin to preventing architects from using the AIA acronym in their signature and many similar uses of professional titles and credentials in the design, legal and medical professions. We have retained outside counsel to assist us in working with BPELS to resolve this issue. After offering to testify at a Board meeting, which opportunity was denied us, we sent formal correspondence stating our position. BPELS has informed us that they are developing formal response. Depending on the State's response we may seek injunctive relief or initiate litigation to bar BPELS from unfair and inappropriate infringement of SECB's and your rights in this matter. In

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Welcome new Certificants

[WHO IS CERTIFIED?]

SECB is continuously growing. We would like to recognize and welcome the following new SECB certificants.

Scott M. Adan
Mustafa Mahamid

The next **recertification deadline is October 1, 2010**. Please use all continuing education and work experience earned from October 1, 2009-October 1, 2010.

New and exciting changes are coming to the SECB recertification process. Soon the entire process will be completed online. Beta testing will start in the next month so the November cycle will be the first group to go live. There will be no changes to the

the meantime, SECB-certified engineers should be aware that California is extremely sensitive to the use of the SECB title by persons not licensed by the state to use the title Structural Engineer.

The Board will provide further updates on this issue in future articles.

New Board Members

SECB is please to be expanding the Board with two new members. Stan Caldwell and Bill Warren have been certified by SECB for years and are looking forward to taking their volunteering to the next level. The appointment of both new members reflects a decision by the Board to increase the size of the Board, from 7 members to 9 members. The by-laws have also been revised. For a look at the by-law updates, visit the [SECB History](#) webpage.

Stan Caldwell - P.E., SECB

Stan Caldwell earned BSCE and MSCE degrees at the University of Wisconsin and has 35 years of experience as a structural and architectural engineer, including 30 years as a manager. He is a licensed professional engineer in 6 states and has supervised the analysis and design of more than 700 projects, including bridges, buildings and special-purpose structures. Stan has served as project manager for an industrial corporation, branch manager for a structural engineering analysis firm, and founder and president of a structural engineering design firm. Since 1988, he has served as a principal and group leader at Half Associates, a multi-discipline design firm. His professional experience has included numerous leadership positions in ASCE, AEI, NCSEA, SEAoT, CEC-T and TBPE.

Williston L. "Bill" Warren, IV - S.E., SECB

Principal at SESOL, Inc. in Newport Beach, California
Bill is a Structural Engineer and Principal with SESOL in Newport Beach, California. He holds a BS in Architectural Engineering from the School of Architecture and Environmental Design at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, California and an MS in Structural Mechanics and Earthquake Engineering from the School of Civil Engineering at University of California in Irvine, California. Mr. Warren has more than 30 years of professional structural engineering experience in analysis, design, evaluation, construction supervision, education, research and structural engineering analysis and design and analysis software development. He is President of the Structural Engineer's Association of California (SEAOC), Past President of the Structural Engineer's Association of Southern California (SEAOSC). He is the SEAOC Delegate to the National Council of Structural Engineering Associations, chair of the Structural Engineer's Association of California's (SEAOC) Publication Committee as well as the SEAOC and Structural Engineer's Association of Southern California's (SEAOSC) Certification Committee.

New Committee Chair

Please congratulate our new Chair on the SECB Credentialing Committee, Mary W. Goodson. Mary is a long time member of the committee who is ready to take the helm. The Credentialing Committee's duties are determining the qualifications required to be certified in structural engineering by SECB, evaluating individual applicant qualifications, and recommending action to be taken by the Board.

Mary, Principal Structural Engineer and Structural Engineering Design Technology Lead at CH2M HILL, earned her BS in Civil Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley and MS in Structural Engineering at the University of California at Berkeley.

Mary has 25 years experience in structural design, structural analysis, and computer programming for structural engineering applications. Her project-related experience includes the structural design of projects ranging from sign support structures at facility entrances to design of new multi-story structures and seismic retrofit of existing facilities. She also has experience working with various local and state agencies.

Distinguishing qualifications include extensive experience with computer modeling for structural engineering applications, earthquake resistant design including passive energy dissipation systems, and base isolation. She also served on the inaugural committee for the development of building code requirements for base isolation designs; and she was the chairperson of the California State 8-hour Special Seismic Examination for Structural Engineers.

certification requirements.

As always we welcome feedback from all certificants we fine-tune the process.

Need a Category A professional Development Hour? [Click to register.](#)



Between Jobs? Serving in the military?

Due to recent fluctuations in the economy, the SECB Board has made allowances for SECB participants between structural engineering positions. Deferred Status for certification is now offered for unemployed participants and also those on active duty.

Starting with the first date a certificant is eligible for recertification and unemployed, any affected certificant is invited to submit his or her Engagement Record and Continuing Education Program Activity Log, along with a letter explaining that he or she is unemployed, plus proof of his or her unemployment status.

Applicants deferred because of unemployment are still required to complete and log at least 5 hours of continuing education. Certificants on active military duty do not need to complete continuing education. 24 months is the maximum a certificant can extend recertification.

[Not currently certified with SECB? Apply now!](#)

About SECB

The Structural Engineering Certification Board was formed to identify those professional engineers with the additional education, experience, and skills that are essential to the practice of Structural Engineering.

SECB

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