

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND LICENSING  
STATE OF ARKANSAS**

**IN RE:** Christopher Reynolds – **WAIVER REQUEST**

**ORDER**

This matter came before the Board of Electrical Examiners (the “Board”) on Tuesday September 19, 2023. The petitioner, Christopher Reynolds (“Reynolds”), seeks approval for an electrical apprenticeship license. Reynolds is currently ineligible to obtain an electrical apprenticeship license due to a prior felony conviction. The Board of Electrical Examiners has authority to waive disqualification of a license due to a criminal conviction if the Board decides that the applicant meets requirements listed in the Ark. Code Ann. § 17-3-102(b)(2). Reynolds appeared before the Board for the hearing.

**FINDING OF FACT:**

1. Reynolds is requesting approval from the Board to obtain an electrical apprenticeship license. Due to his prior felony conviction from 2016, he is ineligible for licensure.
2. Reynolds appeared before the Board for the hearing and answered questions from Board members and the Board’s attorney.
3. Staff reviewed documents provided by Reynolds and recommended the Board decide to approve or deny the waiver request.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

1. The Board has authority to waive disqualification of licensure due to a criminal conviction pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 17-3-102(b)(1).
2. A basis upon which a waiver may be granted includes without limitation:
  - a. The age at which the offense was committed;
  - b. The circumstances surrounding the offense;
  - c. The length of time since the offense was committed;

- d. Subsequent work history since the offense was committed;
  - e. Employment references since the offense was committed;
  - f. Character references since the offense was committed;
  - g. Relevance of the offense to the occupational license; and
  - h. Other evidence demonstrating that licensure of the applicant does not pose a threat to the health and safety of the public. Ark. Code Ann. § 17-3-102(b)(2).
3. In the present case, the Board was informed of the nature of the criminal conviction and reviewed multiple personal and professional reference letters provided by Reynolds.
  4. Reynolds appeared before the Board and answered questions from Board members and the Board's attorney.
  5. The Board was satisfied with the information Reynolds provided and voted to approve his waiver request.

THEREFORE, the Board grants Christopher Reynold's waiver request to obtain an electrical apprenticeship license.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS BOARD

  
Richard Ledbetter, Vice-Chair

9-21-23  
Date

Approved by:

/s/ Miles Morgan

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