

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

IN RE: James Williams – WAIVER REQUEST

ORDER

This matter came before the Board of Electrical Examiners (the “Board”) on Tuesday March 21, 2023. The petitioner, James Williams (“Williams”), seeks approval for an electrical apprenticeship license. Williams is currently ineligible to obtain an electrical apprenticeship license due to a prior felony conviction. The Board 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 Annotated § 17-3-102(b)(2). Williams did appear before the Board for the hearing.

FINDING OF FACT:

1. Williams is requesting approval from the Board to obtain an electrical apprenticeship license. Due to his prior felony conviction, he is ineligible for licensure.
2. Williams did appear before the Board in person.
3. Staff reviewed documents provided by Williams and recommended the Board hear from Williams at the hearing.
4. Williams answered questions from the Board and provided reference letters.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

1. The Board has authority to waive disqualification of a registrant license based on 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 as well as the reference letters provided by Williams.

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

IT IS SO ORDERED.

ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS BOARD

Charlotte Bradley
Charlotte Bradley, Chairman

March 22, 2023
Date

Approved by:

/s/ Miles Morgan

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