

**BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS**

In The Matter of James Dreher, Unlicensed Case #2025-21

CONSENT ORDER

The Arkansas State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers & Professional Surveyors ("Board") and James Dreher, a non-licensee ("Respondent") acknowledge the existence of a controversy regarding whether Respondent has violated the Board's statutes and/or rules. In lieu of a formal disciplinary hearing on this matter, and in the interest of prompt and speedy settlement of this matter, consistent with the public interest, statutory requirements, and the responsibilities of the Board, the undersigned parties entered into this Consent Order as a final disposition of this matter.

Respondent hereby represents and agrees:

- A. Respondent, having read the proposed Consent Order, acknowledges that he has the right to consult with counsel and approves this Consent Order on his own volition and without any reliance upon any representations by the Board or any officer, employee, agent or other representative thereof, other than as expressly set forth herein.
- B. Upon entry of this Consent Order, Respondent hereby waives any further procedural steps including, without limitation, the right to a hearing and all rights to seek judicial review or to otherwise challenge or contest the validity of this Consent Order.

Respondent understands that the Board will review and determine whether to approve this Consent Order.

- C. Furthermore, Respondent agrees that should this Consent Order not be approved by the Board, the presentation and consideration of this Consent Order by the Board shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the Board or any of its members or Respondent from further participation, consideration, or resolution of the matters involved herein at any subsequent hearing.
- D. Respondent and the Board expressly acknowledge that this is an attempt to settle and resolve disputed claims and, should the Board decline to approve the Consent Order, neither Respondent nor the Board will have been deemed to waive any and all claims, rights or causes of action that either may have.
- E. Respondent understands and agrees that approval and entry of this Consent Order shall not preclude additional proceedings by the Board against Respondent for acts or omissions not specifically addressed herein.
- F. Respondent understands and acknowledges that this Consent Order and the Board's records concerning this matter are public records and available to the public pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-19-101, *et seq.*
- G. This agreement shall not become a valid and enforceable order of this Board unless and until accepted and approved by the Board at an official meeting and executed by the Board's President or the President's designee.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent Dreher is currently employed with OWN, Inc. Certificate of Authorization ("COA") 2431 located in Dardanelle, Arkansas and was at all times pertinent to this complaint. Respondent Dreher is a project manager and civil engineer for OWN, Inc. and was at all times pertinent to this complaint.

2. Respondent Dreher is not a licensed engineer with the Arkansas State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors and was not licensed in Arkansas at all times pertinent to this complaint.
3. Respondent Dreher holds an active Engineer Intern ("E.I.") license in Louisiana.
4. On or about January 25, 2025, Respondent Dreher completed a "Certification of Consult" for the Arkansas Department of Transportation ("ARDOT"). Respondent Dreher signed the certification as "Project Manager/Civil Engineer."
5. In a series of emails in the spring of 2025 from Respondent Dreher to ARDOT, Respondent Dreher signed the emails as "James Dreher, E.I."
6. The emails portrayed Respondent Dreher as a licensed engineer intern in Arkansas due to the EI designation behind his name of the report. Respondent Dreher did not clarify in his designation the state of his licensure nor did he clarify in the email that he was not licensed in the state of Arkansas as an E.I.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Under Ark. Code Ann. § 17-30- 301, "A person, unless licensed under the present law, shall not practice or offer to practice engineering unless that person has been licensed" under Arkansas law. Respondent's actions alleged in Allegations of Fact 1-6 constitute a violation of Ark. Code Ann. § 17-30- 301
2. Under Ark. Code Ann. § 17-30- 101(4)(B), "A person practices or offers to practice engineering, within the meaning of this chapter, who:... (ii) By verbal claim, sign advertisement, letterhead, card, or in any other way represent himself or herself to be an engineer."

3. Under Ark. Code Ann. § 17-30-305(e), "The board may discipline nonlicensees that violate this chapter by imposing a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) for each offense.

ORDER

THEREFORE, IT IS SO AGREED AND ORDERED THAT:

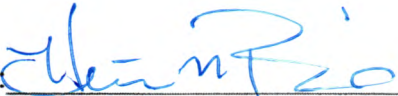
- (1) Respondent agrees, and Board so Orders, that Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars to the Arkansas State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors within thirty (30) days of service of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Board shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for purpose of implementing and enforcing this Consent Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 16 day of January, 2026.

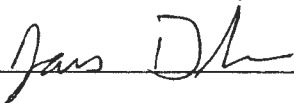
ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND
PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

Date: 1/16/2026

By: 

Heather N. Richardson, Director

Date: 01/16/2026

By: 

Respondent