BEFORE THE GEORGIA BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	DOCKET NO. ~~GEORGIA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS BOARD~~
	)	
WILLIAM SIMS	)	DEC 0 8 2025
License No. LS002996	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

PUBLIC CONSENT ORDER DOCKET NO. 2025-0007

By agreement of the Georgia Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors ("Board"), and WILLIAM SIMS ("Respondent"), the following disposition of this matter is entered pursuant to the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-13-13, as amended.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1.

Respondent was issued a license to practice as a professional land surveyor in the state of Georgia on December 12, 2004 (license no. LS002996) and was so licensed at all times relevant to the matters asserted herein.

2.

In 2025, the Board reviewed a complaint reported to the Board related to services performed by Respondent and initiated an investigation into the plats and related documents recorded by Respondent in the prior year.

3.

In reviewing a plat filed by Respondent on July 7, 2024, entitled "Boundary Survey for James L Oneal Jr," the Board found several significant deviations from minimum professional and technical standards, noting the following deficiencies within the final filing:

a) Incorrect calculations in the plat closure statement;

b) Misplaced survey seal;

c) Improper labeling of property corners;

d) Missing or incorrect details relating to adjacent deed and plat references;

e) Missing or incorrect date information for field survey; and

f) Missing, incorrect, or misplaced Certificate of Authorization number.

4.

On August 4, 2025, the Board discussed its finding in a formal investigative interview with Respondent and supporting staff from Respondent's firm. In the interviews, the Board learned that, at certain points throughout the prior year, Respondent did not closely monitor the use of his seal, allowing firm staff to affix his seal to substandard work that Respondent did not oversee or substantively review.

5.

In reviewing Respondent's history, the Board also learned that Respondent failed to submit proof of continued education for the 2023 and 2024 renewal cycles.

6.

Respondent admits to the above-styled Findings of Fact and waives any further findings of fact not contained in this Order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's conduct and the above Findings of Fact constitute sufficient grounds for imposition of sanctions upon his land surveyor certificate of registration in the State of Georgia, pursuant to O.C.G.A. Title 43, Chapters 1 and 15, and the Rules promulgated thereunder.

ORDER

The Georgia Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, having considered all the facts and circumstances surrounding this case, hereby orders, and Respondent hereby agrees, that this matter shall be disposed of as follows:

1.

Respondent shall submit a fine in the amount of **Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00)** in the form of a cashier's check or money order made payable to the Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Board within ninety (90) days of the notification of the Board's acceptance of this Order. Said fine shall be sent to the Georgia Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, 229 Peachtree St NE, Suite 1875, Atlanta Georgia 30303. Failure to pay such fine within the specified time shall be deemed a violation of this Order.

2.

Respondent shall submit proof of completion for delinquent continuing education credits for the 2023-2024 renewal cycle, along with a fine in the amount of **One Thousand Dollars ($1,000.00)** in the form of a cashier's check or money order made payable to the Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Board within ninety (90) days of the notification of the Board's acceptance of this Order. Said fine shall be sent to the Georgia Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, 229 Peachtree St NE, Suite 1875, Atlanta Georgia 30303. Failure to submit proof of continuing education credits or pay such fine within the specified time shall be deemed a violation of this Order.

3.

Approval of this Consent Order by the Georgia Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors shall in no way be construed as condoning Respondent's conduct,

and shall not be construed as a waiver of any lawful rights possessed by the Board.

4.

Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands its contents and implications. Respondent understands that he has a right to a hearing in this matter and freely, knowingly and voluntarily waives that right by signing this Consent Order. Respondent understands that this Consent Order will not become effective until approved by the Board and docketed by the Division Director. Respondent further understands and agrees that a representative of the Department of Law may be present during the presentation of this Consent Order and that the Board shall have the authority to review the investigative file and all relevant evidence in considering this Consent Order. Respondent understands that this Consent Order, once approved and docketed, shall become effective and constitute a public record, evidencing disciplinary action by the Board. However, if this Consent Order is not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding or prejudice the right of the Board to adjudicate this matter. Respondent hereby consents to the terms and sanctions contained herein.

Approved this 9th day of December, 2025

GEORGIA BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

BY: Taylor Wright

TAYLOR WRIGHT, P.E.

with express permission by
Darren Mickler, Executive Director

Board Chairman

BOARD SEAL

ATTEST:

~~LA TRENDA TYLER~~ Darren Mickler
~~Division Director~~ Executive Director
Professional Licensing Boards Division

CONSENTED TO:

WILLIAM SIMS
Respondent

As to respondent:
Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 3rd day of October, 2025

NOTARY PUBLIC; My Commission expires: 9/18/28

TIFFANY L PAULEY
NOTARY
PUBLIC
EXP. SEPT 18, 2028
CARROLL COUNTY, GEORGIA