BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

EDWARD W. POWELL AKA TED POWELL DBA DESIGN TO THE NINES, D 2 9S 25 Burnham Road, #21 Oak View, CA 93022 Architect License No. C-27775,

Respondent.

Case No. 10-04-07-05-123

OAH No. L-2010120082

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the California Architects Board, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall be	ecome effective on _	July 21,	2011	
It is so ORDERED	June 21. 2011			

FOR THE CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

1	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California	
2	MARC D. GREENBAUM Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
3	MORGAN MALEK Deputy Attorney General	•
4	State Bar No. 223382 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702	
5	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2643	
6	Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant	
7		RE THE
8	CALIFORNIA AR	CHITECTS BOARD CONSUMER AFFAIRS
9		CALIFORNIA
10	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Board Case No. 07-05-123, 07-06-160
11	EDWARD W. POWELL AKA TED	OAH No. L-2010120082
12	POWELL DBA DESIGN TO THE NINES, D 2 9S	
13	25 Burnham Road, #21 Oak View, CA 93022	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER
14	Architect License No. C-27775,	
15	Respondent.	
16		
17	In the interest of a prompt and speedy settle	lement of this matter, consistent with the public
18	interest and the responsibility of the California A	
19	Consumer Affairs, the parties hereby agree to the	e following Stipulated Settlement and
20	Disciplinary Order which will be submitted to the	ne Board for approval and adoption as the final
21	disposition of the Accusation.	·
22	PAR	RTIES
23	Douglas R. McCauley (Complainant)) is the Executive Officer of the Board. He
24	brought this action solely in his official capacity	and is represented in this matter by Kamala D.
25	Harris, Attorney General of the State of Californ	ia, by Morgan Malek, Deputy Attorney General.
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- 2. Edward W. Powell aka Ted Powell dba Design to the Nines, D 2 9s (Respondent) is representing himself in this proceeding and has chosen not to exercise his right to be represented by counsel.
- 3. On or about June 3, 1999, the Board issued Architect License No. C-27775 to Respondent. The architect license was suspended on March 10, 2008, due to child support arrearages and was renewed on June 15, 2010. A 30-day Notice of Intend to Suspend Respondent's license due to child support arrearages was issued on January 11, 2011, and his license was suspended on February 15, 2011.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 10-04-07-05-123 was filed before the Board and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on September 7, 2010. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 10-04-07-05-123 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 10-04-07-05-123. Respondent has also carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

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CULPABILITY

- 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 10-04-07-05-123.
- 9. Respondent agrees that his Architect License is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

- 10. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 11. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 12. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.

13. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Architect License No. C-27775 issued to Respondent is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for five (5) years on the following terms and conditions.

- 1. **Obey All Laws.** Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws and regulations governing the practice of architecture in California.
- 2. **Submit Quarterly Reports.** Respondent, within ten (10) days of completion of the quarter, shall submit quarterly written reports to the Board on a Quarterly Report of Compliance form (1/00) obtained from the Board.
- 3. **Personal Appearances.** Upon reasonable notice by the Board, the Respondent shall report to and make personal appearances at times and locations as the Board may direct.
- 4. **Cooperate During Probation.** Respondent shall cooperate fully with the Board, and with any of its agents or employees in their supervision and investigation of his compliance with the terms and conditions of this probation. Upon reasonable notice, the Respondent shall provide the Board, its agents or employees with the opportunity to review all plans, specifications, and instruments of service prepared during the period of probation.
- 5. Tolling for Out-of-State Practice, Residence or In-State Non-Practice. In the event Respondent should leave California to reside or to practice outside the State or for any reason stop practicing architecture in California, Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within ten (10) days of the dates of departure and return, or the dates of non-practice or the resumption of practice within California. Non-practice is defined as any period of time exceeding thirty (30) days in which Respondent is not engaging in any activities defined in Section 5500.1 of the Business and Professions Code. All provisions of probation other than the quarterly report requirements, examination requirements, and education requirements, shall be held in abeyance until Respondent resumes practice in California. All provisions of probation

shall recommence on the effective date of resumption of practice in California. Periods of temporary or permanent residency or practice outside California or of non-practice within California will not apply to the reduction of this probationary period.

- 6. Violation of Probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and opportunity to be heard (except for any violation of restitution payments in paragraph nine (9) no notice or opportunity to be heard will be available), may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order which was stayed. If an accusation or a petition to revoke probation is filed against Respondent during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.
- 7. **Completion of Probation.** Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license will be fully restored.
- 8. **Continuing Education Courses.** Respondent shall complete professional education courses directly relevant to the violation as specified by the Board. The professional education courses shall be completed within a period of time designated by the Board, which timeframe shall be incorporated as a condition of this probation.

Failure to satisfactorily complete the required courses as scheduled or failure to complete same no later than one hundred (100) days prior to the termination of probation shall constitute a violation of probation. Respondent is responsible for all costs of such courses.

9. Restitution. Respondent shall make restitution to Stephanie Foard-Wilder in the amount of \$14,000 (fourteen thousand dollars) as follows: Respondent shall pay the total amount of the restitution to Stephanie Foard-Wilder by way of forty eight (48) equal installment payments of TWO HUNDRED NINETY ONE DOLLARS AND SIXTY SIX CENTS (\$291.66) beginning thirty (30) days after the effective date of this decision, and each consecutive month thereafter, payable on the fifteenth (15th) day of each month. Respondent shall make the checks for the payments to Stephanie Foard-Wilder and mail

¹ Professional Ethics and Commercial Law

the checks to the attention and address of Stephanie Foard-Wilder AS FOLLOWS: 630
East 38th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90011. Respondent shall make restitution to Jeffry Schuh in
the amount of \$4,500 (four thousand five hundred dollars) as follows: Respondent shall pay the
total amount of the restitution to Jeffry Schuh by way of forty eight (48) equal installment
payments of NINETY THREE DOLLARS AND SEVENTY FIVE CENTS (\$93.75)
beginning thirty (30) days after the effective date of this decision, and each consecutive
month thereafter, payable on the fifteenth (15th) day of each month. Respondent shall
make the checks for the payments to Jeffry Schuh and mail the checks to the attention and
address of Jeffry Schuh AS FOLLOWS: 411 Concord Street, El Segundo, CA 90245.
Respondent shall provide the Board with proof from Stephanie Foard-Wilder and Jeffry
Schuh attesting the full restitution has been paid. Failure to make any of the installment
payments set forth above shall be considered a violation of probation resulting in
Respondent's license being automatically revoked without an opportunity to be heard.
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10. Suspension of License Due to the Child Support Arrear Payments. Any suspension periods of Respondent's license due to the child support arrear payments or other reasons, shall NOT count as time on probation with the Board.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Architect License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board.

DATED: 05/05/101(

EDWAR**I** W. POWELL AKA TED POWELL DBA

DESIGN'TO THE NINES, D 2 9S

Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

May 6, 2011 Dated: April 21, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California MARC D. GREENBAUM Supervising Deputy Attorney General

Morgan Malek

Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant

LA2010600298 Stipulation.rtf

Exhibit A

Accusation No. 10-04-07-05-123

. 1	EDMUND G. BROWN JR.	
2	Attorney General of California MARC D. GREENBAUM	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
4	MICHELLE MCCARRON Deputy Attorney General	
	State Bar No. 237031 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702	
5	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2544	
6	Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 Attorneys for Complainant	
7	,	RE THE
8	DEPARTMENT OF C	CHITECTS BOARD CONSUMER AFFAIRS
9	STATE OF C	CALIFORNIA
10	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case Nos. 07-05-123; 07-06-160.
11	EDWARD W. POWELL	
12	AKA TED POWELL DBA DESIGN TO THE NINES, D 2 9S	ACCUSATION
13	6131 Huasna Townsite Road Arroyo Grande, CA 93420	No. 10-04-07-05-123
14	Architect License No. C-27775	
15	Respondent.	
16		•
17	Complainant alleges:	•
18	PAR	<u>TTES</u>
19	1. Douglas R. McCauley (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official
20	capacity as the Executive Officer of the Californ	ia Architects Board (Board), Department of
- 21	Consumer Affairs.	
22	2. On or about June 3, 1999, the Board	issued Architect License Number C-27775 to
23	Edward W. Powell aka Ted Powell dba Design t	o the Nines, D 2 9s (Respondent). The Architec
24	License will expire on June 30, 2011, unless ren	ewed.
25	JURISE	<u>ICTION</u>
26	3. This Accusation is brought before th	e Board, under the authority of the following
27	laws. All section references are to the Business	and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated
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4. Section 5555 states:

"Licenses to practice architecture remain in full force until revoked or suspended for cause, or until they expire, as provided in this chapter [Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 5500)]."

5. Section 5560 states:

"The board may upon its own motion, and shall upon the verified complaint in writing of any person, investigate the actions of any architect and may temporarily suspend or permanently revoke, the license of any architect who is guilty of, or commits one or more of, the acts or omissions constituting grounds for disciplinary action under this chapter."

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

6. Section 5578 states:

"The fact that the holder of a license is practicing in violation of the provisions of this chapter constitutes a ground for disciplinary action."

7. Section 5584 states:

"The fact that, in the practice of architecture, the holder of a license has been guilty of negligence or willful misconduct constitutes a ground for disciplinary action."

REGULATORY PROVISION.

8. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 160 states in part:

"A violation of any rule of professional conduct in the practice of architecture constitutes a ground for disciplinary action. Every person who holds a license issued by the Board shall comply with the following:

"(b) Willful Misconduct:

(1) In designing a project, an architect shall have knowledge of all applicable building laws, codes, and regulations. An architect may obtain the advice of other professionals (e.g., attorneys, engineers, and other qualified persons) as to the intent and meaning of such laws, codes, and regulations and shall not knowingly design a project in violation of such laws, codes and regulations."

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COST RECOVERY

9. Section 125.3 of the Code provides in part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

Foard-Wilder Project

10. On or about April 11, 2006, Respondent entered into a contract with Stephanie Foard-Wilder and Corine Wilder for a residential second-story addition. The contract amount was \$21,000, payable in three installments of \$7,000, upon contract signing, upon planning approval and upon issuance of a building permit. Respondent was to complete the architectural plans and submit these to the City of Los Angeles (City) for approval. Respondent's plans lacked the requisite information and detail necessary for City planning approval and Respondent failed to correct the plans as required by the City. Furthermore, Respondent failed to determine the need for a parking variance and should have known that including tandem parking in the plans was not an acceptable resolution in Los Angeles County. Respondent had previously been issued a citation, by the Board, for utilizing tandem parking in architectural plans. As a result, Respondent did not submit corrected plans and failed to obtain City approval of the plans. Respondent billed Ms. Foard-Wilder for services that were never completed. Ms. Foard-Wilder paid a total of \$14,000 to the Respondent. On or about January 4, 2007, Ms. Foard-Wilder terminated her contract with the Respondent.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Negligence)

11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 5584, in that Respondent's work on the Foard-Wilder Project constitutes negligence. Complainant's allegations, as set forth in paragraph 10 are incorporated by reference, as though fully set forth.

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SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Willful Misconduct-Violated Building Code)

12. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 5584, in conjunction with California Code of Regulations section 160, subdivision (b)(1), for willful misconduct, in that he knowingly violated building laws, codes, and or regulations in the provision of the architectural plans on the Foard-Wilder Project, for failing to determine the need for a parking variance. Complainant's allegations, as set forth in paragraph 10 are incorporated by reference, as though fully set forth.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violation of Architects Practice Act)

13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 5578, in that Respondent, on the Foard-Wilder Project, violated the Architects Practice Act. Complainant's allegations, as set forth in paragraphs 10 through 12, are incorporated by reference, as though fully set forth.

Schuh Project

14. On or about August 4, 2004, Respondent entered into two contracts with Jeffry Schuh. The first contract was to provide architectural plans for a residential home addition and renovation. The contract amount was \$6,000, of which Mr. Schuh paid \$3,000 to Respondent. The second contract was for residential landscape design. The contract amount was \$3,000, of which Mr. Schuh paid \$1,500 to Respondent. Respondent was to complete the architectural plans and submit them to the City of El Segundo (City) for planning approval. Respondent's plans lacked the requisite information and detail necessary for City approval. The City asked Respondent to submit corrected plans. However, Respondent failed to submit plan corrections within the specified six month time limit and failed to obtain City approval of the plans. Respondent did not complete the plans for the Schuh residential addition. Respondent billed Mr. Schuh for services that were never completed. On or about April 4, 2007, Mr. Schuh terminated both contracts with the Respondent.

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FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Negligence)

15. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 5584, in that Respondent's work on the Schuh Project constitutes negligence. Complainant's allegations, as set forth in paragraph 14, are incorporated by reference, as though fully set forth.

FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violation of Architectural Practice Act)

16. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 5578, in that Respondent, on the Schuh Project, violated the Architects Practice Act. Complainant's allegations, as set forth in paragraphs 14 and 15, are incorporated by reference, as though fully set forth.

DISCIPLINE CONSIDERATIONS

17. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent,
Complainant alleges that on or about June 23, 2006, in a prior action, the Board issued Citation
Number #06-02, based upon two causes for citation. The first cause was in connection with
building plans that were missing the required elements necessary for approval and the plans
included tandem parking for which the City of Los Angeles does not allow. The second cause
centered on insufficient plans and Respondent's failure to complete the construction documents.
The Board determined the Respondent was negligent and cited him for a Class "C" violation.
Respondent was fined \$500 for each cause and was ordered to cease and desist from violating
section 5584. That Citation is now final and is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.

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PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the California Architects Board issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Architect License Number C-27775, issued to Edward W. Powell, aka Ted Powell, dba Design to the Nines, D 2 9s;
- 2. Ordering Edward W. Powell to pay the California Architects Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Code section 125.3; and
 - 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: August 30, 2010

Dough R. Me C. Le

DOUGLAS R. MCCAULEY

Executive Officer

California Architects Board

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant