#### 1 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA STATE** 2 **BOARD OF TECHNICAL REGISTRATION** 3 In the Matter of: 4 Nathan Pies **Professional Engineer (Mechanical)** 5 **Registration No. 49142** 6 **Teoca Design Solutions** 7 Firm Registration No. 22687 8 Respondent

# Case No.: P23-099

#### CONSENT AGREEMENT and ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

In the interest of a prompt and judicious resolution of the above-captioned matter before the Arizona State Board of Technical Registration ("Board") and consistent with the public interest, statutory requirements, and the responsibilities of the Board, and pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-101 et seq., and A.A.C. R4-30-120(G), the undersigned party, Nathan Pies ("Respondent"), holder of Registration No. 49142, Teoca Design Solutions ("Respondent Firm"), holder of Firm Registration No. 22687, and the Board enter into the following Recitals, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Consent Agreement") as a final disposition of this matter.

## RECITALS

1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and has had the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney, or has waived the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney.

2. Respondent understands that he has a right to a public administrative hearing concerning this case. He further acknowledges that at such formal hearing he could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Respondent knowingly, voluntarily, and irrevocably waives his right to such an administrative hearing, as well as rights of rehearing, review, reconsideration, appeal, judicial review or any other administrative and/or judicial action concerning the matters set forth herein.

Respondent affirmatively agrees that this Consent Agreement shall be
 irrevocable.

4. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement or any part of the agreement may be considered in any future disciplinary action by the Board against him.

5 5. The Consent Agreement, any record prepared in this matter, all investigative
materials prepared or received by the Board and all related exhibits and materials, are
public records upon acceptance by the Board of this Consent Agreement and may be
retained in the Board's files pertaining to this matter.

6. Respondent understands this Consent Agreement deals with Board case
number P23-099 involving allegations that Respondent engaged in conduct that would
subject him to discipline under the Board's statutes and rules. The investigation into
these allegations against Respondent shall be concluded upon the Board's adoption of
this Consent Agreement.

Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement does not constitute a
dismissal or resolution of any other matters currently pending before the Board, if any,
and does not constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the Board's statutory authority
or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding.

Respondent also understands that acceptance of this Consent Agreement does
 not preclude any other agency, subdivision, or officer of this State from instituting any
 other civil or criminal proceedings with respect to the conduct that is the subject of this
 Consent Agreement.

9. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that, upon signing this Consent
Agreement and returning this document to the Board's Executive Director, he may not
revoke his acceptance of the Consent Agreement or make any modifications to the
document regardless of whether the Consent Agreement has been signed on behalf of the
Board. Any modification to this original document is ineffective and void unless
mutually agreed by the parties in writing.

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1 10. This Consent Agreement is subject to the approval of the Board and is 2 effective only when accepted by the Board and signed on behalf of the Board. If the 3 Board does not accept this Consent Agreement, the Board retains its authority to hold a 4 formal administrative hearing pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-128(E). In the event that the 5 Board does not approve this Consent Agreement, it is withdrawn and shall be of no 6 evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon nor introduced in any action by any party, 7 except that the parties agree that should the Board reject this Consent Agreement and this 8 case proceeds to hearing, Respondent shall assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced 9 by its review and discussion of this document or any records relating thereto.

10 11. If a court of competent jurisdiction rules that any part of this Consent
11 Agreement is void or otherwise unenforceable, the remainder of the Consent Agreement
12 shall remain in full force and effect.

13 12. Respondent understands that any violation of this Consent Agreement may
14 result in disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of the registration under
15 A.R.S. § 32-150.

16 13. Respondent agrees that the Board will adopt the following Findings of Fact,
17 Conclusions of Law and Order.

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## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

19 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of
20 the practice of Professional Engineering in the State of Arizona.

21 2. Respondent is the holder of Arizona Professional Engineer (Mechanical)
22 Registration No. 49142.

3. Respondent Firm is the holder of Firm Registration No. 22687.

Respondent is the registered principal of Respondent Firm.

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5. Respondent Firm's Registration with the Board expired on July 7, 2022.

6. On or about September 27, 2022, Respondent Firm provided professional
engineering documents to a member of the public for a project in Mesa, Arizona.

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On or about May 10, 2023, Board staff received a written statement from

Respondent, in which Respondent acknowledged that Respondent Firm's registration
 with the Board expired.

8. On or about May 12, 2023, Respondent renewed Respondent Firm's
registration with the Board.

9. Respondent Firm's registration with the Board was in an expired status from
July 7, 2022, to May 12, 2023, during which time Respondent Firm continued to provide
professional engineering services to the public.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

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1. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-101, et seq.
2. The conduct alleged in the Findings of Fact constitutes grounds for discipline
pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-121, A.R.S. § 32-141, A.R.S. § 32-128(C)(4) as it relates to
A.A.C. R4-30-301(4), in that Respondent and Respondent Firm practiced, or offered to
practice, a Board regulated profession without valid firm registration.

# **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board issues
the following Order:

17 1. LETTER OF REPRIMAND. Respondent is hereby issued a Letter of
18 Reprimand.

ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY. Within Sixty (60) Days from the
 effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent shall pay an administrative penalty
 of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) by certified check or money order made
 payable to the State of Arizona Board of Technical Registration.

3. COST OF INVESTIGATION. Within Thirty (30) days from the effective
date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent shall pay the cost of investigation of this
case to the Board in the amount of Seventy One Dollars (\$71.00) by certified check or
money order made payable to the State of Arizona Board of Technical Registration,
according to the provisions of A.R.S. § 32-128(H).

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4. OBEY ALL LAWS. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local

laws, as well as, all rules governing the practice of Professional Engineering in the State
 of Arizona. The Board shall consider any violation of this paragraph to be a separate
 violation of the rules and statues governing the Arizona Board of Technical Registration.
 The Board may also consider Respondent's non-compliance with this Order as a separate
 violation of A.R.S. § 32-150.

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5. RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION. Respondent and Respondent Firm shall timely renew their Arizona registration as a Professional Engineer and a Professional Engineering Firm, and timely pay all required registration fees.

9 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. The effective date of this Consent Agreement is the
10 date the Respondent and Board sign the Consent Agreement. If the dates are different, the
11 effective date is the later of the two dates.

12 7. COSTS OF COMPLIANCE. Respondent shall pay all costs associated
13 with complying with this Consent Agreement.

8. NONCOMPLIANCE. If Respondent violates this Order in any way or fails
to fulfill the requirements of this Order, the Board, after giving notice and the opportunity
to be heard, may revoke, suspend or take other disciplinary actions against the
registration. The issue at such a hearing will be limited solely to whether this Order has
been violated.

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ACCEPTED and ORDERED this 27 day of . 2023.

Jack Gilmore, L.A., Chairman Arizona State Board of Technical Registration

Consent Agreement and Order, No. P23-099 accepted this <u>19th</u> day of MAY , 2023.

Nathan J Ples

Nathan Pies, of behalf of himself and Teoca Design Solutions, Respondents

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2	ORIGINAL filed this <u>28th</u> day of
3	June, 2023, with:
4	Arizona State Board of Technical Registration 1110 W. Washington, Suite 240
5	Phoenix, AZ 85007
6	<b>COPY</b> of the foregoing mailed via Certified Mail
7	No. 9214 8901 9434 4600 0928 67 and
8	First Class mail this <u>28th</u> day of <u>June</u> , 2023, to:
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10	Nathan Pies 20831 E. Mockingbird Dr.
11	Queen Creek, AZ 85142
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14	By: Daniel Carthel
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