


# Texas Board of Professional Engineers

## Professional Practice Update / Ethics

June 10, 2011

Charles Pennington, P.E.



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# Agenda

- What's New at the Board
- Rule Changes/Reminders
- Continuing Ed and Practice Questions
- Compliance & Enforcement Stats




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# Agency Organization & Responsibilities

- Executive Director: Lance Kinney, P.E.
- Review and process all licensing applications
- Coordinate FE and PE Exams (~6400 / yr)
- Investigate all enforcement cases (~750 / yr)
- Administer Licenses for 53,000 PE's
- Administer Registrations for 8,300 Firms




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# 2011 Legislative Session

- Track current bills from our website [www.tbpe.state.tx.us](http://www.tbpe.state.tx.us)
- Links provided to Texas Legislature Online
- "Live bills" ; oil reserves, practice of engineering and architecture, TWIA.





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# Board Rules

- Engineer's Seal and Signature
  - What to Seal
    - Texas seal for Texas work (Final Version)
    - Preliminary Documents (Not Req'd)
  - Electronic Seals and Signatures Permitted




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# Computer Based Testing

- Computer Based Testing Task Force
  - Lance Kinney, P.E.
- Approved at National NCEES in August
- Start with the FE and FS exams
- Expected national implementation by 2013

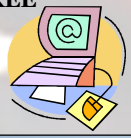


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## More Board Updates

- Video of Board Meetings on website
- ECHO System
  - Online Transactions are **FREE**
  - Renewals (PE / Firm)
  - Personal Info Updates






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## Continuing Education

- Random Audits Ongoing
- Keep Documentation for 3 years
- Be prepared to substantiate your 15 hours
- Activity Log is not enough
- Enforcement Cases (up to \$2,500+)
- Over 65 is Not Exempt from CE





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## Continuing Education

- Time spent at technical presentation counts hour for hour.
- Time spent serving on technical committees counts up to 5 hours per renewal.
- Just belonging to a technical society doesn't count, you need to attend sessions or serve as an officer or on a committee.



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## Experience

- Board counts post college grad experience
- Master's degree counts as a year of experience
- Representing experience (enforcement)




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## Testing and Engineering

- Board Policy Advisory addresses specifics of engineering, testing and testing firms.
- QC testing by contractor (compaction) does not require a P.E. to perform.
- Acceptance or determining spec compliance does require a P.E.





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## C & E Statistics


- **Case Types**
  - Unlicensed Practice
  - Illegal Use of Title
  - Corporate Name
  - Firm Registration
  - Cases against PE's


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### C & E Statistics



- **FYs 2009-2010**
  - 1614 Cases Opened
    - Public, Internal, Anonymous
  - 1641 Cases Closed
    - 1055 Voluntary Compliance (64%)
    - 94 Disciplinary Actions
    - 194 Dismissed / No Violation




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