

# Architecture Columns

Newsletter of the  
North Carolina  
August 2021



**Katherine N. Peele, FAIA**

## President's Message

Please join me in welcoming Timothy A. Hillhouse as the Board's newest member. Governor Roy Cooper, on April 1, 2021 appointed Hillhouse to a five year term as a Board member.



Timothy Hillhouse

Hillhouse is a Principal and Project Manager with O'Brien Atkins in Durham where he leads the Justice and Government studio.

## REGISTERED INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Governor Roy Cooper in July ratified SB 188, also known as the Interior Design bill. This bill will go into effect on October 1, 2021 at which time the Board will be known as the North Carolina Board of Architecture and Registered Interior Designers. This statute change will allow for the registration of interior designer and defines the practice of interior design. [Text of the full bill is found here](#). The Board, over the next few months will be developing the administrative code and will work with various stakeholders, including DOI/OSFM, AIA, NCBIA, IIDA, CIDQ, and ASID to ensure a smooth transition and proper enforcement in order to continue its charge to protect the health safety and welfare of the public.

## PARTNERING WITH OUT OF STATE FIRMS

North Carolina is fortunate that the design and construction industry is experiencing growth. With that comes unique designs, niche projects and possibly a need to partner with architects and firms from out of state or even out of the country. Be aware that the definition of the practice of architecture is quite broad:

*"Practice of architecture" means performing or offering to perform or holding oneself out as legally qualified to **perform professional services in connection with the design, construction, enlargement or alteration of buildings, including consultations, investigations, evaluations, preliminary studies, the preparation of plans, specifications and contract documents, administration of construction contracts and related services or combination of services in connection with the design and construction of buildings, regardless of whether these services are performed in person or as the directing head of an office or organization.**"*

When partnering or consulting with firms, be sure that they are properly

## Board Members

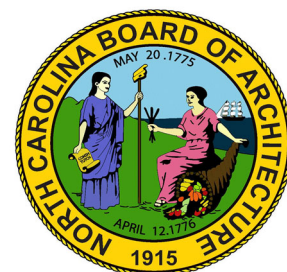
Katherine Peele, FAIA	President
Cathy Morrison, AIA	Vice President
Walter Sawyer	Treasurer
Fred Dodson, Jr.	Secretary, Public Member
Roula Qubain, AIA	Member
Timothy Hillhouse, AIA	Member
Cora Cole-McFadden	Public Member

## Board Staff

Cathe M. Evans	Executive Director
Julie L. Piatek	Director of Administration
Tyler Barrick	Firm/CE Compliance

## Upcoming Meeting Dates

September 10, 2021
October 8, 2021
November 12, 2021
January 7, 2022
February 11, 2022
March 3, 2022 Charlotte
March 4-5, 2022 NCARB Regional Summit
April 8, 2022
May 3, 2022
June 1-4 NCARB Annual Meeting
July 8, 2022
434 Fayetteville St
Suite 2005
Raleigh, NC 27601
984-328-1161
ncba@ncbarch.org    www.ncbarch.org
All Board meeting are open to the public.



# President's Message, continued

licensed in this state. If you have questions regarding partnering or consulting with a firm and getting the firm licensed, contact Tyler Barrick, NCBA Firm Compliance Administrator at [tyler@ncbarch.org](mailto:tyler@ncbarch.org)

***The Board on July 8, 2021 elected the following officers FY 2021-22***



Katherine N. Peele, FAIA  
President



Cathy Morrison, AIA  
Vice President



Walter Sawyer, AIA  
Treasurer



Fred Dodson, Jr.  
Secretary/Public Member

## ***NCARB RELEASES DEMOGRAPHIC DATA ON ARCHITECTURE LICENSING AND EXAM PERFORMANCE***

The 2021 edition of NCARB BY THE NUMBERS includes a new section on Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) pass rates by several demographic categories. The six-division ARE, which is developed and administered by NCARB, is a key step on the path to earning an architecture license and is required by all state licensing boards.

Thanks to enhanced data science capabilities, NCARB is now able to segment and analyze pass rates from more than 32,700 test takers by demographic information, including race and ethnicity, gender, and age. Key findings—which will also be included in a joint report with the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA)—include:

White candidates are much more likely to pass the ARE than candidates of color. The Programming & Analysis division, which focuses on evaluating a project's requirements and constraints, has the largest disparity:

- White candidates' pass rate is 38 percentage points higher than their Black or African American peers.
- Men are more likely to pass than women. In general, men outperform women on five of the six divisions. A similar trend can be seen when factoring race and ethnicity, although Black or African American women generally outperform Black or African American men.
- Younger candidates have higher pass rates. Across all six divisions, candidates between the ages of 18-29 have the highest pass rates, while candidates who are 40 or older have the lowest.

"These findings, while not surprising to architects of color, are unacceptable," said newly inaugurated NCARB President Alfred Vidaurri Jr., FAIA, NCARB, AICP. "I challenge us to do better. During my year as president, analyzing, understanding, and addressing these disparities will be a key focus—and I invite the entire profession to join us."

Earning an architecture license generally takes over 12 years, which includes earning a college degree, reporting professional experience, and passing the ARE. In recent years, both architects and policymakers have questioned this framework, and NCARB has turned the microscope inward, resulting in a reduction of required experience hours, a restructuring of the ARE, and many other policy changes. Last year, CEO Michael Armstrong challenged the profession to consider accrediting four-year architecture degrees, which would help shave time and cost from the licensure path.

The North Carolina Board of Architecture is committed to working with NCARB to resolve performance disparities. The Board supports NCARB efforts to increase candidate representation on NCARB exam committees, to develop free practice exams and test prep materials, independent bias audits and community think tanks to collect feedback. NCBA will monitor and participate the various committees, teams and task forces that support these endeavors.

# from the executive director's desk

Individual renewal notices were sent on May 15, 2021 to the email address on file with the Board. As a courtesy second and third notices have also been sent. Please be sure you have renewed your license for 2021-2022.



The Board office is open to visitors by appointment only. If you wish to meet with a staff member, please contact them directly to arrange a meeting.

Sincerely,

*Cathe Evans*

Executive Director

## licensing statistics as of July 31, 2021

**Active Individual licenses : 6108**

expiring on June 30, 2022

Breakdown:

NC 2547

Out-of-State 3561

**Active Firm licenses: 1846**

expiring on December 31, 2021

Breakdown:

NC 721

Out-of-State 1125

## expired license lists

Individual licenses that expired on June 30, 2021 can be found [here](#).

Firm Licenses that expired on December 31, 2020 can be found [here](#).

**These lists are current as of July 30, 2021 at 11:40 a.m..** If you renewed after that date and time, you can check the status of your firm or individual by clicking [here](#).

# NCARB news

Executive Director of the North Carolina Board of Architecture Cathe M. Evans, of Raleigh, North Carolina, was elected Member Board Executive director of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) at its 2021 Annual Business Meeting. As a member of NCARB's Board of Directors, Evans will provide invaluable insight into the daily administration of an architectural licensing board.



Evans joined the North Carolina Board of Architecture in 1995 and was promoted to the board's executive director in 2001. In her role on the board, Evans is responsible for managing the architect licensure and license renewal processes in North Carolina, in addition to overseeing the board's finances and administrating its day-to-day operations.

In 2005, Evans began volunteering for NCARB as part of the Member Board Executives Committee and later led the group as chair in 2009. She has since offered her time and expertise to the Internship (now Experience), Internship Advisory, Integrated Path Evaluation, Policy Advisory, and Professional Conduct committees. She has also been a member of the Licensure, Sustainable Design, and Responsible Charge task forces; as well as the Long-Range Strategic Issue and Member Board Staff work groups. Evans also served as the Member Board Executive director representative on NCARB's Region 3 (Southern Conference) Executive Committee.

Through her efforts on NCARB's committees, Evans has helped improve the effectiveness of NCARB's services to its Member Boards and the profession as a whole. Evans was awarded the NCARB President's Medal for Distinguished Service in 2017 by then-President Kristine Annexstad Harding, FAIA, NCARB, in recognition of her service.

A dedicated volunteer, Evans has also donated her time to Read and Feed, an afterschool literary program, and the Triangle Radio Reading Service. She attended Manchester Community College and holds a degree in Liberal Arts. In her free time, Evans enjoys SCUBA diving and gardening.

## ***Shape the Future of Architecture—Participate in the Analysis of Practice***

Help determine what the path to licensure will look like in the future by participating in NCARB's Analysis of Practice! A profession-wide study, the Analysis of Practice will explore how architects are currently practicing and how that practice is likely to shift in the years ahead. The results will guide updates to NCARB's programs and services, including the national experience program and licensing exam. For more information click [here](#).

## ***Explore NCARB's New Architecture Demographics Data***

Each year, NCARB releases data tracking key trends along the path to licensure—including time to complete the experience and examination programs, as well as demographics throughout architecture career stages. In the 2021 edition of *NCARB by the Numbers*, we've expanded our data to provide a deep dive into how race and ethnicity impact examination pass rates, time to licensure, and more. For more information click [here](#).

# enforcement report

Following is the Enforcement Report for the period December 1, 2020 through July 31, 2021. The Board is not bound by precedence in matters of disciplinary action. It is the prerogative of the Board to be conservative in its review of cases and to enforce the rules and laws with sanctions and civil penalties as allowed by law. You may request a copy of the entire order by sending an email to [cathe@ncbarch.org](mailto:cathe@ncbarch.org) be sure to include the case number with your request.

The Board Closed 19 cases with Consent Orders:

1167 Ratana-Charoensiri, Chainarong  
1173 Carroll, Nichole  
1174 Edgens, Sam  
1175 Castrovillari, Frank  
1177 Mang, John  
1178 Siefert, Roger  
1179 Weinheimer, Daniel  
1180 Corfield, William  
1181 Davis, Larry  
1182 Dixon, R. Craig  
1183 Merschhat, Michael  
1186 Knight, Conrad  
1187 Vanderbilt, Keith  
1191 Witt, Richard  
1193 Crichton, Scott  
1195 Vecchione, Robert  
1197 Hale, Elizabeth  
1198 Jones, Randy  
1199 Geraghty, Rebecca

The Board closed two cases with a Letter of Warning to non-licensed individuals:

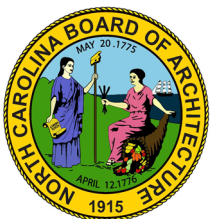
1189—Ward, Rodney  
1190—Sweany, Brandie

The Board closed four cases as dismissed or unfounded.

The Board issued one Letter of Caution.

## A note on Board enforcement and jurisdiction—

The Board of Architecture has jurisdiction pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §83A-15 and 21 NCAC 02 .0208, 21 NCAC 02 .0209 and 21 NCAC 02 .210 to receive and investigate complaints involving dishonest conduct, incompetence and unprofessional conduct and non-licensed practice. This Board does not have the statutory authority to discipline architects regarding complaints involving contract disagreements between a client and architect or allegations of ordinary negligence, nor can the Board mediate these situations. All civil penalties collected by the Board of Architecture are deposited with the Office of State Budget management where they are disbursed to school systems throughout the State



You can follow the Board of Architecture on [FaceBook](#) and [Twitter](#)  
[@NCArchitectureB](#)