<u>577 - MEETING OF THE STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS</u> OF MASTER PLUMBERS -MINUTES - MARCH 24, 2011

The Minutes of the March 24, 2011 Board Meeting have not been formally approved and are subject to change or modification by the Public Body at its regular meeting on *April 28, 2011*.

The notice of the March 24, 2011 meeting has been mailed to the <u>Star Ledger</u>, <u>Camden Courier Post</u>, and <u>Trenton Times</u> newspapers, and has also been posted on the Bulletin Board at the Office of the Secretary of State, Trenton, New Jersey.

The Board meeting of March 24, 2011 was called to order at 9:00 am with the following Members in attendance:

Peter Voros. Chairman

Michael K. Maloney, Vice-Chairman

James McManus, Jr.

Paul N. Bontempo

Michael L. Sestanovich, Secretary

Donald Dileo

Adam J. Sabath and Robert B. Reeve were absent

Board Complement: (9): One (1) Vacancy remains for a Government Representative

Others in attendance:

The following individuals were in attendance from 9:00 a.m. until closing at 3:00 pm: Joseph A. Donofrio, Counseling Deputy Attorney General (DAG)
Rosemarie Baccile, Executive Assistant

Public Session Visitors:

Thomas Walsh, Licensed Master Plumber, New Jersey State League of Master Plumbers

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Peter Voros led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and requested that Members join in a moment of silence in recognition of U.S. troops serving our Country.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the FEBRUARY 24, 2011 MTG

A motion was made by Donald Dileo and seconded by Michael Maloney to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2011 meeting. A vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed.

BOARD BUSINESS

PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS - &- CAPACITIES

MAYOR PETER I. VOROS ~ MASTER PLUMBER MEMBER ~ CHAIRMAN

MICHAEL K. MALONEY ~ MASTER PLUMBER MEMBER - VICE CHAIRMAN

MICHAEL L. SESTANOVICH ~ INSPECTOR MEMBER - SECRETARY

ROBERT B. REEVE, LICENSED MASTER PLUMBER # 7388

JAMES MC MANUS, JR., JOURNEYMAN MEMBER

DONALD B. DILEO ~ PUBLIC MEMBER

PAUL N. BONTEMPO - PUBLIC MEMBER

ADAM J. SABATH ~ PUBLIC MEMBER

TOTAL BOARD COMPLEMENT (9): Vacancy / Government representative

1. <u>ELECTION OF OFFICERS</u>:

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:14C-6, "Organization of Board; Officers; Executive Secretary; clerical assistants; expenses and expenditures..." the Board elected the following Members as Officers for 2011:

CHAIRMAN

Board Member James McManus nominated Peter Voros Chairman.

Member Donald Dileo seconded that nomination.

Peter Voros accepted the nomination.

A vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Board Member Donald Dileo nominated Michael Maloney as Vice-Chairman.

Michael Sestanovich seconded that nomination.

Michael Maloney accepted the nomination.

A vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed.

SECRETARY

Board Member Donald Dileo nominated James McManus as Board Secretary.

Michael Sestanovich seconded that nomination.

James McManus accepted his nomination.

A vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed.

CLOSING

A motion was made by Michael Maloney to close all nominations, and that motion was seconded by James McManus. A vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed. Board Members unanimously voted to elect the nominees.

2. ADVERTISING VIOLATIONS -UNLICENSED ENTITIES

Offer(s) of Settlement assessing \$2,500 fines for

UNLICENSED ENTITIES: ADVERTISING PLUMBING SERVICES NEWS ARTICLES, INTERNET ADS: CRAIGS LIST, NEWSPAPERS COMPLAINANTS: PHCC; NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MASTER PLUMBERS; OTHER LICENSEES; ANONYMOUS

Complaints against unlicensed entities advertising plumbing services are regularly submitted to the Board. All complaints are assigned file numbers and reviewed by the Board.

Members voted on June 25, 2009, to issue an Offer of Settlement with a \$2,500 fine to each unlicensed entity where a review of an advertisement established a violation of New Jersey Plumbing Statutes and Regulations. Violations included references to plumbing, minor or light plumbing, water heaters, or ordinary repairs.

This "Offer" replaces the advertising letter, includes a cease and desist, and assesses a penalty. Subsequent to Board review, the Offers of Settlement are issued daily to the subscribers provided by all complainants, and the responses to these settlement letters are forthcoming. The Board's investigations of these complaints are continuing.

The results of these actions for the Month of February are reported below:

PAYMENT OF ADVERTISING VIOLATION

3. **LLOYD AND ROLLINS, UNLICENSED COMPLETE BATHROOM REMODEL -**MODIFIED PENALTY \$1,500 **PAID IN FULL**

SUBMITTED BY GARY ITALIANO, NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MASTER PLUMBERS - FILE ID # 65910

Initial fine \$2,500 for publishing an unlicensed advertisement was modified by the Board on July 22, 2010, and reduced to \$1,500. This penalty was paid in full on December 7, 2010.

Page 5 3-24 -2011

PAYMENT OF ADVERTISING VIOLATION

4. **THOMAS CHIACCHIO, UNLICENSED,**T/A TC HOME IMPROVEMENTS LLC SUBMITTED BY PHCC - FILE ID # 71510

\$2,500 PAID IN FULL

OFFER OF SETTLEMENT- PENALTY PAYMENT \$1,000 MARCH 1, 2011

5. **ADAM BELITZ, LMP # 9734**, t/a GOLD MEDAL PBG HTG COOLING CHRISTOPHER PATTERSON ON BEHALF OF JACK T. PATTERSON

An Offer of Settlement was issued to the licensee for professional misconduct when he unconscionably charged a consumer for a kitchen faucet installation.

PAYMENT OF ADVERTISING VIOLATION

6. TOMS RIVER HTG AND AIR CONDITIONING, UNLICENSED DENISE SCHREMMER, \$1,000 FINE PAID JANUARY 18, 2011

KEVIN F. SCHMALZ, JACKSON TOWNSHIP PLUMBING INSPECTOR OFFER OF SETTLEMENT - FILE ID # 73392

Inspector Schmalz of Jackson Township reported that Toms River Heating was fined by his municipality for performing plumbing work without a master plumber's license or the required UCC permits for a water heater installation. All municipal and Board fines are paid in full.

The investigation concluded that licensee Cris Schremmer LMP#11729 is registered to trade as ACH Plumbing Services, a division of Toms River Heating and Air. All advertisements have been corrected.

The Board commented on Inspector Schmalz' diligence in reporting violations.

PAYMENT OF PENALTY \$1,500 AND \$356.00 RESTITUTION PAID IN FULL OCTOBER 28, 2010

7. **MICHAEL ROZANSKY, UNLICENSED** - T/A ELITE CO. OF NJ, INC UNLICENSED PLUMBING WORK PERFORMED FOR VERONICA PERALTA FILE ID: #70867

8. **NEW JERSEY.. Need your Contractor's license?**HOME DEPOT, AT HOME SERVICES, INC., PEGGY PAYNE

Home Improvement website includes various tasks. Home Depot refers to the Home Improvement website questioning the tasks listed and whether a plumbing license is required for any of these services.

On March 24, 2011, the Board requested that the Home Improvement website be changed to delete the tasks within the scope of practice for plumbing and referred Home Depot to the Scope of Practice Regulations.

9. **CJ INSTALLERS** *Ouestions requirements for installations*

CJ INSTALLERS Questions requirements for installations
Appliance installation company - December 26, 2010 correspondence

On March 24, 2011, Board Members recommended in a motion made by Donald Dileo and seconded James McManus that a copy of the Scope of Practice regulations be sent to CJ Installers. A vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed.

V 1

10. QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE MASTER PLUMBERS EXAMINATION MARK C. HUNTER, HUNTER PLBG AND HEATING - OAG REFERRAL

On March 24, 2011, the Board reviewed all correspondence submitted from Hunter Plumbing and Heating, and concluded as follows, in a motion made by Michael Maloney and seconded by Michael Sestanovich, that the pressure seals belonging to both decedents, licensees Joseph Hunter # 5378 and Walter Hunter, Sr. # 5351, must be surrendered to the Board with copies of their death certificates; the credentials of the applicant do not qualify him as a candidate for examination; and Hunter Plumbing must secure a bona fide representative for six months to continue its business. A vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed.

NOT ON THE PUBLISHED AGENDA SKY BASKI, APPLICANT, MASTER PLUMBERS EXAMINATION

On March 24, 2011, Members revisited this applicant file and the recent correspondence submitted by Mr. Baski dated March 13, 2011, where the applicant requests the Board contact various States on his behalf concerning reciprocity. The Board concluded in a motion made by Michael Maloney and seconded by Michael Sestanovich, that this applicant is denied as a candidate for examination, and suggested he refer to existing regulations pertaining to the qualifications for a Master Plumber's license. A vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed.

◆ It is noted that applications for the Master Plumber's examination, Master Plumber's business registration forms, and Bona fide Representative registrations are reviewed by Board Members during the course of each business meeting.

Applications for Medical Gas Piping installers, blazers and instructors are also reviewed at this time.

EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION MOTION:

A motion was made by Michael Maloney and seconded by James McManus to proceed into Executive Closed Session to review consumer complaint matters, conduct investigative inquiries, unlicensed advertisements and unlicensed practice matters, consider administrative closings, investigations of possible violations of applicable law, pending or anticipated litigation, matters under investigation, the DAG caseload, and review matters within the attorney-client relationship exception to the Open Public Meetings Act. A vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed.

The subject of this discussion shall remain confidential until such time as the reasons for having this matter in Executive Closed Session are no longer applicable. The next regularly scheduled meeting is for **April 28, 2011** at 9:00 am in the Sussex Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence DeMarzo, Deputy Director
Division of Consumer Affairs