

# BOA NEWSLINE

A newsletter brought to you by the Alabama Board for Registration of Architects

VOL. 25 ISSUE 1

OUR 94TH YEAR

APRIL 2025

## Other Top Stories



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## Emily Coe Elected Chair of BOA



Emily Coe, AIA, LEED AP

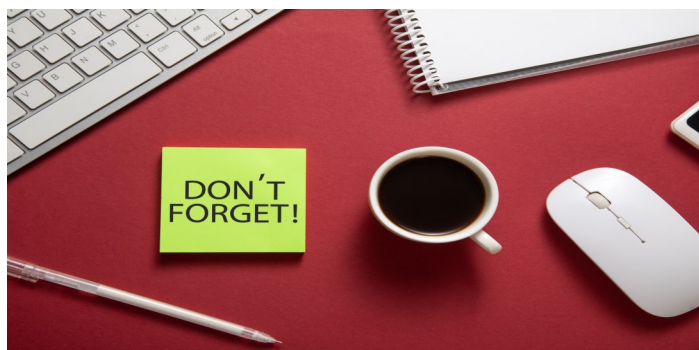
I am so excited to serve as Board Chair this year. We have such a great group on our board and it has been such a privilege to serve as the Vice Chair for the past two years in order to properly prepare for this position. One of my goals for this next year is to help ramp up public awareness and educate on the importance of architects and licensure. I feel this is so important to discuss in a school environment, in our communities, as well as at the building official level in our local municipalities.

For some of you that may not know me, here's a little info about me: I have just over 17 years of experience. I spent ten years at Williams Blackstock and feel they provided me with such a solid base working in the commercial world. I was very privileged to work closely with Bill Williams and Stephen Allen. My last four years have been spent with Robert Thompson at Thompson Architecture in Birmingham. We do both commercial and residential work and all things in between so it has been really enjoyable to focus on different project styles and content. Robert has really helped me to grow in my confidence as an architect and instill the importance of growing our love of the profession within the upcoming generations.

I have two children; my daughter is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. She is already so much smarter than me and an all-star on the softball field. My son is in 2nd grade and is my sweet and cuddly love bug. If you ever need someone to make you smile, just go give him a visit. He'll brighten your day. I love to draw (shocking as an architect, I know) practice calligraphy and I also love to run. I just completed my 3<sup>rd</sup> ever marathon (my 2<sup>nd</sup> world major star) in Berlin. We were able to take the whole family and followed Berlin up with a visit to Paris and it was so much fun for my husband and I to experience the streets of Paris with our kids. I am looking forward to serving as your Board Chair this next year. If you ever want to reach out, I try to always be available to chat.

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## COA Renewal Reminder



Alabama Certificate of Authorizations (COAs) are scheduled to expire on **April 30, 2025**.

### New COA Renewal Application

You will notice a different look to the COA renewal application this year due to transitioning to a new provider. Therefore, the first time you go to renew your COA, make sure to register first (no prior passwords have been affiliated with your COA in this new system). ***Your COA email and password must be unique and not the same as your individual Architect License email and password.*** Once this process is completed, you can simply login anytime to renew or update your COA record. Renewal confirmation, receipt, and renewed certificate will be sent to your COA's email address of record.

To renew you will need your FEIN# and COA License number. If you do not know your COA License number, please go to the [license search](#) where you can search by firm name.

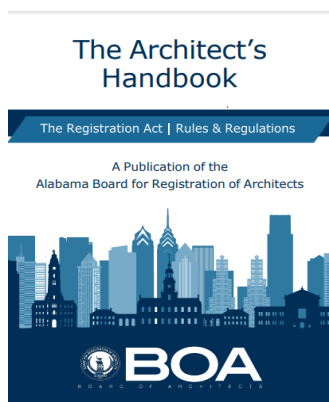
### Fees & Penalties

The COA renewal fee is \$75. If COA renewal is made after April 30, 2025, it will be classified as a late renewal with a required late fee of \$50 for a total of \$125. So, it is important that COA renewal be made timely to avoid a late penalty. COAs can only be renewed late until May 30, 2025. If not renewed, a reinstatement application and reinstatement fee of \$250 would be required.

Please go to the [BOA Licensing Portal](#) to renew your COA. Thank you for your timely attention to your COA renewal and for your patience with the launch of the new COA renewal application.

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## New Publication of The Architect's Handbook



The new Architect's Handbook is available [here](#).

This publication reflects the new law that went into effect in October of 2024 and Rules and Regulations that went into effect in January of 2025.

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## In Every Issue

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[New ARE Licensees](#)

[ARE Pass/Fail Rates](#)

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# Auburn architect is youngest female in US to get licensed



It seems like Drew Haley Smith is built for architecture, and she's just getting started.

[See Article Here](#)

## Development of Disciplinary Guidelines

Picture it—Prattville, Alabama, late 80's...my teenage self discovers (much to my horror) a list of rules complete with penalties posted on the refrigerator door. It contained a top ten of juvenile offenses like, “Miss curfew—no car keys for two weeks”. It seems my mother had recently watched another episode of “20/20” consisting of new parental tools for raising a teenager. I would make dramatic claims that “20/20” was ruining my life. That is, until I actually did miss curfew once. I walked into the house and simply turned the keys over for the long two weeks ahead of me. There was no need for debate— already knowing the penalty and the plan for redemption. It saved time and anguish for all parties.

This same basic principle is now being utilized successfully in professional regulation. Many states in our region have implemented Disciplinary Guidelines to aid in expediting cases and providing consistent penalties for standard violations. The BOA has analyzed Disciplinary Guidelines in our sister states. This research resulted in our own Disciplinary Guidelines specific to Alabama law. You will find these guidelines below for your review.

We, like the states that have gone before us in adopting Disciplinary Guidelines, are hopeful that we will see increased efficiency in matters of enforcement for the ultimate protection of Alabama citizens in the built environment.

No pressure at all to post the Disciplinary Guidelines on your own refrigerator door or for me to tell my Mom she was ahead of her time for that matter.



In Service,  
  
Paula Pilgreen  
*Executive Director*

## Disciplinary Guidelines

Violation	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense
<b>Continuing Education</b>		
Non-Compliance with CE Audit - Falsification of CE documentation	\$3500; Suspension of 1 year	\$4500; Revocation
<b>Duty to Report</b>		
Non-Disclosure of Disciplinary	\$750	\$1,500
Failure to report an architect in violation of Board rule(s).	Warning Letter	\$500
Failure to disclose a material fact in connection with an application for registration or renewal or otherwise requested by the Board.	Revocation and \$2500 Fine if licensed (denial of license if application in process)	
Failure to Report violations of applicable state or municipal building laws and regulations affecting the safety of the public.	\$1,000	<u>\$2000 and 1 year</u> Suspension
<b>Professional Conduct</b>		
Performing Work Not Competent to Perform	\$2,000	<u>\$4,000 and 1 year</u> Suspension
Practicing Architecture in this or any other state or country in violation of the laws of that state of country.	Misdemeanor; reprimand and \$2500 fine; Felony one year suspension and 1 year probation with \$2500 fine.	
Gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the practice of architecture	<u>\$1500 and 1 year</u> probation	\$3000 and Suspension
Incompetence (mental or physical impairment)	Suspension until competence proved, followed by probation	Suspension until competence proved, followed by probation
Soliciting or accepting compensation from material or equipment suppliers in connection with specifying or endorsing their products.	<u>\$3500 and 1 year</u> probation	\$5000 and Suspension
Offering or making payment or gift to a government official with the intent of influencing the official's judgment in connection with a prospective or existing project.	<u>\$3500 and 1 year</u> probation	\$5000 and Revocation
Offering or making payment or gift with the intent of influencing prospective clients.	<u>\$3500 and 1 year</u> probation	\$5000 and Suspension
Practicing without full disclosure	\$1,500	<u>\$3000 and 1 year</u> probation
Failing to provide requested information to the Board	\$1000 and Suspension until information provided	\$2000 and Suspension until information provided
Felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude by a court of competent jurisdiction	<u>\$2500 and 1 year</u> probation	\$5000 and Suspension
Architect performing Engineering without a license.	\$2,000	\$4,000
Failing to render decisions impartially	\$500	\$1,000
<b>Stamps</b>		
Failure to Stamp or Seal Plans	\$500	\$1,000
"Plan Stamping"	\$5000 and Probation (at least 1 year)	\$5,000 and Revocation
Using the certificate or seal of another	\$1,000	\$2,000
<b>Construction Administration</b>		
Violating the provisions of the construction administration rule	\$1,500	\$3,000
<b>Unlicensed Practice</b>		
Practicing with Lapsed License (Per Reinstatement)	\$500 if <u>self disclosed</u> ; \$1000 1 year or under; \$1000 for each additional year	\$1000 per year; Denial of Application
Practiced Architecture in AL prior to being licensed	\$500 if <u>self disclosed</u> ; \$1000 1 year or under; \$1000 for each additional year	\$1000 per year; Denial of Application if applicable
<b>Certificate of Authorization</b>		
Firm practice with an expired certificate of authority	\$500 if <u>self disclosed</u> ; \$1000 1 year or under; \$1000 for each additional year	\$1000 per year; Denial of Application
Practicing Architecture in a Branch Office not under the day-to-day supervision of a registered architect.	\$1,500	\$3,000
<b>Prohibited Acts Non-Registrants</b>		
Use of the title Architect without being a Licensed Architect	Cease & Desist Letter with consumer complaint; warning letter without consumer complaint but publicly verifiable	\$500 per advertisement
Engaging in the practice or offer to practice architecture in this jurisdiction without being registered	\$2,000	\$5000 and Injunction
Attempting to obtain a certificate of registration by giving false or forged documentation of any kind.	Revocation and \$2500 Fine if licensed (denial of license if application in process)	
Impersonating a Registered Architect	\$2,500	\$5,000
Using or attempting to use a revoked or nonexistent certificate of registration	\$2,500	\$5,000
Directing the Professional Judgement of a Registered Architect responsible for the practice of architecture	\$2,500	\$5,000
Participating in Design Competitions without being a licensed architect	\$1,000	\$2,000



**BOA Represents Alabama at the NCARB Annual Business Meeting in Chicago**



**Board Members from left: Jimmy Seay, Jr., Sted McCollough, Nolanda Hatcher, Dan Bennett, Emily Coe, and Mike Chapman.**

**BOA Meetings Held Statewide**



**Left: Board Member Nomination Committee Meeting. Birmingham.**

**Right: Auburn University’s Urban Studio. Birmingham.**



**Above: Oath of Office administered to reappointed Board Member Nolanda Hatcher. Montgomery.**



**Above: Oath of Office administered to re-appointed Board Members (from left) Sted McCollough, Dan Bennett, and Mike Chapman. Orange Beach.**

**Below: BOA Booth at the AIA Annual Convention. Orange Beach.**



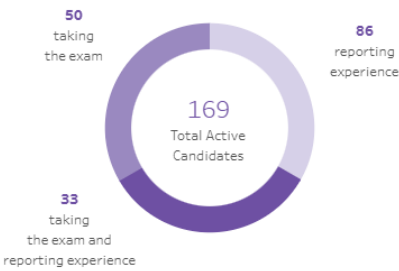


ARE 5.0 Pass/Fail Rates	Pass	Fail
	53	43
Project Planning & Design	6	5
Programming & Analysis	9	8
Project Development & Documentation	11	14
Project Management	12	7
Practice Management	8	7
Construction & Evaluation	7	2

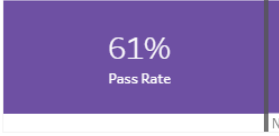
# BOA By The Numbers

NCARB by the Numbers for 2024 is the source of the below data.

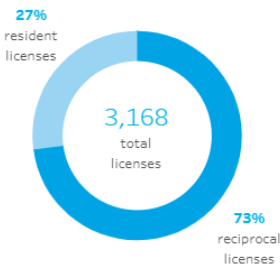
## LICENSURE CANDIDATES



20  
new architects



## LICENSED ARCHITECTS



545  
NCARB Certificate Holders

Architects in **Alabama** are most frequently also licensed in:

- Florida
- Georgia
- Tennessee

The main banner features a background image of two tall, modern buildings with glass facades, one of which is overlaid with a wireframe structure. In the center, there is a circular logo for the 'BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF ARCHITECTS ALABAMA 1931'. Below the logo, the text 'SAFE BUILDINGS BEGIN WITH AN ARCHITECT' is displayed in large, bold, white letters. At the bottom of the banner, there is a row of three smaller images: a modern building at night, a set of architectural blueprints, and a person's hands working on a laptop. Below these images, the text 'SERVING: ARCHITECTS & INTERNS • APPLICANTS • CONSUMERS' is written in yellow. At the very bottom, the text 'ALABAMA BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF ARCHITECTS www.boa.alabama.gov' is displayed in white.

SAFE BUILDINGS BEGIN WITH AN  
**ARCHITECT**

SERVING: ARCHITECTS & INTERNS • APPLICANTS • CONSUMERS

ALABAMA BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF ARCHITECTS  
www.boa.alabama.gov



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## AIA Birmingham Honors Newly Licensed Architects



From Left: Celia Gannaway, Diondria Bingham, Alex Hamady, Ashley Askew, and Kelsey Brigati.

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## Quotable Quote

*“My passion and great enjoyment for architecture and the reason the older I get the more I enjoy it, is because I believe we-architects can affect the quality of life for the people.”*

**Richard Rogers**



**ALABAMA BOARD FOR REGISTRATION OF ARCHITECTS**

**[www.boa.alabama.gov](http://www.boa.alabama.gov)**

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