

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION  
CONTRACTORS' REGISTRATION AND LICENSING BOARD  
560 JEFFERSON BLVD., SUITE 100  
WARWICK, RI 02889

_____	:	
IN THE MATTER OF:	:	
	:	
EDWARD EACUEO,	:	COMPLAINT NO. 6665
	:	
<i>Respondent.</i>	:	GC #6681
_____	:	

CONSENT AGREEMENT

The Department of Business Regulation (“Department”), by and through the Contractors’ Registration and Licensing Board (“Board”), and Edward Eacueo (“Respondent”)(collectively, the “Parties”), hereby consent and agree that:

1. On July 24, 2022, a complaint was filed with the Contractors Registration and Licensing Board (“CRLB”) for work on tile and grout at 31 Elton St., Coventry, RI 02816 (“Site”).
2. The Complainant stated the Respondent advertised for his business, Precision Tile, including his registration number in the *Coventry Reminder*. As a result of the Respondent’s aforementioned advertisement, Complainant contacted Respondent for his tile services.
3. On July 2, 2022, the Respondent gave Complainant an invoice (“Invoice”) that described his service as follows: “Remove grout in bath regrout and seal both floor black[.]” The Invoice stated the cost of labor and material was five-hundred dollars (\$500.00), that two-hundred dollars (\$200.00) was paid at the time of the Invoice for a balance of three-hundred dollars (\$300.00), and the job would begin on July 11, 2022.
4. On July 11, 2022, the Respondent applied black grout over the old gray grout that was supposed to be removed in the bathroom, the new grout was not sealed, and the replaced tiles on the kitchen countertop were not sanded so they would be even with the other tiles, as promised.
5. On July 26, 2022, the CRLB sent the Respondent a letter informing him that a Complaint had been filed against him and that an Investigator would be contacting him.
6. On August 11, 2022, a CRLB Investigator made a visit to the Site and observed that the:
  - a) Countertop tile appeared to be greater than 1/16” lippage, which is considered excessive by NAHB 10-5-7 standard for tile countertops;

and

- b) Bathroom floor re-grouting has left the surface grout broken, with spaces larger than 1/6", which is considered excessive by NAHB 11-4-2 standards for tile floors.
7. As part of his investigation, the CRLB Investigator confirmed that the advertisement described in ¶ 2 did run as Complainant reported, locating a copy of the advertisement from July 24, 2022.
8. The registration number used in the advertisement described in ¶ 3 is associated with another contractor's registration, and it was not associated with Respondent at any time.
9. On August 19, 2022, the CRLB issued the Respondent a *Notice of Violation*.
10. On September 13, 2022, the CRLB issued the Respondent a *Final Order and Suspension of Registration*.
11. Also on September 13, 2022, the CRLB sent Respondent a *Notice of Intent to Refer Debt to the Department of Revenue – Central Collections Unit*.
12. Also in September of 2022, the CRLB received Respondent's *Request for an Appeal* dated September 2, 2022.

#### STATEMENT OF LAW

13. Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-65-3(a):

A person shall not undertake, offer to undertake, or submit a bid to do work as a contractor on a structure unless that person has a current, valid certificate of registration for all construction work issued by the board...

14. Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-65-10, "[t]he board or office may revoke, suspend, or refuse to issue, reinstate or reissue a registration if the board or office determines, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing:

(1) That the registrant or applicant has violated § 5-65-3 or any other provision of this chapter or the regulations promulgated thereunder.

...

(11) That the registrant breached a contract.

(12) That the registrant performed negligent and/or improper work.

...

(15) That the registrant has misrepresented his or her registration status as valid when the registration was suspended, revoked, invalidated, inactive, or unregistered as required by the board.

15. Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-65-10(c): “For a violation of § 5-65-3, only for nonregistered contractors, a fine of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for a first offense and up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each subsequent offense shall be imposed.”
16. Pursuant to 440-RICR-10-00-01, *General Rules and Regulations for Applications, Registration, Licensing, Claims, Violations and Administrative Hearings* (the “Regulations”), § 1.6.1:
  - B. No person subject to the provisions of this Subchapter shall provide services, offer to the public their services, or represent that they possess a registration/license unless that person possesses a valid registration/license, unless authorized to do so by the Board.
  - C. Any person who fails to properly obtain a registration or license in their respective discipline, as required, is subject to penalties for operating without a registration or license.
17. Pursuant to the Regulations, § 1.6.3(B): “Advertising in any form by an unregistered/unlicensed person shall be prohibited, including alphabetical or classified directory listings, vehicles, business cards, and all other forms of advertisements.”

#### CONDITIONS

18. The Parties have agreed to an amicable resolution of this matter without an administrative hearing subject to the following terms and conditions:
  - a. By his signature below, Respondent hereby irrevocably waives, relinquishes and forfeits any ability to seek a new contractor’s registration, reinstatement or renewal of any contractor’s registration from the CRLB at any time in the future; and
  - a. Respondent enters into this Consent Agreement knowingly, voluntarily and of his own free will.
19. *Final Determination.* The parties agree that this Consent Agreement and its terms represent the final determination of this matter.
20. *Waiver of Hearing and Appeal.* By agreeing to resolve this matter through the execution of this Consent Agreement, Respondent knowingly and voluntarily waives any right to an administrative hearing and waives any right to pursue an appeal to the Superior Court under the Rhode Island Administrative Procedures Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-1, *et seq.*
21. *Enforcement.* If Respondent fails to comply with any term or condition of this Consent Agreement within any applicable time period set forth herein, the Respondent will be in violation hereunder and the Department shall be entitled to immediately take enforcement or other action in accordance with applicable law.

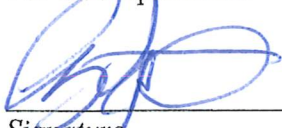


22. *Compliance; Laws.* Compliance with the terms of this Consent Agreement does not relieve Respondent of any obligation to comply with other applicable laws or regulations administered by or through the Department of any other governmental agency.

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SIGNATURE PAGE

For the Department:

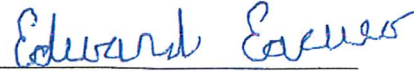


*Signature*

Anthony Whitfield  
Chief, CRLB

Date: 8/27/24

Respondent:



*Signature*

By: Mr. Edward Eacueo

Date: 8-27-24