STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION
BOARD OF EXAMINATION AND REGISTRATION OF ARCHITECTS
JOHN O. PASTORE CENTER, BLDGS 68-69
1511 PONTIAC AVENUE
CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND 02920

IN THE MATTER OF:

FIELDING NAIR
INTERNATIONAL, LLC

RESPONDENT.

DBR NO. 17DP004

CONSENT AGREEMENT

The Board of Examination and Registration of Architects ("Board"), which is part of the Division of Design Professionals of the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation ("Department"), enters into this Consent Agreement with Fielding Nair International, LLC ("Respondent") to resolve the above-captioned matter pursuant to its authority under R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-9(d) and § 5-84-5.

It is hereby agreed by and between the Board and the Respondent that:

1. Respondent is a limited liability company holding a Certificate of Authorization ("COA") to practice architecture in Rhode Island since January 23, 2017.

2. R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-1-15.1 states that "every firm must obtain a certificate of authorization from this board."

3. R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-84-5(a) provides: "if a person or business practices or offers to practice architecture . . . in the state without being registered or authorized to practice as required by law, the board[] . . . may recommend that the director of the department of business regulations issue an order imposing a fine."
4. R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-84-5(b) provides that: “A fine ordered under this section may not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) for each offense.”

5. The Board has evidence that Respondent offered to practice architecture in Rhode Island in December 2014, eighteen (18) months prior to applying for the required COA.

6. The Board’s position is that Respondent violated R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-1-15.1 by offering to practice architecture in the state of Rhode Island without first receiving the required COA.

7. Respondent’s position is that it submitted a proposal to the Town of Barrington on December 15, 2014, which noted that the proposal was subject to obtaining a COA for Fielding Nair International, LLC. Furthermore, Respondent’s individual architect on the project was then and is currently still registered as an architect in Rhode Island, and at the time that same architect possessed an active COA for his own firm. Respondent was not awarded the Barrington contract.

8. While Respondent neither admits nor denies committing the violation alleged herein, in order to effect a timely and amicable resolution of this matter without an administrative hearing, Respondent agrees to pay an administrative penalty of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars ($250.00) payable to “General Treasurer, State of Rhode Island,” within ten (10) days of this Consent Agreement being executed by all parties.

9. By agreeing to enter into 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 Acts, R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-1, et seq.
10. If Respondent fails to abide by the requirements of this Consent Agreement, the Board and/or the Department may initiate further administrative proceedings against the Respondent.

For the Board:  

Thomas D. Lonardo, NCARB  
Chair of the Board  
Date: 08.29.2017

For the Respondent:  

Jay Litman, Principal/Partner  
Fielding Nair International, LLC  
Date: September 21, 2017

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify on this 29 day of September, that a copy of the within Consent Agreement was sent by first class mail, postage prepaid, to:

Girard R. Visconti, Esq.  
Shechtman Halperin Savage, LLP  
1080 Main St.  
Pawtucket, RI 02860

AND BY E-MAIL TO:

1. Girard R. Visconti, Esq., gvisconti@shslawfirm.com  
2. The Rhode Island Board of Examination and Registration of Architects  
3. Brian Riggs, DBR Assistant Director  
4. Dawne Broadfield, DBR Architect Board Executive  
5. Amy Stewart, Esq., DBR Senior Legal Counsel