

Washington State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

Presentation to:

*Washington State Department of Transportation
Professional Engineers Meeting
Bremerton, Washington*

By: *George A. Twiss, P.L.S., Executive Director
Robert F. Fuller, Deputy Executive Director*

Washington State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Program Topics:

- ❖ *Survey Monument Preservation*
- ❖ *Engineering Measurements*
- ❖ *Disciplinary Case Review*


Monument Preservation

- *State law sets out specific requirements for the preservation of survey monuments.*
- *The requirements apply to any licensee who is in direct supervision over projects where survey monuments are removed or destroyed in the course of the project.*



September 5, 2007

TO: Assistant Regional Administrators for Project Development
Assistant Regional Administrators for Construction
WSDOT Project Engineers
WSDOT Utility Engineers
WSDOT Planning Engineers
Ramin Pazooki, Developer Services Sno-King MS NB82-240
Roland Storn, Developer Services Mt. Baker MS NB82-210

FROM: Pasco Bakotich III 
State Design Engineer
MS 4-7329

SUBJECT: **Monument Documentation**

A lack of proper monument documentation on a recent paving project has resulted in conversations with the Washington State Board of Registration (BOR) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). DNR is the agency responsible for oversight of statewide monumentation and the preservation of those monuments. The BOR is responsible for oversight of engineering and land surveying activities. Both of these agencies are aware of this documentation issue.

Design Manual Chapter 1450 describes the policies, procedures, and methods for the proper identification, documentation, and preservation of all monuments impacted by WSDOT projects. Highway Surveying Manual Chapter 16 provides the methods and departmental rules for implementation of those policies. You are reminded that the policies and procedures outlined in these manuals are based on state laws and regulations.

It is expected that all WSDOT projects will conform to the policies and procedures identified by these manuals and the referenced RCW's and WAC's. All monuments impacted by any WSDOT construction project, including paving projects, will be documented as outlined in the design and highway surveying manuals. Any monument impacted by a paving project, regardless of the amount of time the monument may be covered, will be documented by an Application for Permit to Remove or Destroy a Survey Monument.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your region survey support person or Bill Mumma, State Survey Support Engineer at 360.709.3018.

SBH:sep

cc: File

Engineering Measurements

- *It is the Board's Position that it is an allowable activity for professional engineers to perform limited topographic surveying under the following conditions:*
 - *That the work performed is limited to the making of field measurements and mapping for the illustration of topographic features.*
 - *That the work performed by the professional engineer is developed for his or her own use toward the development of an engineered design.*
 - *That the work performed by the professional engineer is performed in a manner that is consistent with the topography's intended purpose.*
 - *That the professional engineer is competent and conversant in the techniques to correctly develop and map topographic information.*

Unlicensed Engineering Alleged Violations

- ❖ False representation as a P.E.
- ❖ Prepared and used fraudulent P.E. stamp.
- ❖ Performed and stamped engineering projects
 - 15 separate projects in three counties (Spokane/Grant/Pend Oreille)
 - Worked as an employee for various firms as well as direct consultant.
 - Still investigating what design errors may exist

Unlicensed Engineering Timeline/Sequence

- ❖ June 18-20, 2007 - Complaint received/ Investigation opened
- ❖ August 1, 2007 – Interviewed Respondent and obtained confession
- ❖ August 1, 2007 -Temporary Cease and Desist Order issued by the Board
- ❖ September 13, 2007-Administrative Hearing held-Final Order Issued
 - Permanent Cease and Desist from all engineering practice
 - \$40,000 fine
 - Permanently disqualified from ever holding license in Washington

Unlicensed Engineering Timeline/Sequence

- ❖ **November 27, 2007**- Case presented to Grant County for possible criminal prosecution.
- ❖ **November 29, 2007**- Case presented to Spokane County for possible criminal prosecution.
- ❖ **February 27, 2008**- Spokane County Sheriff recommends 9 felony charges to the county prosecutor.

Questions ?