

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2025-43A

Kathy Hart, Executive Director Oklahoma State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors 220 N.E. 28th St., Ste. 120 Oklahoma City, OK 73105 August 19, 2025

Re: Master Lift Foundation Repair, LLC, Case No. 2025-003

Dear Executive Director Hart:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding disciplinary action the State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors intends to take in the above-referenced case.

Oklahoma Statutes title 59, section 475.8(A) empowers the Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors to regulate the practice of engineering in the State of Oklahoma. Under 59 O.S.Supp.2024, § 475.21(A)(2), an engineering firm must be issued a Certificate of Authority ("CA") by the Board in order for the firm to operate and perform services in Oklahoma.

In December 2017, the Board was informed that the "responsible charge" licensed engineer listed on Respondent's CA No. 7735 was removed because he was no longer employed by the Respondent. Respondent did not designate a new licensed engineer in "responsible charge" after the previous individual's removal in December 2017, thereby rendering Respondent's CA No. 7735 inactive and unusable by February 28, 2018. Additionally, Respondent's Certificate of Authority No. 7735 would have expired on June 30, 2019, upon the expiration of the two-year period following its original issuance to Respondent.

A member of the public complained to the Board in 2024 concerning work done by Respondent to her home. The complaining citizen thought Respondent was licensed by the Board due to the appearance of CA No. 7735 on Respondent's website. From early 2019 and continuing through the date of the hearing, Respondent publicly represented itself as a licensed engineering firm on its website by stating, "We are the only state-licensed repair firm in the State of Oklahoma," and "We are engineer approved and have licensed engineers ready to serve you."

On January 22, 2025, the Board sent a Cease and Desist letter to Respondent. Despite some edits, the website continued to include misleading claims, even as of the date the of this hearing, June 26, 2025

After a hearing on June 26, 2025, the Board concluded that Respondent Master Lift's statements made in writing on its public internet website since early 2019, made without possessing a valid firm certificate of authority issued by the Board are construed to be the practice or offer to practice engineering in Oklahoma in violation of 59 O.S.Supp.2024, § 475.21(A) and Oklahoma Administrative Code § 245:15-23-1(a)(2), (3) and (4) and proposes to impose an administrative fine of **SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$7,500.00)** due within thirty days of the filed Order. The Board also orders that Master Lift immediately **CEASE AND DESIST** offering or practicing engineering in the State of Oklahoma without a valid Certificate of Authority.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the proposed action taken by the State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors is in accordance with the State's policy to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

CHERYL DIXON

Deputy General Counsel