OHIO ARCHITECTS BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:	:	File No. 2013-1
	:	
Michael A. Cox, Cert. No. 9925	:	
2207 Burnet Avenue	:	
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219	:	

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1. This agreement is made between Michael A. Cox, hereinafter ("Respondent") and the Ohio Architects Board, hereinafter ("Board").

2. The above parties hereby stipulate to the jurisdiction of the Board over this matter.

3. The Board enters into this Settlement Agreement in lieu of formal proceedings based upon alleged violations of Ohio Revised Code Sections 4703.15 (A) (1) and Ohio Administrative Code 4703-1-01 (C), 4703-1-11 (B), 4703-1-11 (G), 4703-3-07 (C) (4), 4703-3-07 (E) (3) and 4703-3-07 (E) (4) as listed in the Notice of Opportunity letter dated January 11, 2013, hereinafter ("Notice") sent to Respondent by Amy M. Kobe, Executive Director of the Board.

4. The Board expressly reserves the right to institute formal proceedings based upon any other violations of Chapter 4703 of the Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code, whether occurring before or after the effective date of this agreement.

5. The parties agree that the terms of this agreement are a compromise and that the settlement agreement binds the parties hereto, their assigns and successors in interest. This is a disciplinary action that will be a part of Respondent's permanent Board record and is information that is available to the public.

6. As a result of an investigation conducted by the Board, Respondent was notified by Notice that the Board intended to determine whether or not to revoke or suspend his license to practice architecture in the State of Ohio based upon allegations that he failed to successfully complete the mandatory continuing education requirements within the time period prescribed by law and that he allegedly committed an act of fraud, misrepresentation of material facts and made misleading, deceptive or false statements or claims when he attested

and certified with his personal signature on his 2012-2013 Ohio renewal application that he had completed the requirements of mandatory continuing education, when in fact he did not.

7. Based upon the foregoing, as a full and complete settlement of this matter and in the mutual best interests of the parties, Respondent and the Board hereby agree to the following terms of settlement in Case No. 2013-1:

A. Respondent waives his right to an appeal and an opportunity to be heard pursuant to Chapter 119 of the Ohio Revised Code.

B. Respondent will pay a monetary fine of **$1,000/ One-Thousand Dollars** to the Board **no later than June 11, 2013**. Minimum monthly payments of at least $200.00 due the 11th day of each month, with the first payment due on or before February 11, 2013.

Should Respondent miss a minimum monthly payment, the balance is due in full and Respondent agrees that the Board may suspend his certificate of qualification to practice architecture in Ohio until such time as the balance is paid in full.

C. Respondent will complete the deficient **17 hours** of continuing education and provide proof of completion to the Board **no later than February 11, 2013.** Completion of these deficient hours will not count towards the 12 CE hours all architects are required to complete by December 31, 2013.

D. Respondent will successfully complete the "*Ethics and Professional Rules of Conduct: Distinction and Clarification*" mini monograph offered by NCARB and provide to the Board a copy of the certificate of completion **no later than February 11, 2013**. (*CE hour awarded will not count towards the mandatory continuing education requirement*).

E. Respondent hereby agrees that in the future, he will comply with the Board's mandatory continuing education requirements, rules and deadlines and will not renew his Ohio license until he has successfully completed all mandatory continuing education requirements.

F. Respondent affirms that he has read and understands the Board's current laws & rules in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4703 and Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4703. Laws & rules can be found on the Board's website at www.arc.ohio.gov

G. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws and all laws and administrative rules governing the practice of architecture in the state of Ohio and any United States jurisdiction where he may hold a license to practice architecture. If Respondent is convicted of any criminal offense or violation of law other than a minor misdemeanor offense within the next two (2) years, he shall report those facts and circumstances in writing to the Board within thirty (30) days from the conviction.

8. If Respondent violates any provision of the agreement or fails to abide by the terms or sanctions set forth above, Respondent agrees that the Board may suspend his certificate of qualification to practice architecture in Ohio until such time as the terms or sanctions of the agreement are fully completed to the satisfaction of the Board.

9. It is hereby understood that this agreement shall not be binding on any of the parties unless it has been signed and executed by the parties below. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement on the terms herein, this document shall become null and void and without any force or effect.

10. Respondent waives any and all claims or causes of actions he may have against the State of Ohio, the Ohio Architects Board and its members, officers, employees and/or agents of either, arising out of the matters which are the subject of this settlement agreement.

11. This agreement shall be effective on the date it is approved by the Board and signed by the Board's Executive Director.

12. This document shall be considered a public record in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43.

Michael A. Cox
Cert. No. 9925

Date: 1-24-2013

Amy M. Kobe, CAE, Hon. AIA
Executive Director of the Board

Date: 4/12/13