BEFORE THE ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF TECHNICAL REGISTRATION

In the Matter of:

TODD HOUT Registered Land Surveyor

Registration No. 35543,

Respondent

Case No.: P23-039

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

In the interest of a prompt and judicious resolution of the above-captioned matter before the Arizona State Board of Technical Registration ("Board") and consistent with the public interest, statutory requirements, and the responsibilities of the Board, and pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-101 et seq., and A.A.C. R4-30-120(G), the undersigned party, Todd Hout ("Respondent"), holder of Registration No. 35543, and the Board enter into the following Recitals, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Consent Agreement") as a final disposition of this matter.

RECITALS

- 1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and has had the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney, or has waived the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney.
- 2. Respondent understands that he has a right to a public administrative hearing concerning this case. He further acknowledges that at such formal hearing he could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Respondent knowingly, voluntarily, and irrevocably waives his right to such an administrative hearing, as well as rights of rehearing, review, reconsideration, appeal, judicial review or any other administrative and/or judicial action concerning the matters set forth herein.
- 3. Respondent affirmatively agrees that this Consent Agreement shall be irrevocable.

- 4. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement or any part of the agreement may be considered in any future disciplinary action by the Board against him.
- 5. The Consent Agreement, any record prepared in this matter, all investigative materials prepared or received by the Board and all related exhibits and materials, are public records upon acceptance by the Board of this Consent Agreement and may be retained in the Board's files pertaining to this matter.
- 6. Respondent understands this Consent Agreement deals with Board case number P23-039 involving allegations that Respondent engaged in conduct that would subject him to discipline under the Board's statutes and rules. The investigation into these allegations against Respondent shall be concluded upon the Board's adoption of this Consent Agreement.
- 7. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of any other matters currently pending before the Board, if any, and does not constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding.
- 8. Respondent also understands that acceptance of this Consent Agreement does not preclude any other agency, subdivision, or officer of this State from instituting any other civil or criminal proceedings with respect to the conduct that is the subject of this Consent Agreement.
- 9. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that, upon signing this Consent Agreement and returning this document to the Board's Executive Director, he may not revoke his acceptance of the Consent Agreement or make any modifications to the document regardless of whether the Consent Agreement has been signed on behalf of the Board. Any modification to this original document is ineffective and void unless mutually agreed by the parties in writing.
- 10. This Consent Agreement is subject to the approval of the Board and is effective only when accepted by the Board and signed on behalf of the Board. If the Board does not accept this Consent Agreement, the Board retains its authority to hold a

formal administrative hearing pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-128(E). In the event that the Board does not approve this Consent Agreement, it is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon nor introduced in any action by any party, except that the parties agree that should the Board reject this Consent Agreement and this case proceeds to hearing, Respondent shall assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this document or any records relating thereto.

- 11. If a court of competent jurisdiction rules that any part of this Consent Agreement is void or otherwise unenforceable, the remainder of the Consent Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
- 12. Respondent understands that any violation of this Consent Agreement may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of the registration under A.R.S. § 32-150.
- 13. Respondent agrees that the Board will adopt the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of Land Surveying in the State of Arizona.
- 2. Respondent is the holder of Arizona Land Surveyor Registration No. 35543, issued by the Board on October 2, 2000.
- 3. At all times relevant to the allegations of this Consent Agreement, Arizona Land Surveyor Registration No. 35543 was active.
- 4. Respondent conducted a boundary survey ("Intersection of Gabler and Camino Aurelia") for a portion of the N.W. Quarter of Section 26, Township 17 South, Range 15 East, Gila and Salt River Meridian in Pima County, Arizona.
- 5. On or about December 30, 2017, Respondent conducted a boundary survey ("Larson Survey") of a portion of the N.E. ¼ of the N.W. ¼ of Section 23, T. 15 S., R. 16 E., G. & S.R.M, in Pima County, Arizona.
 - 6. On or about November 5, 2022, the Board received a complaint alleging that

 Respondent prepared and sealed a Boundary Survey of a portion of the N.E. 1/4 of the N.W. 1/4 of section 23, T. 15 S., R. 16E, G. & S. R. M., in Pima County, Arizona on or about October 30, 2017 and failed to record the survey. The complaint also alleged that Respondent failed to record any surveys between 2017 and 2019.

- 7. On or about December 21, 2022, Respondent provided a written statement alleging the following:
 - A. Respondent does not have a copy of the survey relating to Intersection of Gabler and Camino Aurelia;
 - B. Respondent attempted to obtain copies of the surveys to both record and address this complaint, without success; and
 - C. Respondent acknowledged that the surveys in question were completed by him and not properly recorded due to an administrative oversight.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-101, et seq.
- 2. The conduct alleged in the Findings of Fact constitutes grounds for discipline pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-105(A) and A.R.S. § 32-128 (C)(4) as it relates to A.A.C. R4-30-301(4), in that Respondent, on two separate land surveys, failed to file a record of land survey no later than ninety (90) days after its completion with the county recorder of the county where the land is located if such survey establishes points or lines relating to land boundaries or property lines.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board issues the following Order:

- 1. LETTER OF REPRIMAND. Respondent is hereby issued a Letter of Reprimand.
- 2. STAYED SUSPENSION AND PROBATION. As of the effective date of this Order, Respondent's registration as a Registered Land Surveyor, No. 35543, shall be

 suspended for Six (6) Months; however, the suspension shall be stayed for as long as Respondent remains in compliance with this Order. During the period of stayed suspension, Respondent's registration as a Registered Land Surveyor shall be placed on probation. If Respondent is non-compliant with any term of this Order during the probationary period, the stay of suspension shall be lifted and Respondent's registration as a Registered Land Surveyor shall be automatically suspended without formal hearing, and remain suspended until Respondent is compliant with all terms of this Order.

- 3. ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY. Within six (6) months from the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent shall pay an administrative penalty of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) by certified check or money order made payable to the State of Arizona Board of Technical Registration.
- 4. COST OF INVESTIGATION. Within six (6) months from the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent shall pay the cost of investigation of this case to the Board in the amount of Two Hundred and Ten Dollars (\$210.00) by certified check or money order made payable to the State of Arizona Board of Technical Registration.
- 5. OBEY ALL LAWS. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, as well as, all rules governing the practice of Land Surveying in the State of Arizona. The Board shall consider any violation of this paragraph to be a separate violation of the rules and statues governing the Arizona Board of Technical Registration.
- 6. RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION. Respondent shall timely renew his Arizona registration as a Land Surveyor and timely pay all required registration fees.
- 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. The effective date of this Consent Agreement is the date the Respondent and Board sign the Consent Agreement. If the dates are different, the effective date is the later of the two dates.
- 8. COSTS OF COMPLIANCE. Respondent shall pay all costs associated with complying with this Consent Agreement.
 - 9. NONCOMPLIANCE. If Respondent violates this Order in any way or fails

1 to fulfill the requirements of this Order, the Board, after giving notice and the opportunity 2 to be heard, may revoke, suspend, or take other disciplinary actions against the registration. The Board may consider Respondent's non-compliance with this Order as a 3 4 separate violation of A.R.S. § 32-150 with the sole issue at such a hearing being limited 5 to whether this Order has been violated. 6 7 8 9 ack Gilmore, L.A., Chairman 10 Arizona State Board of Technical Registration 11 12 13 Accepted this 28 day of November, 2023. 14 15 Todd Hout, Respondent 16 ORIGINAL filed this 6th day of 17 December, 2023, with: 18 Arizona State Board of Technical Registration 19 1110 W. Washington, Suite 240 Phoenix, AZ 85007 20 21 **COPY** of the foregoing mailed via Certified Mail No. <u>9214 8901 9434 4600 0952 40</u> and First Class mail this <u>6th</u> day of <u>December</u>, 2023, to: 22 23 24 Todd Hout 25 11292 N Chynna Rose Place Tucson, AZ 85737 26 27

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By: Kaitlyn Clawford