

STATE OF MINNESOTA
Department of Labor and Industry

In the Matter of Charles Jay Clippard

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
WITH PENALTY PURSUANT
TO MINN. STAT. § 181.723**

I. ORDER

The Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (“Commissioner”) issues this Order against Charles Jay Clippard (“Respondent”).

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 181.723 (2014); 326B.082, subd. 7 (2014); and 326B.083 (2014), the Commissioner hereby assesses against Respondent a monetary penalty of \$7,000, \$2,000 of which shall be forgiven if Respondent demonstrates to the Commissioner by the 31st day after this Administrative Order is issued that Respondent has successfully registered with the Commissioner in the Minnesota Construction Contractor Registration Program (“Registration Program”).

The Commissioner also hereby orders Respondent to cease and desist from violating the laws cited in the “Conclusions of Law” section of this Administrative Order. Specifically, the Commissioner orders Respondent to cease and desist from performing public or private sector commercial or residential building construction or improvement services for which registration in the Registration Program is required. The cease and desist order remains in effect until the monetary penalty assessed herein is paid and compliance with the registration requirements of Minn. Stat. § 326B.701 is achieved.

The Commissioner takes the above action based upon the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is engaged in the business of providing building construction or improvement services, but has not registered with the Registration Program.
2. According to payment records of GSD Construction LLC, Charles Jay Clippard performed building construction services in 2014 and has a business address of 3372 Adair Avenue NE, Buffalo, MN.
3. According to the driver’s license records of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Charles Jay Clippard has an address of 3372 Adair Avenue NE, Buffalo, MN.

4. On July 13, 2015, the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (“Department”) opened an investigation of Respondent based on information that indicated Respondent may have engaged in violations of the Minnesota statutes and rules governing worker classification in the construction industry.
5. On July 24, 2015, a Department investigator mailed a subpoena duces tecum via first-class and certified mail to Respondent at the Adair Avenue NE address. The subpoena required the production of documentation relating to Respondent’s subcontractors, contractors, and employees. The certified letter was returned marked “Unclaimed” by the United States Postal Service (“USPS”). The first-class letter was not returned by the USPS.
6. When Respondent failed to respond to the subpoena, the Department investigator mailed a second request for information to Respondent at the Adair Avenue NE address on September 3, 2015. This letter was not returned by the USPS.
7. On September 15, 2015, Respondent called and asked that a new copy of the subpoena be mailed to the Adair Avenue NE, MN address. This letter was not returned by the USPS.
8. On September 16, 2015, a Department investigator mailed a copy of the subpoena duces tecum via first-class to Respondent as requested. This letter was not returned by the USPS.
9. Both the subpoena and supplemental request for information required a response from Respondent within 30 days of the Commissioner’s service of the same.
10. The Commissioner has received no reply from Respondent as of the date of this Order.

III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent committed violations of applicable law. Minn. Stat. §§ 181.723 and 326B.082, subd. 7 (2014).
2. Respondent failed to comply with a subpoena issued by the Commissioner. Minn. Stat. § 326B.082, subd. 11 (b)(6) (2014).
3. Respondent failed to register with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry’s Registration Program. Minn. Stat. § 326B.701, subd. 5(b)(1) (2014)

IV. DETERMINATION OF PENALTY AMOUNT

In determining the amount of the penalty, the Commissioner considered: the extent of deviation from compliance; whether the violations were willful; the gravity of the violations; the number of violations; whether there is a history of past violations; whether Respondent gained economic benefit in not complying with the law; and other factors as justice may require.

V. REQUEST FOR HEARING

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 326B.082, subd. 8 (2014), Respondent shall have 30 days after issuance of this Administrative Order to request a hearing. A request for hearing must be in writing and must be served on or faxed to the Commissioner at the following address or fax number by the deadline.

Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry
CCLD – Enforcement Services Unit
Attention: Charlie Durenberger
443 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155

Fax number: (651) 284-5746

The date on which a request for hearing is served by mail shall be the postmark date on the envelope in which the request for hearing is mailed. The request for hearing must specifically state the reasons for seeking review of the order. If the request for hearing is served by fax it cannot exceed 15 pages in length and must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. central time on the last day permitted for serving a request. Respondent's review rights are more thoroughly described in Minn. Stat. § 326B.082, subds. 4 and 8 (2014).

If Respondent submits to the Commissioner a timely request for hearing, the Administrative Order shall be stayed unless otherwise ordered by a judge, and a contested case hearing will be conducted. The contested case procedures are set out in chapter 14 of Minnesota Statutes, the Rules of the Office of Administrative Hearings, Minn. Rules 1400.5010 to 1400.8400 (2013), and Minn. Stat. § 326B.082, subd. 8 (2014). These materials may be purchased from the Minnesota Book Store, telephone (651) 297-3000, and are also available at www.revisor.mn.gov.

VI. EFFECT OF FINAL ORDER

If Respondent does not request a hearing or Respondent's request for a hearing is not served on or faxed to the Commissioner by the deadline specified in the "Request for Hearing" section of this Administrative Order, this Administrative Order shall become a final order of the Commissioner and will not be subject to review by any court or agency. *See* Minn. Stat. § 326B.082, subd. 8 (2014).


The monetary penalty assessed upon Respondent by this Administrative Order, other than the forgivable portion, is due and payable on the date the Administrative Order becomes final.

See Minn. Stat. § 326B.083, subd. 3(a) (2014). If the Commissioner determines that Respondents failed to successfully register in the Registration Program within 31 days of the issuance of this Order, then the forgivable portion of the penalty is due and payable 20 days after the Commissioner serves notice of this determination or on the date this Administrative Order becomes final, whichever is later. See Minn. Stat. § 326B.083, subd. 3 (2014).

When this Administrative Order becomes final, the Commissioner may file and enforce any unpaid portion of the penalty as a judgment in district court without further notice or additional proceedings. See Minn. Stat. §§ 16D.17 and 326B.083, subd. 2 (2014). Failure to pay a monetary penalty owed may result in the revocation, suspension, or denial of any or all licenses, permits, certificates, and registrations issued by the Commissioner. See Minn. Stat. § 326B.082, subd. 17 (2014). Also, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16D.13 (2014), Respondent is hereby notified that thirty (30) days after the date this Administrative Order becomes final, simple interest computed in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 16D.13, subd. 2 (2014) will begin to accrue on the unpaid portion of the penalty.

Dated: 10/29/15

KEN B. PETERSON
Commissioner

BY: 
CHARLIE DURENBERGER
Director of Licensing and Enforcement
Construction Codes and Licensing Division
Department of Labor and Industry