

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
Department of Labor and Industry

In the Matter of Virnig Painting Company

**LICENSING ORDER  
WITH PENALTY**

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**I. ORDER**

The Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (“Commissioner”) issues this Order against Virnig Painting Company (“Respondent”).

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 181.723, subd. 4 (2014), §§ 326B.082 through 326B.085 and 326B.701 (2014); the Commissioner hereby assesses against Respondent a monetary penalty of \$1,000.

The Commissioner takes the above action based upon the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

**II. FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Respondent holds a construction contractor registrations issued by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (“Department”) on December 13, 2012, registration number IR660223. Respondent, as a registered contractor, must comply with all statutes and rules governing the residential construction industry, including worker classification, Minn. Stat. §§ 181.723 and 326B.081 to 326B.085 and 326B.701 (2014).
2. On January 27, 2015, the 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.
3. On February 4, 2015, a Department investigator mailed a subpoena duces tecum via first-class and certified mail to Respondent.
4. Based on a review of Respondent’s answer to the subpoena, the Department determined that 12 of Respondent’s subcontractors were not registered at the time they performed services on Respondent’s behalf, and that six of Respondent’s subcontractors failed to meet the factors required by Minn. Stat. § 181.723 subd. 4(a) (2014) in order to qualify to be treated as an independent contractor. Specifically, between January 2013 and February 2015, Respondent paid Coatings Inc., DL Painting & Wallcovering, Inc, Dupre Paint & Wallcovering L.L.C., Gregory Spiczka, Robert Pahl Painting LLC, and Kurt D. Reimer an hourly rate for work performed.

### **III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. An individual or business entity that engages in building construction or improvement services must adhere to the Minnesota statutes and rules governing independent contractors, Minn. Stat. §§ 181.723 and 326B.701(2014).
2. Respondent committed violations of applicable law. Minn. Stat. §§ 181.723 and 326B.701 (2014).
3. Respondent misclassified employees as independent contractors by paying them an hourly rate for all work performed. Minn. Stat. § 181.723, subd. 7(a)(6)(7) (2014).

### **IV. DETERMINATION OF PENALTY AMOUNT**

In determining the amount of the penalty, the Commissioner considered: the extent of deviation from compliance; whether the violation was willful; the gravity of the violation; 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. 12(c) (2014), Respondent shall have 30 days after issuance of this Licensing 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. 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 12(c) (2014).

If Respondent submits to the Commissioner a timely request for hearing, this Licensing 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 the Minnesota Statutes, and the Rules of the Office of Administrative Hearings, Minn. Rules 1400.5010 to 1400.8400 (2013), and Minn. Stat. § 326B.082, subd. 12(c) (2014). These materials may be purchased from

the Minnesota Book Store, telephone (651) 297-3000, and are also available at [www.revisor.mn.gov](http://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 30 days after issuance of this Licensing Order, this Licensing 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. 12(c) (2014).

The monetary penalty assessed against the Respondent by this Licensing Order is due and payable on the date the Licensing Order becomes final. *See* Minn. Stat. § 326B.083, subd. 3(a) (2014). When this Licensing 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 (2014) 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 Licensing 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: 3/22/15

KEN B. PETERSON  
Commissioner

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