

Special Board Meeting October 16, 2025 Addendum to Board Packet

The Special Board Meeting agenda and other meeting materials can be found on the <u>BRPELS' website</u>.

STATE OF WASHINGTON BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

In the Matter of the License to Practice as a Professional Land Surveyor of:

NO. 2023-03-0339-00LSV 2024-08-2233-00LSV

James D. Crones, PLS

PROPOSED AGREED ORDER

Respondent.

License #29537

The Washington State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors ("Board"), and James D. Crones ("Respondent"), stipulate and agree to the following:

Section 1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 James D. Crones, Respondent, holds a license to practice as a professional land surveyor. Respondent's license number is 29537.
 - 1.2 The Respondent's license to practice is due to expire on June 27, 2027.

Section 2 PROCEDURAL STIPULATIONS

- 2.1 The Respondent understands that the Board is prepared to proceed to a hearing on the allegations in the Statement of Charges.
- 2.2 The Respondent understands that he has the right to defend himself against the allegations in the Amended Statement of Charges by presenting evidence at a hearing.
- 2.3 The Respondent understands that, should the Board prove at a hearing the allegations in the Amended Statement of Charges, the Board has the power and authority to impose sanctions, including fines, pursuant to RCW 18.235.110 and/or RCW 18.43.110.
 - 2.4 The Respondent and the Board agree to expedite the resolution of this matter by means

of this Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order ("AGREED ORDER").

- 2.5 The Respondent waives the opportunity to present evidence at a hearing on the Amended Statement of Charges contingent upon signature and acceptance of this Agreed Order by the Board.
- 2.6 This AGREED ORDER is not binding on any party unless and until it is signed and accepted by the Board. Should this Agreed Order be rejected, the Respondent waives any objection to the participation at a hearing of all or some of the Board members who considered the Agreed Order. The exception is former Board Member Aaron Blaisdell, PLS, Case Manager for this matter, who is recused from participating as a presiding or reviewing officer in an adjudicative hearing on this matter.
- 2.7 Once this AGREED ORDER is signed by the Board, the Respondent waives any and all right to judicial review and/or reconsideration by the Board.

Section 3 STIPULATED FACTS

The Respondent acknowledges that evidence is sufficient to justify the following findings of fact:

- 3.1 On March 14, 2023, Board Investigator informed Jeremy Crones their company certificate of authorization (COA) for Crones & Associates, Inc., license #1686 had expired June 30, 2012. Jeremy informed the Board Investigator that they had closed Crones & Associates, Inc. and opened a new company Crones Surveying. An email was sent to Jeremy on how to register the new company and/or renew the old company license.
- 3.1.1 On October 19, 2023, Board investigator checked the licensing records and found the company's COA had not been renewed. An email was sent to Jeremy asking for an update on the status of the COA.
 - 3.1.2 On November 20, 2023, Board investigator checked the licensing records

and found the company's COA had not been renewed. This is a violation of RCW 18.43.130(8)(a); WAC 196-25-005; and WAC 196-27A-030(2).

- 3.2 In November 2021 Respondent and Crones Land Surveying contracted with James McCartney to perform a Boundary Line Adjustment for property located in King County, tax parcel 7351000180. Crones Land Surveying did not have a Certificate of Authorization (COA) with the Board in November 2021. This is a violation of RCW 18.43.130(8)(a)(b) and WAC 196-25-005.
 - 3.2.1 On September 18, 2024, a Judgement After Trial was issued through the King County District Court, Smalls Claims Department under No. 24CIV04741KCX against Crones Surveying, LLC and James Crones. The following Findings and Conclusions were entered: "Defendant was not registered under RCW 18.43 to conduct land surveys at the time of the contract. Per RCW 18.43.120 this constitutes a gross misdemeanor. The Contract is listed on the letterhead as Crones. There is insufficient evidence as to who was the true Defendant. Court notes that James Crones is the signatory to the contract. Court accepts amendment to Defendant and adds Defendant James Crones individually to the judgment." This is a violation of RCW 18.43.130(8)(a) and (b) and WAC 196-25-005.
- 3.3 The conduct described in 3.1 through 3.7.1 contains multiple violations of WAC 196-25-005; WAC 196-27A-020(1)(a)(f); WAC 196-27A-030(2); RCW 18.43.130(8)(a), and RCW 18.43.105(5).

Section 4 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW & ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

The Respondent acknowledges that, based upon the Findings of Fact, the following Conclusions of Law are justified:

- 4.1 The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding and over the Respondent.
- 4.2 The Respondent's acts, errors, or omissions in connection with his practice as a professional land surveyor represent violations of WAC 196-25-005; WAC 196-27A-020(1)(a)(f); WAC 196-27A-030(2); RCW 18.43.130(8)(a), and RCW 18.43.105(5).
- 4.3 The acts, omissions, errors and/or discrepancies stated above in this AGREED ORDER, individually and cumulatively, constitute misconduct, malpractice and/or unprofessional conduct as defined in chapters 18.43 and 18.235 RCW. Such acts are grounds for the Board to suspend or revoke the license to practice land surveying issued to James D. Crones and/or to impose a monetary fine against the Respondent, as provided in RCW 18.235.110.

Section 5 AGREED ORDER

The Board and the Respondent stipulate and agree to the following terms and conditions:

- 5.1 Respondent consents to the entry of the AGREED ORDER and has waived any right to a hearing.
 - 5.2. Pursuant to chapter 18.235 RCW, the Board has the authority to impose discipline.
- 5.3 Upon the effective date of this AGREED ORDER Respondent's Washington license to practice as a professional land surveyor will be RETIRED.
- 5.4 Upon the effective date of this order the Respondent is prohibited from practicing professional land surveying as defined in RCW 18.43.020 and will not practice or offer to practice land surveying while retired.
- 5.7 Should the Respondent fail to comply with any of the terms or conditions of this AGREED ORDER, the Board will initiate administrative steps for imposition of further penalties and/or sanctions authorized and deemed appropriate. In making a determination of compliance

under the terms of this AGREED ORDER, the Board may rely upon the records in their possession, require records from the Respondent, or rely on the lack of records, in reaching such a decision.

- 5.8 This AGREED ORDER addresses and concerns itself solely with those issues referenced herein relating to the Respondent's practices as a professional land surveyor that are within the license-disciplining authority of the Board. This AGREED ORDER should not be considered to address, encompass, or limit judicial or other remedies relating to those practices and activities of the Respondent not deemed within the Board's license-disciplining authority.
- 5.9 The AGREED ORDER becomes effective immediately upon its being served pursuant to RCW 18.235.080. Service of this order is complete upon mailing. RCW 34.05.010(19).
- I, James D. Crones, Respondent, certify that I have read this Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Agreed Order in its entirety; that my counsel of record, if any, has fully explained the legal significance and consequence of it; that I fully understand and agree to all of it; and that it may be presented to the Board without my appearance. If the Board accepts the Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Agreed Order, I understand that I will receive a signed copy.

James D Crones	10/13/2025	
James D. Crones, Respondent	Date	
Attorney for Respondent WSBA #:	Date	
(if applicable)		

Section 6 FINAL ORDER

The Board accept	ts and enters this Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and
Agreed Order.	
	DATED this day of, 2025.
	State of Washington Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
	Doug Hendrickson, PE
	Presiding Officer