

**[PRC BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 01, S. OF 2008, January 16,
2008]**

**RESTRICTING THE PRACTICE OF THE REGULATED PROFESSION
OF ARCHITECTURE BY NON-REGISTERED AND LICENSED
"ARCHITECTS" (NON-RLAS) SUCH AS ARTS AND TRADES
SCHOOL STUDENTS/GRADUATES TRAINED IN ARCHITECTURAL
DRAFTING, B.S. ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS,
GRADUATES/GRADUATES UNDERGOING DIVERSIFIED
TRAINING AND UNSUCCESSFUL EXAMINEES WHO HAVE TAKEN
THE ARCHITECTURE LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS (ALE) AND
WHO PERFORM WORKS OF ARCHITECTURE WITHOUT THE
DIRECT SUPERVISION OF A REGISTERED AND LICENSED
ARCHITECTURE (RLA)**

WHEREAS, Secs. 29, 31 and 34, Art. IV of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9266 (The Architecture Act of 2006) state:

"SEC. 29. Prohibition in the Practice of Architecture and Penal Clause - Any person who shall practice or offer to practice architecture in the Philippines without being registered/licensed and who are not holders of temporary or special permits in accordance with the provisions of this Act, x x x x or any person who shall use in connection with his/her name or otherwise assume, use or advertise any title or description tending to convey the impression that he/she is an architect when he/she is not an architect, or any person whether Filipino or foreigner, who knowingly allows the use, adoption, implementation of plans, designs or specifications made by **any** person, firm, partnership or company **not** duly licensed to engage in the practice of architecture, or **any** person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Act, its implementing rules and regulations, the Code of Ethical Conduct and Standards of Professional Practice, or any policy of the Board and the Commission, shall be guilty of misdemeanor and charged in court by the Commission and shall, upon conviction be sentenced to a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than Five million pesos (P5,000,000.00) or to suffer imprisonment for a period not less than six (6) months or not exceeding six (6) years, or both, at the discretion of the Court.

SEC 31. Liability of Representatives of Non-Registered Persons - It shall be unlawful for **any** person or firm or corporation to seek to avoid the provisions of this Act by having a representative or employee seek architectural work in their behalf, unless and until, such persons have duly qualified and are duly registered/licensed, otherwise, both those represented and the representative, the employer and the employee shall

be deemed guilty of violation of this Act. Solicitation of architectural work shall be construed as offering to practice architecture and shall be unlawful for any non-registered and unlicensed persons to do so.

SEC. 34. Non-Registered Person Shall Not Claim Equivalent Service - Persons not registered as an architect shall not claim nor represent either services or work as equivalent to those of a duly qualified registered architect, or that they are qualified for any branch or function of architectural practice, even though no form of the title "Architect" is used. (*emphasis supplied*)

WHEREAS, similar provisions are found in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of R.A. No. 9266, in effect since 01 December 2004;

WHEREAS, the general public is deliberately misled or confused as to the real professional status of certain entities (natural and juridical), claiming or projecting themselves to be either registered and licensed architects (RLAs) or of being RLAs in group practice, when they are in fact not registered and licensed to practice architecture or other professions considered allied to architecture;

WHEREAS, the Board has confirmed that these entities are able to offer and actually practice architecture either through RLAs who aid and abet such practices or through the technical assistance being rendered by B.S. Architecture students, graduates/graduates undergoing diversified training, and unsuccessful examinees who have taken the architecture licensure examinations (ALE);

WHEREAS, there are already sufficient processes and safeguards to address the RLAs who aid and abet such practices and who directly violate R.A. No. 9266, but that there are insufficient ones to address the second set of violators who are non-RLAs;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board is hereby RESOLVES, as it is hereby RESOLVED, that non-RLAs such as arts and trades school students and graduates trained in architectural drafting, B.S. Architecture students, graduates/graduates undergoing diversified training and unsuccessful examinees who have taken the ALE, must undertake or perform works of architecture, falling within the scope of practice of architecture, as defined under Secs. 3.(3) and 3.(4), Article I, of R.A. No. 9266, **only for RLAs** (with valid certificates of registration and valid professional identification card), for qualified firms of RLAs (which have valid registration/s with the PRC), for foreign architects (with valid special/temporary permits issued by the Board and PRC) and the like;

FURTHER, RESOLVED, That the following terms as above-mentioned are hereby defined:

- 1) "*arts and trades school students and graduates trained in architectural drafting*", as entities enrolled or who have been enrolled in architectural drafting courses (manual or electronic);
- 2) "*B.S. Architecture student*", as entities enrolled or who have been enrolled in courses forming part of the CHED-recognized curriculum for a B.S. Architecture degree;
- 3) "*B.S. Architecture graduates*", as entities who have satisfactorily completed all courses forming part of the CHED-recognized curriculum for