

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & TRAINING
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PLUMBERS**

1511 Pontiac Avenue, Bldg 70, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Cranston, RI 02920

Tuesday, January 20, 2015

9:00am

In attendance:

Lionel Bernardino

Jeffrey Hutton

Michael Newman

William J. Riley, Chair

John Shaw, Designee for DLT Director (non-voting)

Anthony Cardarelli, Larry Giorgi, Richard Mandarini and Michael Raposa were not in attendance.

Also in attendance were E. Patrick Luther, Chief Plumbing Investigator; and Angelyne E. Cooper, DLT Legal Counsel.

1.) Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:13am by Chair William J. Riley.

2.) Minutes of November 18, 2014 Meeting: Minutes to the November 18, 2014 meeting were not available.

3.) Conflict of Interest – Legal Counsel will address the Board concerning compliance with conflict of interest requirements: Angelyne E. Cooper, DLT Legal Counsel, reminds the Board that they are subject to the RI conflict of interest laws and of their responsibility to disclose conflicts of interest board members should recues from hearing and voting on the matter. Legal Counsel is available for questions.

4.) Violation Appeal Hearings:

The Water Filter Company Inc – Steve G. Tudino – Violation 5007: There is no representative of The Water Filter Company, Inc – Steven G. Tudino at the start of the hearing. E. Patrick Luther, DLT Chief Plumbing Investigator, is sworn in for testimony. Mr. Luther states notice was sent to the respondent and received for today’s hearing. The Board questions Mr. Luther. E. Patrick Luther reads the violation.

Violation Dated 12/2/2014, Violation 5007

Name of Violator: The Water Filter Company Inc, Steven G. Tudino, 55 Pleasant Valley Road, North Kingstown, RI 02852

Location of Violation: Remodel - 261 Harkney Hill Rd, Coventry, RI

02816

Violation: RIGL 5-20-12 Corporations and firms engaged in business

On November 24, 2014, DLT Chief Plumbing Investigator E. Patrick Luther and Chief Electrical Inspector Robert Fratus conducted an investigation at the above location. Upon entering the location it was determined that Scott A. Mineo Jr., of 1 Leroy Dr. Richmond RI, an employee of The Water Filter Company Inc., did install a ultraviolet light filter at the above location. Mr. Mineo Jr. admitted to the investigators that he did tie into the potable water tank and installed the unit and all associated piping then tying back into the potable water system. Steven G. Tudino is not a licensed Master Plumber in RI and The Water Filter Company Inc does not have a Master Plumber within its firm or corporation as required by law and, therefore, cannot install water filtration equipment in RI. This is a violation of the above referenced RI General Law.

As per RIGL 5-20-33 a \$1,500.00 fine was assessed with Violation 5007.

E. Patrick Luther provides testimony.

Respondent, Steven Tudino, arrives at approximately 9:21am and is sworn in for testimony.

E. Patrick Luther reiterates his testimony prior to Mr. Tudino's arrival.

The Board questions Mr. Tudino and testimony is provided.

Lionel Bernardino made a motion that Violation 5007 did occur; seconded by Jeff Hutton and passed unanimously.

Michael Newman made a motion to uphold the penalty of \$1,500.00 per RIGL 5-20-33; seconded by Lionel Bernardino and passed unanimously.

The board's recommendation will be forwarded to the Director.

End of hearings.

Mr. Tudino addressed the board regarding the possibility of limited licenses. There is discussion.

5.) Apprentice Approvals / Apprentice Registrations:

- James Hinson Jared Bubank MP002041**
- Luis Mendocina Dan Donovan MP001446**
- Joshua Grandmason Tony Hawkes MP001625**
- Tyler Travers Bill Riley MP001234**

Michael Newman made a motion to accept the new apprentice

approvals / apprentice registrations; seconded by Lionel Bernardino and passed unanimously by the Board.

6.) Discussion of RIGL 5-65.3 Underground Utilities Contractors:

E. Patrick Luther addressed the board for their information and provided members with copies of the bill for the Utility Contractors that eliminates RIGL 5-20-11 Licensing of drainlayers and installers. The bill went into law January 1, 2015 and allows the Contractor Registration Board to register underground utility contractors in a grandfathering period of January 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015 after that period they will need to take an exam issued by the Contractor Registration Board. It is Mr. Luther's interpretation the Master Plumber and Master Fitter can still perform the work as long as they carry \$20,000 bond and \$1 million liability insurance.

There is discussion grandfathering the license and the license requirements for individuals performing the work.

This is a separate registration for underground utilities.

Mr. Luther advised that he was informed of the law on January 6, 2015. Discussion continued.

7.) Adjournment: Lionel Bernardino made a motion to adjourn;

seconded by Michael Newman. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.