

BARRY GLASSMAN
HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BILLY BONIFACE
DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION



PAUL E. LAWDER
DIRECTOR OF INSPECTIONS,
LICENSES AND PERMITS

**HARFORD COUNTY ELECTRICAL BOARD
OPEN SESSION
MARCH 6, 2019**

The Harford County Electrical Board met in the 1st floor conference room, Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits, at 220 South Main Street on March 6, 2019. The following members were present:

Members:

Tom Merkey, Chairman
Tom Awalt, Vice Chairman
William Smith
Steve Garey
Brigette Hardesty, Secretary to the Board
Milford Badders, Chief, Electrical Service

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes from December 5, 2018.

NEW BUSINESS:

Corey Hall, Nice & Easy Electric LLC, appeared before the Board to discuss working without a permit at 1223 Valley Leaf Court. Mr. Smith, Electrical Board member stated the hearing will be recorded. Mr. Merkey, Chairman, opened the hearing stating the date, March 6, 2019 and time, 9:55 a.m. and this hearing in accordance with Harford County Code §105-34. Mr. Merkey introduced all Board members to Mr. Hall.

Mr. Badders, Chief, Electrical Service, summarized what has taken place regarding Mr. Hall's situation. An email was forwarded from Heather McHugh, Customer Service Analyst on June 14, 2018 to Mr. Badders regarding a homeowner's request for an inspection for electrical work performed at 1223 Valley Leaf Court and a copy of the invoice for the work was attached. Mr. Badders confirmed that no permit for electrical work had been issued for that address. Mr. Badders contacted Mr. Hall and he agreed to obtain the necessary permit. After the initial contact with Mr. Hall, Mr. Badders was not able to contact Mr. Hall. Mr. Badders stated the invoice for the work included a listing of breakers that were installed and a 200-amp service totaling \$1,478.41. A permit was not obtained for this work and the power company required a service release. According to Mr. Badders, Aberdeen Electric obtained the necessary permit for the work performed at the address, received final inspection and service was released to the power company.

Mr. Merkey went through a chronological order of events. Mr. Hall was notified to appear before the Board on August 1, 2018, however the meeting was cancelled. Mr. Hall was then to appear on September 5, 2018 but failed to appear. Mr. Merkey asked Mr. Hall to explain.

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Mr. Hall said he was contacted by the homeowner because of electrical issues. Mr. Hall's employee assessed the issue and found a problem with the main breaker. During this time, Mr. Hall stated he was in the process of moving to New Jersey. According to Mr. Hall, his employee only changed out the breaker. He mentioned he moved to New Jersey in May 2018 and it was impossible for him to come back to Harford County and file for a permit. He returned to Maryland in December 2018 and was trying to obtain a license in another county and learned his State of Maryland license was on hold pending an issue in Harford County. Mr. Badders explained you are required to file a change of address with Harford County once you move. Mr. Merkey questioned whether his employee was licensed in Harford County as a Journeyman electrician and Mr. Hall said no. His employee, John Witherspoon did graduate from the Local 24 apprenticeship program.

A discussion was held regarding the work performed at 1223 Valley Leaf Court. The invoice listed work as a 200-amp service and main breakers, but the work performed by the employee was only the main breaker. Eventually, Aberdeen Electric did obtain a permit and had the necessary inspections conducted.

Mr. Merkey stated the Board will discuss this issue. He stated that the Board can suspended a license up to a year and/or recommend revocation to the Director. Mr. Hall will be notified, in writing, within the next 30 days. Mr. Merkey asked Mr. Hall to be sure Ms. Hardesty has correct contact information on file. The hearing concluded at 10:20 a.m. and Mr. Hall was then excused. The Board adjourned.

The meeting resumed under open session. Ms. Hardesty received a call from Rodger Burkman on January 23, 2019 stating that the Electrical Board had incorrectly graded his exam of September 25, 2018. Mr. Burkman gave Ms. Hardesty a list of the questions that had been incorrectly marked by the Board and Ms. Hardesty told Mr. Burkman that this situation will be discussed at the next Electrical Board meeting. Ms. Hardesty discussed the situation with Mr. Truitt, Deputy Director. Mr. Truitt asked Ms. Hardesty to print the scanned copy of Mr. Burkman's test taken on September 25, 2018 to compare answers. After reviewing the documentation, it appeared answers were changed. Mr. Truitt contacted Mr. Burkman and addressed this situation. Mr. Burkman admitted that he had changed the answers on his September 25 test while retaking the test in January, 2019. On January 31, 2019, a letter was mailed to Mr. Burkman from Paul Lawder, Director, Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits citing Harford County Code §105-25 C which states, "The use of any unauthorized material or cheating by an applicant during an examination shall cause the immediate rejection of an application and bar an applicant from reexamination for six months." Mr. Lawder also mentions that Mr. Burkman may apply to test again after July 22, 2019.

The following exam applicants were reviewed and approved:

Johnnie Hutchinson – Restricted
Mark Fichtler – Journeyman

The Board reviewed a letter from Montgomery County regarding revocation of Neal C Goodman's Electrical Master License (ME4522).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12 p.m.

Transcribed by and dated:



Brigette Hardesty
Secretary to the Board
Date: 3-19-19

Reviewed by and dated:



Milford Badders
Chief, Electrical Services
Date: 3-19-19