1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California FRANK H. PACOE Supervising Deputy Attorney General MICHAEL B. FRANKLIN Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 136524 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004 Telephone: (415) 703-5622 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480 Attorneys for Complainant  BEFORE THE REGISTRAR OF CONTRACTORS' STATE LICIDEPARTMENT OF CONSUMS	ENSE BOARD ER AFFAIRS
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. N2011-458
12	VEI CONSTRUCTION	ACCUSATION
13	SAMANI FALE, QUALIFYING PARTNER LAVAKI FALE, GENERAL PARTNER	n i
14	TUIHALANGINGIE FALE, GENERAL PARTNER 1032 Terraza St	
15	Soledad, CA 93960,	-
16	Contractor's License No. 966179, B	8
17	AND	,
18	VEI CONSTRUCTION	Case No. N2011-460
19 20	SAMANI FALE, SOLE OWNER 1408 Santa Clara Street Soledad, CA 93960,	ACCUSATION
21	Contractor's License No. 932725, B	
22	AND	
23	VEI ELECTRIC	Case No. N2011-459
24	SAMANI FALE, SOLE OWNER 1408 Santa Clara Street	ACCUSATION
25	Soledad, CA 93960	, s
26	Contractor's License No. 901154, C-10	
27	Respondents.	
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Accusation

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# **PARTIES**

- Wood Robinson (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity
  as the Enforcement Supervisor I of the Contractors' State License Board, Department of
  Consumer Affairs.
- 2. On or about September 29, 2011, the Registrar of Contractors issued Contractor's License Number 966179, B, to VEI Construction, Samani Fale, Qualifying Partner, Lavaki Fale, General Partner, Tuihalangingie, General Partner (Respondent). The Contractor's License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on September 30, 2013, unless renewed.
- On or about May 16, 2009, the Registrar of Contractors issued Contractor's License Number 932725, B, to VEI Construction, Samani Fale, sole owner (Respondent). This Contractor's License is currently renewed inactive and will expire on May 31, 2013, unless renewed.
- 4. On or about July 30, 2007, the Registrar of Contractors issued Contractor's License Number 901154, C-10, to VEI Electric, Samani Fale, sole owner (Respondent). This Contractor's License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on July 31, 2013, unless renewed.

## **JURISDICTION**

5. This Accusation is brought before the Registrar of Contractors (Registrar) for the Contractors' State License Board, Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

### STATUTORY PROVISIONS

6. Section 7090 of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") provides, in pertinent part, that the Registrar may suspend or revoke any license or registration if the licensee or registrant is guilty of or commits any one or more of the acts or omissions constituting cause for disciplinary action.

7. Section 7106.5 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration,		
cancellation, forfeiture, or suspension of a license by operation of law or by order or decision of		
he registrar, or a court of law, or the voluntary surrender of the license shall not deprive the		
egistrar of jurisdiction to proceed with any investigation of or action or disciplinary proceeding		
against the license, or to render a decision suspending or revoking the license.		

- 8. Section 118(b) of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Registrar of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated. Under Code section 7076.1, the Registrar may reinstate a cancelled license if the licensee pays all of the fees and meets all of the qualifications and requirements for obtaining an original license.
- 9. Section 7076.5 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the inactive status of a license shall not bar any disciplinary action for violating provisions of the Contractors' State License Law (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 7000, et seq.).
- 10. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Registrar may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.
- 11. Section 7112 of the Code states that "[o]mission or misrepresentation of a material fact by an applicant or a licensee in obtaining, or renewing a license, or in adding a classification to an existing license constitutes a cause for disciplinary action."

#### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Misrepresentations on application)

- 12. Respondent VEI Construction, Samani Fale, Qualifying Partner, Lavaki Fale, General Partner, Tuihalangingie, General Partner, is subject to disciplinary action under section 7112 in that Respondent made material misrepresentations of fact on its application for a contractor's license. The circumstances are as follows:
- 13. On or about November 7, 2011, the Board received an application from Respondent VEI Construction, Samani Fale, Qualifying Partner, Lavaki Fale, General Partner,

Tuihalangingie, General Partner for an additional classification – A – Engineering Contractor's license. The application was signed by Samani Fale and dated November 4, 2011. Samani Fale certified to the truth and accuracy of all answers and attachments contained therein.

This application, No. 2011-02-02876, was initially rejected because it failed to include a Certification of Work Experience. On or about December 11, 2011, Samani Fale, Qualifying Partner, submitted a Certification of Work Experience that asserted that Samani Fale was employed full time, at the journeyman level, for Lopesani Tulua, License No. 805119, from August 10, 2007 to September 11, 2011. The Certification of Work Experience contained a signature by Lopesani Tulua and listed specific trade duties allegedly performed by Samani Fale. In truth and in fact, Samani Fale never worked for Lopesani Tulua and the signature on the Certification of Work Experience was forged by Samani Fale.

# SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Misrepresentations on application)

- 14. Respondent VEI Construction, Samani Fale, sole owner, is subject to disciplinary action under section 7112 in that Respondent VEI Construction, Samani Fale, sole owner, made material misrepresentations of fact on its application for a contractor's license. The circumstances are as follows:
- 15. On or about October 10, 2007, the Board received an application from Respondent VEI Construction, Samani Fale, sole owner, for a B General Contractor's license. The application was signed by Samani Fale and dated October 9, 2007. Samani Fale certified to the truth and accuracy of all answers and attachments contained therein.

This application, No. 2007-01-08247, included a Certification of Work Experience that asserted that Samani Fale was employed full time, at the journeyman level, by VMS Construction, License No. 767610, from August 20, 2000 to September 21, 2006. The Certification of Work Experience contained a signature by Victor Saravia, sole owner of VMS Construction, License No. 767610, and listed specific trade duties allegedly performed by Samani Fale. In truth and in fact, Samani Fale never worked for Victor Saravia, sole owner of VMS

 Construction, License No. 767610, and the signature on the Certification of Work Experience was forged by Samani Fale.

## THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Misrepresentations on application)

- 16. Respondent VEI Electric, Samani Fale, sole owner, is subject to disciplinary action under section 7112 in that VEI Electric, Samani Fale, sole owner, made material misrepresentations of fact on its application for a contractor's license. The circumstances are as follows:
- 17. On or about December 26, 2006, the Board received an application from Respondent VEI Electric, Samani Fale, sole owner, for a C-10 [Electrical] Contractor's license. The application was signed by Samani Fale and dated December 12, 2006. Samani Fale submitted an addendum to this application that included a Certification of Work Experience dated February 21, 2007. Samani Fale certified to the truth and accuracy of all answers and attachments contained therein.

This application, No. 2006-01-14663, included a Certification of Work Experience that asserted that Samani Fale was employed full time, at the journeyman level, by Royal Electric, License No. 357377, from May 1, 1998 to February 21, 2007. The Certification of Work Experience contained a signature by Mike B. Sullivan and listed specific trade duties allegedly performed by Samani Fale. In truth and in fact, Samani Fale did not work for Royal Electric, License No. 357377, on the dates listed in the Certification of Work Experience, but only from November 20, 2006 to March 5, 2010. In addition to the misrepresentations regarding the dates of employment, Samani Fale did not have the requisite journeyman level experience to qualify for the C-10 license when he submitted this application.

### OTHER MATTERS

18. Pursuant to sections 7097 and 7098 of the Code, if license number 966179, B issued to Respondent VEI Construction, Samani Fale, Qualifying Partner, Lavaki Fale, General Partner, Tuihalangingie, General Partner, is suspended or revoked, the Registrar may suspend or revoke,

without notice, any other license issued in the name of Samani Fale or for which Samani Fale furnished the qualifying experience and appearance.

- 19. Pursuant to sections 7097 and 7098 of the Code, if license number 932725, B issued to Respondent VEI Construction, Samani Fale, sole owner, is suspended or revoked, the Registrar may suspend or revoke, without notice, any other license issued in the name of Samani Fale or for which Samani Fale furnished the qualifying experience and appearance.
- 20. Pursuant to sections 7097 and 7098 of the Code, if license number 901154, C-10, issued to Respondent VEI Electric, Samani Fale, sole owner, is suspended or revoked, the Registrar may suspend or revoke, without notice, any other license issued in the name of Samani Fale or for which Samani Fale furnished the qualifying experience and appearance.
- 21. Pursuant to section 7121 of the Code, if discipline is imposed on license number 966179, B, or license number 932725, B, or license number 901154, C-10, issued to Respondents, respectively, Samani Fale shall be prohibited from serving as an officer, director, associate, partner, manager, or qualifying individual, or member of the personnel of record of a licensee of any licensee during the time the discipline is imposed, and any licensee which employs, elects, or associates Samani Fale shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- 22. Pursuant to Section 7121.5 of the Code, if discipline is imposed on license number 966179, B, or license number 932725, B, or license number 901154, C-10, issued to Respondents, respectively, Samani Fale shall be prohibited from serving as an officer, director, associate, partner, manager, or qualifying individual of any licensee during the time the discipline is imposed, whether or not he had knowledge or participated in the acts or omissions constituting grounds for discipline, and any licensee which employs, elects, or associates Samani Fale shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- 23. Pursuant to section 7122.5 of the Code, the causes for discipline established as to Respondent VEI Construction, Samani Fale, Qualifying Partner, Lavaki Fale, General Partner, Tuihalangingie, General Partner, constitute cause for discipline against individual license numbers 932725, B, or 901154, C-10, issued to Samani Fale, regardless of whether he had

knowledge of or participated in the acts or omissions which constitute cause for discipline against respondent.

- 24. Section 7095 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Registrar in making his order may:
- (a) Provide for the immediate complete suspension by the licensee of all operations as a contractor during the period fixed by the decision.
- (b) Permit the licensee to complete any or all contracts shown by competent evidence taken at the hearing to be then uncompleted.
- (c) Impose upon the licensee compliance with such specific conditions as may be just in connection with its operations as a contractor disclosed at the hearing, and may further provide that until such conditions are complied with, no application for restoration of the suspended or revoked licensee shall be accepted by the Registrar.

# PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Registrar of Contractors issue a decision:

- Revoking or suspending Contractor's License Number 966179, B issued to VEI Construction, Samani Fale, Qualifying Partner, Lavaki Fale, General Partner, Tuihalangingie, General Partner;
- Revoking or suspending Contractor's License Number 932725, B, issued to VEI
   Construction, Samani Fale, sole owner;
- Revoking or suspending Contractor's License Number 901154, C-10, issued to VEI
   Electric, Samani Fale, sole owner;
- 4. Prohibiting Samani Fale from serving as an officer, director, associate, partner, or qualifying individual of any licensee during the period that discipline is imposed on license number 966179, B, or license number 932725, B, or license number 901154, C-10;
- Revoking or suspending any other license for which Samani Fale is furnishing the qualifying experience or appearance;

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