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How To Contact The Board

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Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Geographic Information Systems: A Powerful Tool For Contractors

By Debora Taylor

Tools are an integral part of the day-to-day operations of a contractor. From a technological aspect, a Geographic Information System (GIS) is a powerful tool that provides a means to complete the multi-faceted duties and responsibilities inherent in business. Using GIS will allow a contractor to leverage data to make business decisions that will enhance operations and save resources. With the power of GIS, real-world problems can be resolved, including the many complex issues that arise within a contractor's scope.

GIS is the integration of specialized

computer hardware, software and data.

The most commonly known output is the map. The map represents but one of the innumerable products and applications that a GIS is capable of representing and creating. Many use GIS without even realizing it. For example, Internet programs that provide directions and the decisions involved in locating a business have the power and technology of GIS behind them. Even statistical data, when geo-referenced, can be used to track business trends, analyze effectiveness, or reveal areas of concern. Anything with a location can be a part of a GIS and

(See Geographic, Page 3)

New Federal Lead Renovation Requirements

By Marjorie Xavier

To further protect children from exposure to lead-based paint, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued new rules for contractors who renovate or repair housing, child-care facilities or schools built before 1978. Under the new rules, workers must follow lead-safe work practice standards to reduce potential exposure to dangerous levels of lead during renovation and repair activities.

The "Lead: Renovation, Repair and Painting Program" rule, which will take effect in **April 2010**, prohibits work practices creating lead hazards. Requirements under the rule include implementing lead-safe work practices and certification and training for paid contractors and maintenance professionals working in pre-1978 housing, child-care facilities and schools. **As of Oct. 22, 2009**, contractors must take EPA-accredited training before beginning renovation, repair or painting projects as defined in the RR&P rule.

The rule covers all rental housing and non-rental homes, where children under age 6 and pregnant mothers reside. The new requirements apply to renovation, repair or painting activities, where more than 6 square feet of lead-based paint is disturbed in a room, or where 20 square feet of lead-based paint is disturbed on the exterior.

The affected contractors include builders, painters, plumbers and electricians. Trained contractors must post warning signs, restrict occupants from work areas, contain work areas to prevent dust and debris from spreading, conduct a thorough cleanup and verify that the cleanup was effective.

Lead is a toxic metal that was used for many years in paint and was banned for residential use in 1978. Exposure to lead can result in health concerns for both children and adults. Children under 6 years of age are most at risk because their developing

(See New Lead, Page 3)

Across The Board

February 1-28, 2010

Investigations Division

Compliance Investigations

Investigations Conducted	242
Investigations Closed	222
Licenses Revoked	21
Fines Assessed	\$42,700
Investigative Costs Assessed	\$28,563
Recovery Fund Claims Awarded	0

Criminal Investigations

Investigations Conducted	130
Investigations Closed	120
Felony Cases Filed	2
Criminal Complaints Filed with District Attorney	7
Citations Issued	28
Convictions	17
Restitution Ordered by Court	\$6,300
Fines Assessed by Court	\$5,089

Licensing Division

New License Applications Received	168
New Licenses Issued	120
License Change Applications Received	398
Licensed Nevada Contractors	17,191

The Contractors' Billboard is published by the Nevada State Contractors Board as a service to licensed contractors to promote a better understanding of Nevada contracting law and to provide information of interest to all construction professionals. This information is believed to be accurate at the time of publication. The Contractors Board and the State of Nevada assume no responsibility for any damage that arises from any action that is based on information found in this publication.

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Mission Statement

"The Nevada State Contractors Board is committed to promoting public confidence and trust in the competence and integrity of licensees and to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public."

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Geographic Information Systems ...

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analyzed with applicable software.

Throughout Nevada, many GIS professionals choose to use software from Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI). Since its inception in 1982, they have developed geographic software and have continued to enhance the product, which is used around the world. A suite of software products is available for purchase and one portion is available free of charge. ESRI's ArcExplorer is available for free download and provides the layperson with a "taste" of GIS. Although it has limited functionality, it can be used to learn and apply the capabilities of GIS. Use of this version is an ideal way for contractors to become familiar with the software and to orient themselves to spatial data in the shapefile format. With knowledge of the system and investigation of its potential, an understanding will develop of how GIS can be applied to business decisions.

The technology of GIS is useful throughout the planning, permitting and documentation phases of a project. Briefings, presentations and reports can incorporate data and analytical products. Images, CAD files, GPS points and other seemingly disparate data can be integrated into GIS with traditional shapefiles and geo-databases to provide a complete "picture" of the area. Hand-held devices, laptops, and even remote-controlled vehicles can be loaded with GIS applications for field work to gather data for asset management, maintenance and other operational functions. Computer generated 3-D models and flybys provide insight, as well as a



realistic visual representation of the project. Underlying all the maps and applications is the key component of GIS—data. Providers of data are abundant and include agencies and municipalities across Nevada. One local source is the City of Henderson.

Over the past 20 years, Henderson's GIS has grown substantially in terms of support, personnel and application development. Working collaboratively with local agencies and other municipalities, they create and maintain a wide variety of GIS products. An array of downloadable data and electronic maps may be found on the City of Henderson's website that will satisfy many business needs. Zoning, land use and parcel data are available and considered the basic building blocks of any permit or application for development.

It is a proven fact that having the right tool for the job is crucial. In today's competitive world, GIS is the tool that can significantly benefit a contractor and provide a technological edge. With the availability of free software and data, now is the time to investigate the potential of GIS and see what advantages it will bring to your busi-

ness.

For more information, contact the City of Henderson Community Development Department at: (702) 267-1500, or visit our website at:

www.cityofhenderson.com/gis/index.php

Additional information:

The City of Henderson and other agencies across the state, provide GIS data and maps that are available for download. Check out the following websites to obtain the information necessary for your project:

- City of Henderson: <http://www.cityofhenderson.com/gis/index.php>
- Clark County: <http://www.accessclark-county.com/#> and select the appropriate subheading under MAPS/GIS, including OpenWeb
- City of Las Vegas: <http://www.lasvegas-nevada.gov/Publications/maps.asp>
- City of North Las Vegas: <http://www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com/Departments/PublicWorks/LSPMGISMapsAndData.shtm>
- City of Boulder City: <http://www.bcnv.org/gis/>
- City of Reno: <http://maps.cityofreno.net/>
- City of Sparks: http://www.cityofsparks.us/business/planning_dev/land_use_and_zoning_maps
- Washoe County: <http://www.co.washoe.nv.us/gis>
Statewide GIS data/maps: <http://keck.library.unr.edu>

Debora Taylor is a GIS technician with the City of Henderson.

New Lead Renovation Requirements ...

(Continued from Page 1)

nervous systems are especially vulnerable to lead's effects, and because they are more likely to ingest lead due to their more frequent hand-to-mouth behavior.

For more information on this new program, visit: www.epa.gov/lead

For copies of the educational brochures, call: 1-800-424-5323.

Marjorie Xavier is a representative with the U.S. EPA Lead Program.

Here's What's Happening at the Board

NSCB Investigator Helps Nab Alleged Sexual Assault Fugitive

An alleged unlicensed Northern Nevada contractor's nervous behavior and questionable driver's license birth date caught the attention of an alert Nevada State Contractors Board criminal investigator, resulting in the arrest of fugitive Jose Alberto Ponce, 36.

Ponce, using the alias Jose Edgardo Estrada, had been advertising his painting services on a local Reno bulletin board and Craig's List. He recently provided a \$1,400 painting bid to an NSCB criminal investigator, who questioned the name and birth date he provided. The investigator took his photo and ran it through the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles facial recognition data base. Ponce's real name came back, along with felony warrants for alleged sexual assault, harassment and fraud.

The NSCB investigator then arranged a meeting with Ponce at a Stead, NV, gas station to correct the original citation for *contracting without a license*. The NSCB investigator also invited DMV compliance investigators to attend the meeting.

Ponce was arrested by DMV investigators without incident. He told the NSCB investi-

gator he knew he was in trouble when the NSCB took his photo during the painting sting. Ponce was issued three citations for *providing false information to a public officer, contracting without a license and advertising without a license*.

The DMV booked Ponce on four felonies and set his bail at \$27,500.

"This sting should serve as a warning that the NSCB is serious about cracking down on unlicensed contractors," said Margi Grein, Executive Officer for the Board. "Consumers should not be taken in by promises of cheap work performed by unlicensed contractors. In reality it may cost more, and the consumer is left with little or no protection.

"It is important for consumers to check the license status of any company they wish to hire at our website:

www.nscb.state.nv.us," she added.



Jose Ponce

Former Nevada Contractor Convicted

J.E. Scott Spracklin of Sparks, NV, dba Spracklin Construction, whose contracting licenses were revoked by the Nevada State Contractors Board in August 2008, was recently convicted in Washoe County District Court on one felony count of *diversion of funds* and sentenced to 12 to 34 months in the Nevada State Prison. His sentence was suspended with probation, and he was ordered to pay \$182,931.56 in restitution, plus investigative costs and court fees.

Spracklin's conviction stemmed from a nearly two-year investigation by the Reno Criminal Investigation Division of the Nevada State Contractors Board. Investigators had found that Spracklin took a \$22,000 deposit on a \$220,000 contract and did no work on the project.

Spracklin also diverted \$213,051.98 from another project by failing to pay subcontractors and material suppliers, after he was paid by the homeowner.

Spracklin was arrested on two felony warrants from the Washoe County District Attorney's Office. He plead guilty to one count of diversion of funds.

"The NSCB is happy that it was able to help the victims in this case receive restitution," said Margi Grein, Executive Officer of the NSCB. "This investigation is an example of how strongly committed the Board is to protecting the citizens of Nevada."

B-2 Contractors Bidding Out Of Scope

Board investigators are seeing more and more contractors performing and bidding work out of scope of their licenses. The biggest offenders have been B-2 licensees.

The B-2 license classification is for residential and small commercial work and is defined as the construction and remodeling of houses and other structures which support, shelter or enclose persons or animals or other chattels, and which do not extend more than three stories above the ground and one story below the ground.

NRS 624.215 paragraph 3 defines a general building contractor as a contractor whose principal contracting business is in connection with the construction or remodeling of buildings or structures for the support, shelter and enclosure of persons, animals, chattels or movable property of any kind, requiring in

their construction the use of more than two unrelated building trades or crafts, upon which he or she is the prime contractor and where the construction or remodeling of a building is the primary purpose.

A general building contractor shall not perform specialty contracting in plumbing, electrical, refrigeration and air-conditioning or fire protection without a license for the specialty.

Unfortunately, the Board is seeing B-2 contractors, who are considered general building contractors, bidding and performing landscaping, masonry, excavation and grading and demolition. Even if all of these specialty trades were being performed under one contract, a B-2 contractor is still *not permitted* to bid or perform this contract, because it does not fit the definition of a

general building contractor.

If B-2 contractors have questions prior to bidding on a contract or entering into a contract concerning the scope or their license, they should call the Board's Licensing Department at: (702) 486-1100 in Southern Nevada, or (775) 688-1141 in Northern Nevada.

The penalty for bidding or contracting beyond the scope of the license is a fine of \$500 to \$50,000.

Board Disciplinary Actions: February 1-28, 2010

The Nevada State Contractors Board adjudicated the following cases from Feb. 1-28, 2010.

Damon Roy Innerarity, dba Innerarity Marble, license number 72571 (Marble), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for substandard workmanship; failure to take appropriate corrective action; failure to respond to a written request from the Board; acting in the capacity of a contractor beyond the scope of the license; failure to include the Residential Recovery Fund information on a contract or proposal; failure to include the monetary license limit and license number on a contract or proposal; willful disregard of the building laws of the state; and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$5,250; ordered to pay investigative costs and pay \$7,941 in restitution. The license was suspended.

Aquaphina Pool & Spa of Nevada, license number 57119 (Commercial & Residential Pools), based out of Palmdale, CA, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to establish financial responsibility and failure to keep in force a bond or cash deposit. The licensee was fined \$750; ordered to pay investigative costs and ordered to make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

Tomlyn Incorporated, dba Sign City USA, license number 43782 (Outdoor Advertising, Electrical Signs and Painted Signs), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for willful disregard of the building laws of the state; failure to establish financial responsibility; and failure to keep in force a bond or cash deposit. The licensee was fined \$1,750; ordered to pay investigative costs and ordered to make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

Martin Metal Works, LLC., dba Martin Metal Designs, license number 62867 (Ornamental Metal), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to respond to a written request from the Board and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$750; ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

Blooming Vista Pools and Spas, LLC., license number 70670 (Commercial & Residential Pools), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to pay money due for materials or services; failure to respond to a written request from the Board; failure to keep in force a bond or cash deposit; and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$2,000; ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

Sweet Roots Landscaping, LLC., license numbers 58396, 57592 and 72992 (General Engineering, Landscaping and General Building), based out of Reno, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for willful disregard of the laws of the state regarding industrial insurance; failure to establish financial responsibility; and for the partnership, corporation, firm or association participating in a prohibited act. The licensee was fined \$1,500; ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The licenses were revoked.

Cabinetec, Inc., license number 27189 (Carpentry), based out of North Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to include the monetary license limit and license number on a contract or proposal; failure to comply with the terms of a construction contract, thereby causing material injury to another; abandonment of a construction project; failure to respond to a written request from the Board; failure to take appropriate corrective action; failure to include the Residential Recovery Fund information on a contract or proposal; failure to notify the Board of a change in personnel or address within 30 days of the change; and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$6,100; ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

Regency Design & Landscaping, Inc., license numbers 50138, 48775, 48776, 66118 and 66016 (Residential & Small Commercial, Landscaping, Concrete Contracting, Masonry, Steel Reinforcing & Erection and Ornamental Metal), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to comply with a written citation and for the partnership, corporation, firm or association participating in a prohibited act. The licensee was fined \$500; ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The licenses were revoked.

Horizon Concrete, Inc., license number 70194 (Concrete Contracting), based out of Henderson, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to respond to a written request from the Board and failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$1,000; ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

R.G. & Associates Development, LLC., license number 53082 (Residential & Small Commercial), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to comply with the terms of a construction contract, thereby causing material injury to another; failure to take appropriate corrective action; failure to respond to a written request from the Board; and failure to establish financial respon-

(See Disciplinary Actions, Page 6)

Board Disciplinary Actions: February 1-28, 2010

(Continued from Page 5)

sibility. The licensee was fined \$2,000; ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

Greencare Lawn & Landscape Enterprises, Inc., license number 60996 (Landscaping), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for failure to establish financial responsibility. The licensee was fined \$500; ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The license was revoked.

Las Vegas Concrete Pumping, Inc., dba Pools By Grube, license numbers 6887C, 6887E, 25953 and 25954 (Commercial & Residential Pools, Swimming Pool Tile & Coping, Concrete Contracting and Plastering) and *Four Seasons Landscape and Sprinkler Design, Inc.*, license number 72065 (Landscaping), based out of Henderson, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for substandard workmanship; failure to take appropriate corrective action; failure to establish financial responsibility; failure to respond to a written request from the Board; and for the partnership, corporation, firm or association participating in a prohibited act. The licensee was fined \$3,500; ordered to pay investigative costs and make full restitution to all damaged parties and reimburse the Board for any monies paid out of the Residential Recovery Fund. The licenses were revoked.

North Las Vegas Building Department Has New Review Process

By Joshua Christensen

The City of North Las Vegas Building Safety Division has implemented a new consolidated review process for all projects that have to be submitted for plan review. The purpose of this effort is to help streamline the way our customers receive comment letters. Plan review during the old process generated letters from each department requiring corrections. This would mean customers could receive multiple correction letters for one plan review.

Using the new consolidated review process, a customer will receive only one letter, which will contain comments from all departments that require corrections and/or additional information. The consolidated letter will not be generated until all departments have completed their plan review.

In an effort to help a customer get corrections in a timely fashion, an unofficial letter from the plans examiner can be given to the customer. When responding to the new consolidated correction letter, two complete wet stamped and signed sets of plans with corrections from all departments needs to be submitted. In addition, specific sheets of corrected plans to be reviewed by the specific departments should be submitted separately.

Vegas Construction and Remodeling, LLC., license numbers 58293 and 65321 (Residential & Small Commercial and Carpentry), based out of Las Vegas, NV, was found in violation of Nevada Revised Statute 624 for substandard workmanship; failure to include the Residential Recovery Fund information on a contract or proposal; acting in the capacity of a contractor beyond the scope of the license; willful disregard of the building laws of the state; and for the partnership, corporation, firm or association participating in a prohibited act. The licensee was fined \$17,100; ordered to pay investigative costs and submit to a business review.

****The Business Review Program is one in which a contractor's business practices and regulatory compliance is examined by NSCB investigative staff. The program is part of NSCB's proactive investigative efforts.**

The Nevada State Contractors Board is committed to protecting the public's health, safety and welfare through licensing and regulation of the construction industry. Under Nevada Revised Statutes, a licensee is subject to disciplinary action by the Board for failure to comply with the requirements of the laws or regulations governing contractors. Violations may result in Board action against the contractor's license. The State Contractors Board has the power to regulate contractors and discipline licensees who violate NRS 624. Disciplinary action may consist of a fine of up to \$10,000 per offense, order corrective action, suspension, revocation or other action.

Corrections and/or additional information cannot be submitted until the consolidated letter is issued.

The North Las Vegas Fire Department is offering fire protection/prevention contractors expedited plan reviews on a first come first serve basis. This is for initial Fire Department submittals and apply only to fire prevention plans. A standard fire review for building plan submittals, corrections, revisions and as-builts are not candidates for expedited review. Expedited fees are \$60 per hour with a two-hour minimum. This fee is in addition to the regular permit fees based on the valuation of the project. To request expedited review, see the Permit Application Center for the appropriate form.

For more information on these programs, contact the Permit Application Center at: (702) 633-1536.

Joshua Christensen is a Permit Applications Center specialist for the Building and Safety Department of the City of North Las Vegas.

Criminal Cases Prosecuted: February 1-28, 2010

Code:

IC = Investigative Costs

F = Fine

R = Restitution

PB = Plea Bargain

** By Nevada law, the Nevada State Contractors Board has the authority to issue citations and pursue prosecution of individuals for violations ranging from contracting without a license to fraud. The following are the convictions and penalties imposed by the courts.*

Southern Nevada			
Signature Kitchen & Bath	\$500 F; IC	Bandana, Ron	\$250 F; IC
National Home Corporation	\$1,500 F; IC	Brett's Fix All And Repairs	Conviction
Norwalk Furniture & Design	IC	Rodriguez, Irene	IC
Yanes, Wilhelm	\$250 F; IC	Fuentes, Juarez Guillermo	\$250 F; IC
Grupinski, Jason DBA Nothing But Quality	PB; \$300 R; IC	Brown, Rick DBA Ultimate Customs LTD	PB; IC
Urias, Armando R	PB; IC	Sing Sing Sign Co	PB; IC
Garcia, Marisela	PB; IC	Dewolf, Cleve	PB; IC
Corwin, Dan Jonathan	PB; IC	Linetec	PB; IC
Womack, Burton	PB; IC		
Northern Nevada			
Dyer, Timothy Patrick	\$297 F; IC	Chandler, Robert Curtis	IC
Bartley, Mark Ronald	Conviction	Barber, Robert Albert Jr	\$537 F; IC
Musser, Michael Thomas	Conviction	Gott, James Thomas III	\$520 F; IC
Buchanan, Randall Edward	\$635 F; IC	Mortensen, Timothy Ward	\$350 F; IC
Ring, William James III	IC		

Administrative Citations Paid - February 1-28, 2010

(Investigative Costs Also Assessed)

Contractor	Lic. No.	Fine
Sunset Oasis Landscaping	54843	\$1,750.00
Ice Cold Air & Heating	63408	\$2,000.00
Concrete Management Corp.	70272	\$1,000.00
Alaskan Quality Services	69953	\$500.00
T G J Services	68604	\$600.00
Redhenne, LLC	69392	\$2,550.00

Contractor	Lic. No.	Fine
Halo Plumbing, LLC	74207	\$500.00
Culligan Water Company of Nevada, Inc.	5113	\$1,000.00
Anytime Plumbing, Inc.	23771	\$1,000.00
Solid State Electric, LLC	55400	\$1,000.00
Advanced Lighting & Electric, Inc.	68333	\$1,000.00
Saunders Outdoor Advertising, Inc.	54223	\$1,000.00

2010 Nevada State Contractors Board Meetings

The following 2010 Nevada State Contractors Board meetings will take place at: 2310 Corporate Circle, Suite 200, Henderson, NV 89074 and 9670 Gateway Drive, Suite 100, Reno, NV 89521 beginning at 8:30 a.m.

- January 28, 2010
- February 25, 2010
- March 25, 2010
- April 22, 2010
- May 20, 2010
- June 17, 2010
- July 29, 2010
- August 26, 2010
- September 23, 2010
- October 21, 2010
- November 18, 2010
- December 16, 2010

Agendas can be viewed on the website at: www.nscb.state.nv.us under “Meeting Agendas & Minutes,” three business days before each meeting. All dates are tentative and subject to change, until a meeting agenda has been officially posted.

Board Needs Sting Houses To Nab Unlicensed Contractors



The Nevada State Contractors Board is asking contractors to become involved in helping to protect their neighborhoods from unlicensed contractors by volunteering their homes for one-day use by undercover NSCB investigators for sting operations.

To learn more on how you can help stop illegal unlicensed contractors from targeting your neighborhood, contact:

- Southern Nevada - Kenny Peppley, Supervisor of Criminal Investigations, (702) 486-1144.
- Northern Nevada (Carson City, Fallon, Elko and other outlying areas) – Fred Schoenfeldt, Investigations Supervisor, (775) 850-7884.

Upcoming Workshop

The Board has scheduled a workshop at 10 a.m., March 31, 2010, to discuss proposed regulation R058-09 that would amend Chapter 624 of the Nevada Administrative Code pertaining to financial statement requirements.

For more information, go to: www.nscb.state.nv.us and then “Meeting Agendas & Minutes” and then “Regulation Workshops and Hearings.”