



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
**Board of Registration
of
Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals**

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**STATE BOARD SUSPENDS LICENSE OF
HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE CLEANUP PROFESSIONAL**

BOSTON – James B. Matz, whose office is located in Wakefield, has entered into a consent agreement with the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals to resolve a disciplinary complaint that was being investigated by the Board. As part of the consent agreement, Mr. Matz agreed to a six-month suspension of his license to practice as a Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professional.

Also known as “Licensed Site Professionals” or “LSPs,” Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals are licensed by the Board to oversee the assessment and cleanup of property in Massachusetts that has become contaminated with oil, gasoline, or other hazardous materials. Property owners and others who are legally responsible for the contamination hire LSPs. Any member of the public may file a complaint with the Board alleging that an LSP did not meet state requirements or professional standards in conducting assessment and cleanup activities at contaminated sites.

Prior to the entry of the consent agreement, the Board was in the process of investigating allegations of professional misconduct contained in a disciplinary complaint filed against Mr. Matz. The complaint, filed by a private party, alleged that Mr. Matz failed to follow state regulations while working in 2007 on a contaminated site on High Street in Waltham. Specifically, the complaint alleged that Mr. Matz excavated contaminated soil and conducted dewatering without previously filing a plan of this work with the state Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). The Complaint also alleged that Mr. Matz failed to obtain a federal permit for discharge of treated groundwater to a storm drain that discharged to the Charles River. Both of these allegations, if true, would constitute violations of MassDEP’s regulations and the Board’s rules of professional conduct. The Board investigated these allegations by reviewing certain documents and interviewing Mr. Matz.

Before the Board had concluded its investigation, Mr. Matz agreed to enter into a consent agreement to resolve the matter without further investigation or adjudication. While Mr. Matz did not admit to any wrongdoing or professional misconduct, he agreed to a suspension of his license for six months and waived his right to seek an adjudicatory hearing.

Janine Commerford, Chairperson of the Board, stated: “By entering into this agreement, the Board is both protecting the public and the environment, and upholding the Board’s professional conduct standards.”

The Massachusetts Board of Registration of Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals works to maintain high standards of practice by LSPs. It protects public health, welfare, and the environment by establishing qualifications for licensure, administering a licensing exam, requiring that LSPs obtain continuing education, and investigating complaints against LSPs to ensure compliance with state laws, regulations, and the Board’s own rules of professional conduct.

Additional information about the Board, a list of LSPs, and other information about the state’s cleanup program for hazardous waste sites can be found at the Board’s Web site at www.state.ma.us/lsp or by calling the number listed above.

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