



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 – Kevin C. Sheehan, whose office is located in Agawam, 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. Sheehan agreed to a voluntary suspension of his license to practice as a Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professional for a period of six months.

Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals, also known as “Licensed Site Professionals” or “LSPs,” 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. In the course of doing their oversight work, LSPs and their clients must submit written reports to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). MassDEP audits a percentage of the reports submitted to ensure that the work being done is protective of public health and the environment. MassDEP and 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.

MassDEP filed the complaint against Mr. Sheehan in 2003. The complaint alleged that work Mr. Sheehan performed as an LSP at a contaminated site on Albany Street in Springfield from 1996 to 2002 had violated MassDEP’s regulations and possibly the Board’s rules of professional conduct as well. The allegations were based on an audit by MassDEP of the response actions the LSP conducted for releases of toxic metals at the site, including cadmium, nickel, cyanide, and lead. Among other things, the complaint alleged that Mr. Sheehan did not adequately assess the nature, extent, and sources of contamination; did not properly evaluate the effectiveness of options to remediate the contamination; and did not provide sufficient support for his conclusion that the contamination did not pose a substantial hazard. MassDEP supplemented its initial complaint with audit findings for another site where Mr. Sheehan had worked as an LSP, and suggested there might be similar issues regarding the selection and implementation of a remedial strategy. The Board initiated an investigation of these allegations, focusing on the site in Springfield and three other sites in Springfield, Holyoke, and

Williamstown. During the investigation, the Board interviewed Mr. Sheehan and reviewed documentation relating to the assessment and cleanup of the four sites.

Before the Board had concluded its investigation, Mr. Sheehan agreed to enter into a consent agreement to resolve the matter without further investigation or adjudication. While Mr. Sheehan 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](http://www.state.ma.us/lsp) or by calling the number listed above.

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