

Notice to Architects & Professional Engineers Seals on Plans & Documents

With the adoption of the International Codes in Colorado, the role of the design professional is ever more predominant, states a memorandum from the State of Colorado Division of Registrations. The licensee must only practice and seal documents within their area of expertise.

Construction documents, when required by state or local jurisdictions, must be sealed by an architect or professional engineer licensed by the state of Colorado when plans/specifications conform to the regulations and restrictions of the building code under Colorado Revised Statutes, Section 30-28-205.

It is unacceptable for an architect to seal structural, electrical, plumbing and mechanical documents — and it is unacceptable for a professional engineer to seal architectural plans (occupancy classification, type of construction, location of property, allowable floor area, occupant loads, etc.)

“Completed design/construction documents shall only be by a qualified design professional practicing in their respective field of expertise,” states the memorandum to all Building Officials.

Inappropriate sealing of design/construction documents is to be reported by the Building Official to the Colorado Board of Examiners of Architects and the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors for their review and possible disciplinary action.

For more information, contact the Division of Registrations, Dept. of Regulatory Agencies, at <http://www.dora.state.co.us/registrations> or call 303-894-7800. A copy of the memorandum is also available at RBD.