



REGULATORY AGENCY ACTION

BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS

*Executive Officer: John E. Wolfe
(916) 445-1920*

The Board of Registration for Geologists and Geophysicists (BRGG) was created by statute in 1969. This eight-member Board licenses geologists and geophysicists and certifies engineering geologists. In addition to successfully passing the Board's written examination, an applicant must have fulfilled specified educational requirements and have the equivalent of seven years of professional experience in his/her field. This requirement may be satisfied with a combination of education from a school with a Board-approved program in geology or geophysical science, and qualifying field experience.

The Board has the power to discipline licensees who act in violation of the Board's licensing statutes. The Board may issue a citation to licensees or unlicensed persons for violations of Board rules. These citations may be accompanied by an administrative fine of up to \$2,500.

The Board is composed of five public members and three professional members. BRGG's staff consists of two full-time employees (Executive Officer John Wolfe and his secretary) and two part-time personnel. The Board's committees include the Professional Practices, Legislative, and Examination Committees. BRGG is funded by the fees it generates.

Former Assemblymember Paul Priolo was recently appointed to the BRGG as a public member by Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. During his fourteen-year tenure in the Assembly, Priolo authored the Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Zone Act, which required the Division of Mines and Geology to identify all active faults in California. Priolo is currently a lobbyist for Paul Priolo & Associates in Sacramento.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Application Notification Program. Executive Officer John Wolfe recently reported that the BRGG office has received an excellent response to its notification card program. Previously, numerous applicants for BRGG registration complained that the Board failed to notify them of deficiencies in their applications in sufficient time for them to remedy the defects before the application process closed. (See CRLR Vol. 9, No. 2 (Spring 1989) p. 57 for background information.) The Board has developed a new postcard system to notify each candidate whether

the candidate's application packet is complete.

Budget. The Board has again been forced to file a number of budget change proposals in 1989. If granted, the additional funds will be used to alleviate the Board's chronic understaffing problem, and to publish BRGG's informational pamphlets and its guidelines for groundwater investigations, engineering geologic reports, geophysical studies, and geological reports.

LEGISLATION:

The following is a status update on bills reported in detail in CRLR Vol. 9, No. 2 (Spring 1989) at page 57:

AB 469 (Harvey), which would increase the ceiling on the fees which the Board is permitted to charge its licensees, is still pending in the Assembly Committee on Governmental Efficiency and Consumer Protection.

AB 459 (Frizzelle), which would allow a licensee to renew his/her license after an unlimited period of delinquency without reexamination, has become a two-year bill.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BOARD OF GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

*Executive Officer: Manuel Urena
(916) 445-9040*

The Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind has three primary functions. The Board protects the blind guide dog user by licensing instructors and schools to ensure that they possess certain minimum qualifications. The Board also enforces standards of performance and conduct of these licensees as established by law. Finally, the Board polices unlicensed practice.

There are three guide dog schools in California. These schools train the blind in the use of guide dogs. Each school also trains its own dogs. Each blind person is then matched with a dog using factors such as size and temperament. To provide this specialized service, the schools must have special facilities, which are inspected by the Board members as needed.

The Board consists of seven members, two of whom must be dog users (Business and Professions Code section 7200).

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Implementation of SB 2229. Pursu-

ant to Business and Professions Code section 7218, enacted in 1988 (see CRLR Vol. 9, No. 1 (Winter 1989) p. 48 and Vol. 8, No. 4 (Fall 1988) p. 56 for background information), the Board is conducting a study of the feasibility of developing programs to license providers of signal dogs for the deaf and service dogs for the physically disabled. The Board is currently evaluating accessibility laws guaranteeing the right of guide, signal, and service dog users to travel unimpeded and enter all places of public accommodation. The Board has finalized dates for public hearings on these issues; those wishing to testify may do so on July 21 in Burbank; August 10 in Oakland; September 11 in Sacramento; and September 12 in Chico.

LEGISLATION:

AB 676 (Filante), which would authorize the Board to allow schools which furnish guide dogs to send trainers to the homes of blind persons to provide training in the use of the guide dogs, passed the Assembly on April 27 and is pending in the Senate Business and Professions Committee at this writing.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BUREAU OF HOME FURNISHINGS AND THERMAL INSULATION

*Chief: Gordon Damant
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The Bureau of Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation (BHF) regulates manufacturers, wholesalers, dealers, upholsterers, retailers, renovators, and sterilizers of furniture and bedding. In addition, the Bureau establishes rules regarding labeling requirements approved by the state Department of Public Health pertaining to furniture and bedding.

To enforce its regulations, the Bureau has access to premises, equipment, materials, and articles of furniture.

The chief or any inspector may open, inspect and analyze the contents of any furniture or bedding and may condemn, withhold from sale, seize or destroy any upholstered furniture or bedding or any filling material found to be in violation of Bureau rules and regulations. The Bureau may also revoke or suspend registration for violation of its rules.

The Bureau is assisted by a thirteen-member Advisory Board consisting of