

BEFORE THE INDIANA  
PLUMBING COMMISSION  
CAUSE NO: 2023 IPC 0005

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSES OF:

R&R PLUMBING COMPANY INC  
LICENSE NO.: CO88800135 (ACTIVE)

and

RONALD W. HAMM  
LICENSE NO.: PC88900183 (ACTIVE)

**FILED**

**JUL 18 2023**

Indiana Professional  
Licensing Agency

### ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT

Petitioner, the State of Indiana, by counsel, Deputy Attorney General Ian Mathew, pursuant to Ind. Code § 25-1-7-7 and Ind. Code ch. 4-21.5-3, brings this Administrative Complaint before the Indiana Plumbing Commission (“the Commission”) against the plumbing corporation license of R&R Plumbing Company Inc. (“Respondent Company”) and against the plumbing contractor license of Ronald W. Hamm (“Respondent Hamm”) for violations of Ind. Code § 25-1-11-5. In support, Petitioner states and alleges the following:

### FACTS

#### **Background**

1. The Office of the Indiana Attorney General (“OAG”) is empowered under Ind. Code § 25-1-7-7 and Ind. Code § 25-2.1-9-4 to prosecute this action on behalf of Petitioner against Respondent’s license.

2. Respondent Company holds plumbing corporation license CO88800135, which was issued by the Commission on January 13, 1988, and will expire on December 31, 2023.

3. Respondent Company's address on file with the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency ("IPLA") is 1840 Midwest Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana 46214.

4. On information and belief, Respondent Hamm is a manager and/or superintendent for Respondent Company.

5. Respondent Hamm holds plumbing contractor license PC88900183, which was issued by the Commission on November 7, 1989, and will expire on December 31, 2023.

6. Respondent Hamm's address on file with IPLA is 9453 North Evans Road, Monrovia, Indiana 46157.

### **Jurisdiction**

1. On December 2, 2022, OAG received a consumer complaint against Respondents, and an investigation was then conducted as authorized by Ind. Code § 25-1-7-5(b)(4).

2. After investigation, the OAG determined that the consumer complaint had merit. Accordingly, a copy of that consumer complaint is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

3. The OAG having tendered a meritorious complaint, the Board has jurisdiction to hear this matter under Ind. Code § 25-1-7-5(b)(1).

4. Further, at all times relevant, Respondents were "practitioners" as that term is defined by Ind. Code § 25-1-11-2.

5. As such, the Board has authority to hear this case and to impose any of the sanctions enumerated under Ind. Code § 25-1-11-12.

## **Respondents' Misconduct**

6. In 2021, Christine Bonhomme engaged Gradison Building Corporation ("GBC") as a general contractor for a total remodel and addition to the property located at 5235 North Washington Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana 46220.

7. GBC in turn subcontracted plumbing work for the property to Vanrod Plumbing.

8. Vanrod Plumbing is a domestic limited liability company registered with the Indiana Secretary of State.

9. Vanrod's president is Gregorio Rodriguez, who holds journeyman plumber license JP20801957 (Active).

10. However, because he lacks the requisite licensure, Rodriguez was unable to register a plumbing permit for the project with the Marion County government.

11. Rodriguez approached Respondent Hamm about securing the permit for him.

12. Respondent Hamm agreed to use Respondent Company's license and credentials to secure the Marion County plumbing permit for Rodriguez and Vanrod.

13. On or about April 12, 2021, Respondent Hamm falsely used Respondent Company's license and credentials to apply for a plumbing permit for Bonhomme's property, and the permit was assigned case number PLM21-00718.

14. On or about April 15, 2021, the permit was issued.

15. The permit features contact information for Respondent Company, along with the name of its then-owner, Richard Poynter, as well as Respondent Hamm's email address.

16. The permit also features the following description of the project: "All new drain waste and vent piping domestic water piping and fixtures."

17. However, neither Respondent Hamm nor anyone employed by Respondent Company ever performed any work on the project.

18. Instead, on information and belief, Vanrod and Rodriguez performed the rough-in portion of the work before abandoning the project.

19. Bonhomme eventually discovered significant defects with the plumbing work on the property.

20. Bonhomme secured a new general contractor in the summer of 2022, and she engaged licensed plumbing companies to evaluate the work in fall of 2022.

21. These companies recommended that she contact Respondent Company about the defects, as its information appeared on the plumbing permit.

22. After speaking with Respondent Hamm in November 2022, Bonhomme learned that Respondent Company had never performed any work on the property.

23. Respondent Hamm represented to Bonhomme that he could find no record of Respondent Company having subcontracted the project or of Respondent Company having any relation to the project.

24. Bonhomme investigated the permit herself and discovered that it had been issued to Respondent Company and featured Respondent Hamm's email address.

25. Concerned that fraud had taken place, Bonhomme eventually filed a consumer complaint against Respondents with OAG on December 2, 2022.

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### **CHARGES**

26. Paragraphs one (1) through twenty-five (25) are incorporated by reference.

#### **Count 1 Fraud or Material Deception**

27. Respondent Hamm's conduct constitutes a violation of Ind. Code § 25-1-11-5(a)(1)(B) in that he engaged in fraud or material deception in the course of professional services or activities. More specifically, Respondent Hamm violated Ind. Code § 25-1-11-5(a)(1)(B) by using Respondent Company's license and credentials to secure a Marion County plumbing permit for Vanrod and Rodriguez for Bonhomme's property at 5235 North Washington Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana 46220.

#### **Count 2 Failure to Keep Abreast**

28. Respondent Hamm's conduct constitutes a violation of Ind. Code § 25-1-11-5(a)(4)(B) in that he has continued to practice despite becoming unfit to practice due to failure to keep abreast of current professional practice or theory.

More specifically, Respondent Hamm's violation is evidenced by his failure to keep abreast of the current professional practice related to the filing of plumbing permits with political subdivisions.

**Count 3**  
**Connection with Unlicensed Practice**

29. Respondent Company's conduct constitutes a violation of Ind. Code § 25-1-11-5(a)(6) in that it allowed its name or license to be used in connection with an individual or business who rendered services beyond the scope of that individual's or business's training, experience, or competence. More specifically, Respondent Company violated Ind. Code § 25-1-11-5(a)(6) by allowing its name and license to be used to secure a Marion County plumbing permit for Vanrod and Rodriguez for Bonhomme's property at 5235 North Washington Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana 46220.

**RELIEF REQUESTED**

**ACCORDINGLY**, Petitioner respectfully requests that the Commission issue an Order against Respondents that:

- I. Imposes one or more of the disciplinary sanctions authorized by Ind. Code § 25-1-11-12;
- II. Directs Respondents to pay all of the costs incurred in the prosecution of this case, as authorized by Ind. Code § 25-1-11-18;

- III. Directs Respondents to pay a fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00) to be deposited into the Health Records and Personal Identifying Information Protection Trust Fund pursuant to Ind. Code § 4-6-14-10(b); and,
- IV. Provides any other relief the Commission deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE E. ROKITA  
Indiana Attorney General  
Attorney No. 18857-49

By:



Ian Mathew  
Deputy Attorney General  
Attorney No.: 36392-49

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a copy of this Administrative Complaint has been duly served  
upon the below-listed party or parties:

R&R Plumbing Company Inc.  
1840 Midwest Boulevard  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46214  
ron.hamm@rrplumbinginc.com  
**By U.S. Mail and Email**

Ronald W. Hamm  
9453 North Evans Road  
Monrovia, Indiana 46157  
ron.hamm@rrplumbinginc.com  
**By U.S. Mail and Email**



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Ian Mathew  
Deputy Attorney General  
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