



**NEVADA STATE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE, INTERIOR DESIGN & RESIDENTIAL DESIGN**

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**NOTICE REGARDING INTERIOR DESIGN FIRMS  
PRACTICING IN NEVADA**

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The Nevada State Board of Architecture, Interior Design & Residential Design (Board) is charged with protecting the health, safety and welfare of the public and in doing so, is interested in educating business owners who may unknowingly be violating the law by providing services that fall under the practice of registered interior design.

In Nevada, there are three types of interior designers. The first type most commonly uses the title of "interior designer" and may only provide Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment services for residential projects in Nevada, unless they are working under the "responsible control" of an architect or registered interior designer. These interior designers are usually not required to obtain any type of formal education and are not regulated by this Board.

The second type of interior designer in Nevada is commonly referred to as a "certified interior designer" and they are allowed to provide approved interior materials and furnishings used in interior design for residential or commercial projects to the extent authorized by the certificate. For more information relating to this certificate of registration and license, you should contact the Nevada State Fire Marshal's office.

The third type of interior designer is called a "registered interior designer" and they are allowed to provide the services listed under NRS 623.0225 for residential and commercial projects, including the preparation and stamping of plans and submittal to building departments. Registered interior designers are regulated by the Nevada State Board of Architecture, Interior Design & Residential Design and must meet strict requirements which include a FIDER accredited degree and NCIDQ certification.

The following definition is being provided to give owners of interior design firms a clear understanding of the practice of registered interior design:

***NRS 623.0225 "Practice as a registered interior designer" defined.***

*"Practice as a registered interior designer means the rendering, by a person registered pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 623.180, of services to enhance the quality and function of an interior area of a structure designed for human habitation or occupancy. The term includes:*

1. *An analysis of:*
  - (a) *A client's needs and goals for an interior area of a structure designed for human habitation or occupancy; and*
  - (b) *The requirements for safety relating to that area;*

2. *The formulation of preliminary designs for an interior area designed for human habitation or occupancy that are appropriate, functional and esthetic;*
3. *The development and presentation of final designs that are appropriate for the alteration or construction of an interior area of a structure designed for human habitation or occupancy;*
4. *The preparation of contract documents for the alteration or construction of an interior area of a structure designed for human habitation or occupancy, including specifications for partitions, materials, finishers, furniture, fixtures and equipment;*
5. *The collaboration in the completion of a project for the alteration or construction of an interior area of a structure designed for human habitation or occupancy with professional engineers or architects who are registered pursuant to the provisions of Title 54 of NRS;*
6. *The preparation and administration of bids or contracts as the agent of a client; and*
7. *The review and evaluation of problems relating to the design of a project for the alteration or construction of an area designed for human habitation or occupancy during the alteration or construction and upon completion of the alteration or construction.*

**NRS 623.330(1)(g) Exemptions; civil and criminal liability.** states in part;

The following persons are exempt from the provisions of Chapter 623.

Any person who prepares drawings of the layout of materials or furnishings used in interior design or provides assistance in the selection of materials or furnishings used in interior design, **if the preparation or implementation of those drawings or the installation of those materials or furnishings is not regulated by any building code or other law, ordinance, rule or regulation governing the alteration or construction of a structure.**

If your interior design firm is providing services that fall under NRS 623.0225, for projects in Nevada, and you are not registered through this Board, you may be in violation of NRS 623.360 and disciplined by this Board. The applicable statutes follow:

***NRS 623.360 Prohibited acts; penalties; injunctive relief.***

*1. It is unlawful for any person to:*

***NRS 623.360.1(a)*** *Hold himself out to the public or solicit business as an architect, registered interior designer or residential designer in this state without having a certificate of registration or temporary certificate issued by the Board.*

***NRS 623.360.1(b)*** *Advertise, put out any sign, card or other device which indicates to the public that he is an architect, registered interior designer or residential designer or that he is otherwise qualified to:*

*(1) Engage in the practice of architecture or residential design; or*

*(2) Practice as a registered interior designer,*

*without having a certificate of registration issued by the Board.*

***NRS 623.360.1(c)*** *Engage in the practice of architecture or residential design or practice as a registered interior designer without a certificate of registration issued by the Board.*

**Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 623.365 states that in addition to any other civil penalty provided by law, a person who violates any provision of NRS 623 or any regulation adopted by the board is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 for each violation.**

In order for an individual or firm to provide the services listed under NRS 623.0225 for a project in Nevada, the individual must be registered with this Board or working under the "responsible control" of a Nevada registered architect or registered interior designer. This means interior designers may not sub-contract with general contractors and provide registered interior design services without being in violation of state law.

This Board is interested in providing education and assistance to preclude these type of violations from happening. If you have any questions regarding whether the interior design services you are providing are regulated by this agency, please contact our office for further clarification.

If your business is interested in providing registered interior design services in Nevada, you should contact the Administrative Division of the Nevada State Board of Architecture, Interior Design and Residential Design, regarding the qualifications required to obtain a certificate of registration as a registered interior designer in the state of Nevada.

This information is being provided to interior design firms to assure compliance with Chapter 623 of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

Sincerely,

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE,  
INTERIOR DESIGN & RESIDENTIAL DESIGN

Greg Erny, Chairman