



Oregon Construction Contractors Board
700 Summer St. NE, Suite 300
Salem, Oregon 97309

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Berri Leslie, 503-934-2184

Contractor board finds new administrator at architect agency

Salem – James Denno, the top executive at the state Board of Architect Examiners, will become the Oregon Construction Contractors Board (CCB) administrator on Aug. 11.

The contractor board selected Denno this week after receiving input from staff and stakeholder groups. Denno replaces Craig Smith, who served as the agency's top executive for 13 years before retiring in February. Berri Leslie, deputy administrator of the Oregon Insurance Division, served for six months after Smith left.

Denno has experience in local and state government working in housing, building codes, building energy conservation, and professional licensing regulation. He has served as the administrator of the State Board of Architect Examiners for nearly three years.

At the CCB, Denno will lead an agency that regulates more than 34,000 licensed construction contractors with about 60 employees and a \$15.1 million 2013-15 budget. His annual salary is \$101,400.

"I will miss the outstanding team at the Architect Board, but I have been very impressed by the CCB staff and board members," Denno said. "They are energized about the future of the CCB and I am excited to be joining them. It is an honor to be chosen to lead their team."

The CCB protects consumers by preventing and resolving construction contracting problems. In addition to licensing contractors and investigating complaints against licensees, the agency educates the public about how to avoid problems on construction projects and mediates disputes between homeowners and licensed contractors.

"In a field of strong candidates, Jim Denno stood out," Board Chair Rob Yorke said. "He has the people skills, regulatory acumen and innovative thinking to propel the agency forward.

"I have every expectation that he will advance the positive momentum started at the agency by Interim Director Berri Leslie," Yorke added. "In his prior roles, Jim has done much for the citizens of Oregon. There will be more to come as he leads the CCB."

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About the CCB

The CCB is the state agency licensing 34,000 contractors. Anyone who is paid to repair, improve or build a home must be licensed. Learn more about how to have a successful project at www.oregon.gov/ccb.