



**BUILDING CODE MANUAL
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
BUILDING AND SAFETY DIVISION
Based on the 2008 LACBC**

**J104.2.3
Article 1
08-06-09
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SIGNATURES OF DESIGNERS ON ENGINEERED GRADING PLANS

Engineered grading plans must be signed and stamped by the Design Engineer (the civil engineer responsible for the preparation of the grading plans) Soils engineers, geotechnical engineers and structural engineers are also civil engineers (with further authority) and may also sign engineered grading plans as the Design Engineer No other professional, such as an architect or landscape architect, may sign engineered grading plans in lieu of a civil engineer

Background Authority: The California Codes provide specific descriptions as to who can and who cannot perform grading design work.

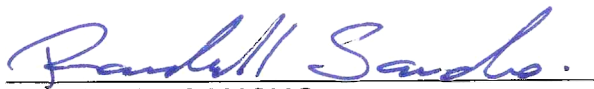
- 1 Section 5500 1 of the Business and Professions Code defines the practice of architecture as performing services in the planning of sites, in the design (in whole or in part) of buildings, or groups of buildings and structures. This permits the architect to submit a site layout plan as part of the design of a building or group of buildings and structures This Section does not allow the practice of drainage, hydrology, hydraulic engineering or geotechnical engineering
- 2 Sections 6731 and 6731 1 of the Business and Professions Code defines the practice of civil engineering as performing services or making studies in connection with fixed works for drainage, flood control, grading and the determination of the configuration or contours of the earth's surface or the position of fixed objects thereon (among other activities not enumerated herein)

Exception:

Grading plans for Regular Grading as defined by parameters in BCM J104.2 "Grading Designation and Requirements" may be accepted without the signature of a civil engineer

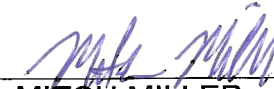
Therefore, an architect can prepare grading plans that are designated as Regular Grading which does not require a design that is reserved exclusively for a civil engineer This limits the authority of the architect to establishing location of buildings and structures, establishing contours for the proposed grading, and calculating earthwork volumes.

WRITTEN BY



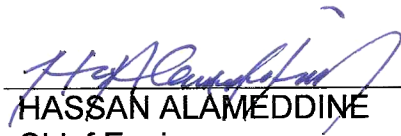
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Supersedes BCM 7005.2 Article 1 dated 04-24-01