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DATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Business and Occupational Licensing Bureau Changes

(Helena) --- The Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Business Standards Division today announced Business and Occupational Licensing Bureau (BOLB) changes as a result of the 2007 Legislative Session.

According to BOLB Bureau Chief Pete Gardzina, effective July 1:

 The Montana Board of Landscape Architects merged with the Board of Architects and now consists of a six member board including three licensed architects, two licensed landscape architects and one public member.

"This cooperative effort allows Landscape Architects to continue operating as licensed professionals," said Gardzina.

Additionally effective July 1:

- o The Montana Athlete Agent Program was repealed due to the fact that the program accounts for a total of four licensed athlete agents since its 2003 legislative inception.
- The Board of Athletics is no longer a board due to the limited number of combative sporting events in Montana and the need to regulate such activities.
 The board now operates as the Montana Athletic Program.
- The Montana Board of Private Security has taken over regulation of Process Servers.
 - o Effective October 1, 2007 the board will no longer be licensing qualifying agents. However, it will be licensing two new license types: Fire Investigators and Branch Offices.