

The Future of Surveying in Louisiana

January 10 - 19, 2024

Total Membership: 422

Total Survey Responses: 152

QUESTION	TOTAL	%
1. As a licensed surveyor, what do you believe is the biggest threat to the future of surveying in Louisiana?		
Response		
A. Decreased need of boundary surveys due to other “professions” providing that information (i.e., tax assessors, drone pilots, etc.)	47	30.92%
B. Cost of equipment and “current technology”	4	2.63%
C. Inability to hire and keep competent personnel	52	34.21%
D. Number of surveyors to perform the number of surveys (i.e., supply and demand)	29	19.08%
E. Internal competition driving the professional fees to unreasonably low numbers	15	9.87%
F. None of the above	5	3.29%

2. Would you support a rule change that would require Louisiana licensees to place an identifying cap of some type on all set monumentation?		
Response		
Yes	75	49.34%
No	45	29.61%
C. I need more specific information on what would be required to make my decision	24	15.79%
D. I have no preference, either way	8	5.26%

QUESTION	TOTAL	%
3. If you would not support a rule change requiring licensees to place caps on all set monumentation, what would be a reason or reason you would not? (check all that apply)		
Response		
A. It is unnecessary and provides no benefit or value to the client or the profession, and does nothing to protect public safety.	36	23.68%
B. It would require additional time and expense that would have to be absorbed by the surveyor	15	9.87%
C. There would be no reasonable way to enforce it	17	11.18%
D. It would increase the fees surveyors charge their clients	3	1.97%
E. I answered YES to number 2	70	46.05%
F. None of the above	11	7.24%

4. What is your opinion regarding the number of surveyors currently licensed in Louisiana (including out-of-state licensees who do not have a physical office in Louisiana)?		
Response		
A. There are more surveyors than there is surveying work	13	8.55%
B. There should be more licensed surveyors as there is a shortage of them given both the current surveying work that needs to be done and the likely amount of future surveying work	62	40.79%
C. The number of surveyors is declining and the amount of surveying work needing done is declining	24	15.79%
D. Due to the new equipment and same datum used by many surveyors to not have to tie back into older surveys, there is an adequate number of surveyors	31	20.39%
E. None of the above	22	14.47%

5. What is your opinion about non-residents, licensed in another state, or states, who apply for PLS licensure in Louisiana?		
Response		
No opinion	2	0.99%
A. If an applicant is currently licensed and in good standing with another state, that applicant should be granted a Louisiana PLS license	14	6.93%
B. There should be a national requirement and all states should have the same requirements, thus guaranteeing reciprocity just as PE licensure	18	8.91%
C. Louisiana's licensure requirements should remain independent and specific given Louisiana's Napoleonic Code of Law and other differences that make surveying in Louisiana unique from all other	126	62.38%
D. LSPS and LAPELS need to create a specific education requirement that all non-resident applicants must meet	41	20.30%
F. None of the above	1	0.50%

QUESTION	TOTAL	%
6. What would you estimate is the percentage of the local LSPS district meetings you attended in the past 3 years?		
Response		
A. Less than 25%	79	51.97%
B. 25-50%	24	15.79%
C. 50-75%	23	15.13%
D. More than 75%	24	15.79%
E. None of the above	2	1.32%

7. What is the reason – or reasons – you do not attend a higher percentage of your local district meetings?		
Response		
A. The day of the week is not convenient for me	24	15.79%
B. The speakers are not of interest to me	3	1.97%
C. There is no specific agenda	15	9.87%
D. The time of day is not convenient for me	23	15.13%
E. I do not attend only when I am out-of-town	33	21.71%
F. I attend only if the presenter is of interest to me	9	5.92%
G. I attend when I like the meeting venue or the food	2	1.32%
H. None of the above	43	28.29%

8. Should a standards of practice revision require surveyors to monument the physical Point of Commencement for a survey performed for a client when a Map of Survey or Description is furnished to that client?		
Response		
A. Yes	38	25.00%
B. No	83	54.61%
C. I have no preference	26	17.11%
D. I have no opinion	3	1.97%
E. None of the above	2	1.32%

QUESTION	TOTAL	%
9. When providing descriptions, current standards of practice require surveyors to include the following: "A statement at the end of the description shall connect the description to the specific survey on which it is based and to the plat or map which depicts the survey. Such a statement may be phrased as: 'The description is based on the property boundary survey and plat or map made by ____ (name) ____, PLS, dated ____ ' OR 'This description is based on plat or map recorded ____ (give recordation data) ____. ' " Attorneys writing or providing descriptions are not required to provide the origin of descriptions. Would you support a rule change requiring attorneys to state, in the wording of the descriptions they furnish, the origin of legal descriptions?		
Response		
A. Yes. It would further protect the public by reducing ambiguous descriptions, gaps and overlaps, etc.	129	84.87%
B. No. That rule change would not help reduce the issues surveyors currently face with regards to retracing descriptions written by attorneys.	11	7.24%
C. I have no opinion.	4	2.63%
D. I do not have a preference.	6	3.95%
E. None of the above	2	1.32%

10. Would you support a standards of practice revision that would delete "and plat or map" wording in the requirements of property descriptions as shown in this current minimum standards excerpt? "This description is based on the property boundary survey and plat or map made by __ (name) __, PLS, dated ____."		
Response		
A. Yes	59	38.82%
B. No	84	55.26%
C. None of the above	9	5.92%

11. Should a standards of practice revision require surveyors provide State Plane Coordinates on at least one point on every map or plat?		
Response		
A. Yes	59	38.82%
B. No	69	45.39%
C. I have no opinion	5	3.29%
D. I have no preference	17	11.18%
E. None of the above	2	1.32%

QUESTION	TOTAL	%
12. Would you support a continuing education change that would require licensees over the age of 68, and who have 25 or more consecutive years of PLS licensure, to successfully complete one hour of Standards of Practice each calendar year for licensure renewal. Licensees meeting this criteria would be exempt from all other CPD requirements.		
Response		
A. Yes	95	62.50%
B. No	45	29.61%
C. I have no opinion	9	5.92%
C. I have no preference	2	1.32%
E. None of the above	1	0.66%

13. How many LSPS annual conventions have you attended in the last 5 years?		
Response		
A. All 5 (including the 2020 online classes)	57	37.50%
B. 3 or more	43	28.29%
C. 3 or less	31	20.39%
D. None	21	13.82%

14. What is the main reason you may not have attended a conferences in the past?		
Response		
A. The locations are too far from my home/office	53	25.00%
B. The venue where they are held is not appealing	20	9.43%
C. The registration fee is too high	11	5.19%
D. The total cost to attend is not worth the value of what I get out of attending	19	8.96%
E. I am not interested in networking with other surveyors	2	0.94%
F. I used to attend to get all my PDH's at the annual conference, but since I can now do that online, it's easier and cheaper to get my PDH's that way instead of traveling to the convention	27	12.74%
G. The keynote speakers and presenters are not unique and appealing, and thus I'm not enticed to attend	19	8.96%
H. There are some surveyors and presenters that I just do not care to see or hear speak/present	14	6.60%
I. None of the above	47	22.17%

QUESTION	TOTAL	%
15. What are some things that would increase the likelihood you would attend more, future conventions? (select one or two)		
Response		
F. Presentations by experts who are not the typical – or previous – speakers or presenters at the conference (i.e., Dennis Mouland with the BLM, etc.)	6	1.83%
certificate changes while another room will have a concurrent session on minimum standards for an adjoining state, etc.)	15	4.59%
A. Unique speakers covering topics not usually discussed in district meetings	76	23.24%
B. In-depth updates on advances in technology	37	11.31%
C. More exhibitors offering products, information and services	11	3.36%
certificate changes while another room will have a concurrent session on standards of practice for an adjoining state, etc.)	30	9.17%
E. More presentations on business topics such as accounting, business tax laws, etc.	39	11.93%
F. Presentations by experts who are not the typical – or previous – speakers or presenters at the conference	66	20.18%
G. Better venues, both the actual hotel and the city	30	9.17%
H. None of the above	17	5.20%

16. If the content, depth, quality of the presenters and location of the annual conference was significantly improved, would you be more or less likely to attend future conferences?		
Response		
A. Much more	36	23.68%
B. Probably more	49	32.24%
C. About the same	57	37.50%
E. It would depend on the improvements; I would need to see them to decide	7	4.61%
F. None of the above	3	1.97%

QUESTION	TOTAL	%
17. If the quality and depth of the annual conferences were increased significantly, and changes were made, just for example, to entice more exhibitors – such as not charging them for booth space in an exhibitor hall, would you support an increase in the registration fee?		
Response		
A. Yes, definitely if the quality and improvements were there	19	12.50%
B. Yes, I probably would	24	15.79%
C. No, it's pretty pricey already	51	33.55%
D. It would likely not make much difference to me	34	22.37%
E. It would always depend on where the conference is held each year as that's a big determining factor to me	10	6.58%
F. I'm satisfied	11	7.24%
G. None of the above	3	1.97%