STATE OF INDIANA)

COUNTY OF LAKE

Maish & Mysliwy 7 By 685 5 RY8 Holman Hm 46320

POWERS AND SONS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INCORPORATED,

Plaintiff.

v.

CROWN CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION, INC.,

Defendant.

IN THE LAKE SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL DIVISION, ROOM NO. ONE SITTING AT HAMMOND, INDIANA CONTINUOUS TERM

CAUSE NO. 45D01-9212-CP-1556

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PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT

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This matter comes before the court for hearing on Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment. Plaintiff Powers and Sons
Construction Company, Incorporated (hereinafter "Powers") appears
by counsel Stephen M. Maish. Defendant Crown Concrete
Construction, Inc. (hereinafter "Crown") fails to appear. The
Court also finds that Crown the failed to file any response to
Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment and the affidavit
submitted in support thereof. Having considered Plaintiff's
Motion for Summary Judgment and the documents submitted in support
thereof and having held a hearing on said Motion, the Court now
grants said Motion and enters a final partial summary judgment as
to Counts II, III, and IV of Plaintiff's Complaint.

IT IS THERFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that:

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CLERK LAKE SUPERIOR COURT

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- 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this case and the parties hereto.
- 2. The project at issue in this action is the Indiana Vocational Technical College, Business, Science & Administration Building erected at 35th & Martin Luther King in Gary, Lake County, Indiana (hereinafter "Project"). The Court hereby finds and declares that said Project is a "public" project within the meaning of relevant Indiana statutes and case law. The Court also finds and declares that the Project is a "public building" and/or "public work" and/or "public Vement" within the meaning of Indiana Code Section Classes FFICIAL.
- 3. Crown Is not entitled to a lien against the real estate upon which the Project is located and/or the improvements thereon because under Indiana law mechanic's liens cannot attach to public real estate and improvements thereon. See, e.g., Repp and Mundt, Inc. v. Hitzelberger Supply Co., Inc. (1976), 170 Ind. App. 539, 353 N.E. 2d 547, transfer denieds
- 4. Crown is also not intitled to a lien against the real estate upon which the Project is located and/or the improvements thereon because it did not fire action to foreclose its lien within one (1) year from the date of the filing of its Sworn. Statement of Intention to Hold Lien as required by Indiana Code Section 32-8-7-1.
- 5. The Court now finds and declares that the Sworn Statement of Intention to Hold Lien that Crown recorded on March 22, 1991 with the Office of the Recorder of Lake County, Indiana as

Document No. 91013151 is null and void, invalid, and of no force and effect.

- 6. Crown is not entitled to assert any claims under Indiana Code Section 32-8-3-9 because such section does not apply to public projects. See, e.g., Jeffries v. Myers (1894), 9 Ind. App. 563, 37 N.E. 301.
- 7. Crown is also not entitled to any mechanic's lien rights under Indiana Code Section 32-8-3-9 because it did not file any action to foreclose its lien within one (1) year from the date that its "alleged" debt was due as required by Indiana Code Section 32-8-7-1. NOT OFFICIAL!
- 8. The Court now finds and declares that the letter dated the Lake County Recorder!

 September 11, 1992 sent by Robert E. Stochel, Attorney for Crown, to John Hancock, Indiana Vocational Technical College, which letter asserted a lien in funds pursuant to Indiana Code Section 32-8-3-9, is null and void, invalid, and of no force and effect.
- 9. Crown did not file a "claim within sixty (60) days from the last labor performed, last material furnished, or last service rendered by them" with the Trustees of the Indiana Vocational Technical College as required by Indiana Code Section 5-16-5-1 in order to assert a lien in funds owed to Powers.
- 10. Since Crown did not file a timely claim in accordance with Indiana Code Section 5-16-5-1, it has no lien in or claims against any funds owed by the Trustees of the Indiana Vocational Technical College to Powers. <u>See</u>, e.g., <u>MacDonald v. Calumet Supply Co.</u> (1939), 215 Ind. 536, 19 N.E.2d 567, <u>rehearing denied</u>, 215 Ind. 536, 21 N.E.2d 400.

The Court now finds and declares that Crown has no lien in or claims against any funds owed by the Trustees of the Indiana Vocational Technical College to Powers. The Court now finds and declares that there is no basis 12. in law or in fact for the Trustees of the Indiana Vocational Technical College to withhold any payments to Powers because of the lien claims or notices filed, recorded, and/or served by To the extent that payments to Powers are being withheld because of said lien claims or notices of Crown; said payments should be immediately released to Casto Savoid further damages. Any damage Claims of Powers that relate to the payments withheld by the This Pecupieth is the property of all Technical the Lake County Recorder! College because of the lien claims or notices of Crown are not

- being determined or resolved by this Order and all such claims shall remain pending. The Court will set a hearing on said claims upon request of any party to this action.
- 14. The claims of Powers set forth in Count I of the Complaint are not being determined or resolved by this Order and all such claims shall remain pending. The Court will set a hearing on said claims upon request of any party to this action.
- 15. There is no just reason for delay and thus, this Order is a FINAL JUDGMENT as to all matters and issues resolved by this Order. Any appeal from this Order shall be taken in the same manner as appeals from final judgments are taken.
- 16. The Clerk of this Court is ordered to serve a copy of this Order by mail upon the attorneys of record in accordance with Indiana Trial Rule 72(D).

IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED on this 17th day of March, 1993.

Judge, Lake Superior Court Civil Division, Room No. One



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The order of court entered of record in Cause
Number Of -156 Number Cp1-1556 on March 17 19 95

Witness my hand and the seal of sate court

day of March 19 93 Clerk Lake Superior Court

By The Oso Hellens