

THE BORA QUARTERLY

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

WELCOME BACK

We hope that your summer went well. During the upcoming quarter, the Board of Rules and Appeals will offer more continuing education opportunities to help you reach the continuing education requirement for the upcoming 2024-2025 recertification cycle.

Connect with our agency to stay informed.



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BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

1 N. University Drive, Suite 3500B, Plantation, FL 33324
Phone: 954-765-4500 • Fax: 954-765-4504

BROWARD BORA STAFF DIRECTORY

Administrative Director
Ana Barbosa, DBA x9692

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Administrative Specialist
Ruth Boselli x9689

Administrative Specialist
Brianna Curry x9685

Administrative Specialist
Jonda Joseph x9691

Administrative Specialist
Maria "Pat" Kong x9683

Operations Manager
Natasha Strong x9690

CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICERS

Chief Electrical Code Compliance Officer
Kenneth Castronovo x9688

Chief Energy Code Compliance Officer
Timothy de Carion x9682

Chief Fire Code Compliance Officer
Bryan Parks x9684

Chief Mechanical Code Compliance Officer
Rolando Soto, P.E. x9693

Chief Plumbing Code Compliance Officer
Jose Cruz-Vellon x9694

Chief Structural Code Compliance Officer
Michael Guerasio x9686


Chief Structural Code Compliance Officer
John "Jack" Morell x9687

STAY INFORMED

The BORA Quarterly was introduced in June 2018 as a way for our agency to keep members of the public informed about what our agency is doing to contribute to positive and effective change throughout Broward County.

Subscribe to The BORA Quarterly and stay informed!

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE

 @BrowardBORA

AGENDAS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE

Both the **Board Meeting Agendas** and **Committee Meeting Agendas** are available on the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals website.

BROWARD COUNTY AMENDMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE

Amendments to the **Florida Building Code** and the **Florida Fire Prevention Code** are available on MuniCode.

INTERESTED IN EARNING MORE CONTACT HOURS?

- 28 hours of training are required during the 2-year building certification cycle.
- 60 hours of training are required during the 4-year fire certification cycle.
- By attending Broward BORA's board meetings and/or committee meetings, 1 hour of the required credit will be earned.
- By attending professional association meetings approved by the BORA Staff (i.e. FAPGMI, IAEL, COEA), ½ hour of the required credit will be earned for each meeting attended.

A maximum of 14 total contact hours through board and/or committee meetings can be earned per certification cycle.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

FBC Accessibility Course - Session #2
 12:00 PM - 4:30 PM
 Tree Tops Park
 3900 SW 100th Avenue
 Davie, FL 33328

OCTOBER 18, 2023

BORA Open Discussion Meeting
 9:00 AM
 Meeting Information → [Sunshine Advertisement](#)

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

Electrical Seminars:
NEC Articles 500-5016 Hazardous Locations
NEC Articles 408 Switchboard & Panelboards
 1:00 PM
 Course Information → [Electrical Seminars](#)

NOVEMBER 15, 2023

Electrical Seminar: Energy Storage Systems
Alternative Energy Sources
 1:00 PM
 Course Information → [Electrical Seminars](#)

OCTOBER 12, 2023

Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals Board Meeting
 7:00 PM
 Meeting Information → [Board Meeting Agenda](#)

NOVEMBER 17, 2023

Broward County Fire Inspector Exam
 9:00 AM
 Registration → [Application](#)
 Additional Information → [Open Book Guide](#)



BUILDING CODE JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visit broward.org/CodeAppeals for the complete list of County and Municipal job postings.

CORAL SPRINGS

- Structural Inspector I

MARGATE

- Electrical Plans Examiner/ Inspector (Part-Time)

MIRAMAR

- Building Inspector – Structural
- Chief Code Compliance Officer
- Plumber

PLANTATION

- Inspector I – Electrical
- Inspector I – Structural

If your municipality would like our agency to post a job announcement on our website, please send an email to rulesboard@broward.org.



FLORIDA FIRE PREVENTION CODE AMENDMENTS

At a public hearing in **August**, the Board approved **Amendments** to the following:

Florida Fire Prevention Code, Section F-103.3.7

After receiving recommendations from the **Fire Code Committee**, the Board approved revisions to the Florida Fire Prevention Code, Section F-103.3.7, Assistant Fire Marshal.

The Fire Chief Association of Broward County believes the revisions would allow individuals who might be qualified to be Fire Marshals within a fire prevention bureau to have experience in assisting in managing the bureau while the Fire Marshal is away or needs assistance in everyday activities.

The new code section sets up the requirements for becoming an assistant fire marshal if appointed by the Fire Chief. This code section aligns fire with what is currently being done in the building departments, where Assistant Building Officials are in place.

BORA COMMERCIAL ENERGY GUIDELINES (PERFORMANCE OPTION)

After receiving recommendations from the **Energy Conservation Committee**, the Board **approved** the **BORA Commercial Energy Guidelines (Performance Option)** of the 7th Edition (2020) Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation.

These guidelines serve as a tool for Building Officials to adopt as part of their plan review and inspection processes as an aid to assign duties and assure compliance.

The Florida Building Code Energy Conservation administrative chapters do not designate which discipline-specific code official will review energy compliance reports and building plans and inspect specific items in the Energy Conservation Code.



2023 BUILDING SAFETY INSPECTION PROGRAM FOLLOW-UP

During the summer months, municipal building departments throughout Broward County began sending notifications to property owners whose buildings are subject to the [Building Safety Inspection Program](#), initiating the process of having the property inspection completed by a Florida-licensed professional. Please be advised that the Building Safety Inspection Program does not require the building to be brought up to the current code.

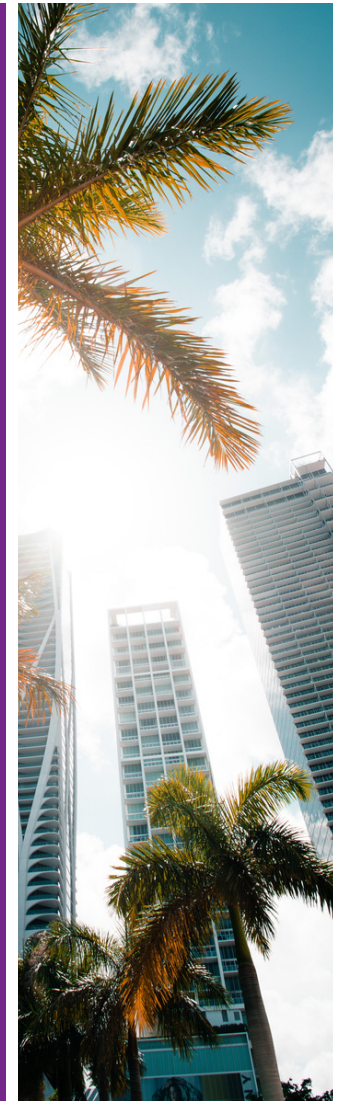
- 7th Edition Florida Building Code (2020), Chapter 1 – [Section 110.15](#)
- Building Safety Inspection Program
 - [BORA Policy 05-05](#)
 - [Electrical](#) – Policy #05-05
 - [Structural](#) – Policy #05-05

If you do not receive a notification and your property is 25 years or older, don't hesitate to get in touch with the building department in the municipality where your property is located. You will still be held accountable for completing the inspection whether the municipality contacts you or not.

For Structural questions, contact [Jack Morell](#) or [Michael Guerasio](#). For Electrical questions, contact [Kenneth Castronovo](#). For previous inspection records, please contact the [municipality](#) where your property is located.

The following buildings or structures are exempt from this program:

- U.S. Government buildings
- State of Florida buildings
- Buildings built on Native American tribal lands
- School buildings under the jurisdiction of the Broward County School Board
- One- and two-family dwellings
- ***Fee Simple Townhouses*** as defined in the FBC
- ***Minor Structures*** are defined as buildings/structures in any occupancy group having a gross floor area of less than 3,500 sq. ft.



BSIP BROCHURE DISTRIBUTION

The latest edition of the BORA Building Safety Inspection Program (BSIP) [brochure](#) is currently being distributed to the building departments throughout Broward County. If your department would like to request additional copies, please contact [Brianna Curry](#).



BORA RECERTIFICATION CYCLE (2024-2025)

The application process for the 2024-2025 Building Recertification Cycle is underway. Be sure to submit your recertification packet by Tuesday, December 5, 2023, to the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals office (1 N. University Drive, Suite 3500B, Plantation, FL 33324).

The **Recertification Forms** can be found on the Broward BORA website. All Building Officials, Assistant Building Officials, Chief Inspectors, Plans Examiners, and Inspectors who are presently certified by BORA must complete this process.

Please remember the following important notes for the recertification process:

- Complete and return all forms to the BORA office by December 5, 2023.
- Attach the Continuing Education Affidavit signed by the applicant.
- 28 educational contact hours must have been completed by December.
 - Note: At least ½ of this requirement must be discipline-specific courses.
- Please include the notarized Affidavit, the Board of Rules and Appeals Policy #14-02.
- Your new 2024-2025 recertification cards will be valid through December 31, 2025.

For more information about the recertification process or the 2024-2025 recertification cycle, please contact **Jonda Joseph** or the **BORA Chief Code Compliance Officers**.

BROWARD BORA OPEN DISCUSSION MEETING

The next **Broward BORA Open Discussion Meeting** is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18, 2023, via Zoom.

The open discussion meeting is held for you to be able to discuss any building or fire code topic, submit any written questions in advance, or provide comments/ideas that may come to mind. No votes will be taken during this meeting.

To submit a question, comment, or idea before the meeting, please email **rulesboard@broward.org**.



BROWARD BORA BOOK LOAN PROGRAM UPDATES

The Broward BORA Book Loan Program is available to municipal code officials. There are books available for studying for the following state license exams:

- Commercial Building Inspector
- Commercial Electrical Inspector
- Commercial Mechanical Inspector
- Commercial Plumbing Inspector
- Florida Roofing Inspector
- Building Plans Examiner
- Electrical Plans Examiner
- Mechanical Plans Examiner
- Plumbing Plans Examiner
- Building Code Administrator

Please follow the instructions below to acquire a book loan:

- Submit a completed [application](#), with the Building Official’s signature, by email to [Brianna Curry](#).
- The six-month loan period starts when the books are picked up from the Broward BORA office.
 - **Note:** Individuals can return borrowed books by the end of the six-month loan period or utilize the one-time 3-month extension.

Remember, the books are loaned to other code officials after they are returned. Please show consideration by not writing or highlighting in the books and returning materials on time.

For any questions or concerns you may have regarding the book loan program, please contact 954-765-4500 or rulesboard@broward.org.



NATASHA STRONG JOINS BROWARD BORA

The Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals welcomed Natasha Strong as the new Operations Manager. She joined the staff in August 2023 after serving as the Building Department Coordinator for the City of Coral Springs for nine years.

Natasha can be reached by email at nstrong@broward.org.

VOTING MEMBERS

Mr. Daniel Lavrich, P.E., S.I., F.ASCE, F.SEI – Chair
Structural Engineer

Mr. Gregg D’Attila – Vice Chair
Air Conditioning Contractor

Mr. Sergio Pellecer
Fire Service Professional

Mr. John Famularo
Roofing Contractor

Mrs. Shalanda Giles Nelson
General Contractor

Mr. Daniel Rourke
Master Plumber

Mr. Stephen E. Bailey, P.E.
Electrical Engineer

Ms. Lynn Wolfson
Representative Disabled Community

Mr. Ron Burr
Swimming Pool Contractor

Mr. John Sims
Master Electrician

Mr. Dennis A. Ulmer
Consumer Advocate

Mr. Abbas H. Zackria, CSI
Architect

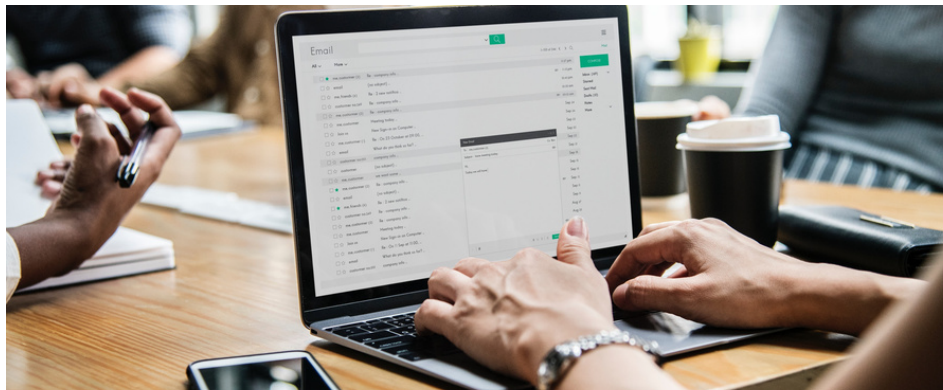
Mr. Robert A. Kamm, P.E.
Mechanical Engineer

VOTING MEMBERS

The Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals is made up of amazing people who volunteer their valuable time and service without compensation. Our Board members are appointed by the Broward County League of Cities and the Broward County Commission.

Visit our [website](#) for more information.

If you would like to contact a Board member, send an email to rulesboard@broward.org and leave your questions and/or comments. Your email will be forwarded to the appropriate board member.



Broward County Code of Ordinances, ARTICLE IX. - BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION, Section 9.02

“Building Code and the Board of Rules and Appeals” mandates that BORA members shall be appointed as follows:

- Seven (7) members and six (6) alternates shall be appointed by the Broward County League of Cities.
- Six (6) members and three (3) alternates shall be appointed by the County Commission.

ALTERNATE MEMBERS

Mr. Jeff Falkanger
Architect

Mr. Steven Feller, P.E.
Mechanical Engineer

Mr. Alberto Fernandez
General Contractor

Mr. Robert Taylor
Fire Service Professional

Mr. Derrick Wassink, P.E.
Structural Engineer

Mr. David Rice, P.E.
Electrical Engineer

Mr. James Terry
Master Plumber

Mr. David Tringo
Master Electrician

VACANT
Roofing Contractor