

# THE BORA QUARTERLY

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

## WELCOME BACK!

We hope that the first quarter of 2021 has been a productive one for your department!

Look for more continuing education opportunities in the upcoming quarter. Make sure that you stay connected with us 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


#### 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

 Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals

#### BORA 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.

#### Board Director

James DiPietro ..... x9892

#### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

##### Administrative Coordinator

Ruth Boselli ..... x9889

##### Administrative Specialist

Brianna Curry ..... x9885

##### Administrative Specialist

Jonda Joseph ..... x9891

##### Administrative Specialist

Maria "Pat" Kong ..... x9883

#### CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICERS

##### Chief Electrical Code Compliance Officer

Kenneth Castronovo ..... x9888

##### Chief Energy Code Compliance Officer

Timothy de Carion ..... x9853

##### Chief Fire Code Compliance Officer

Bryan Parks ..... x9884

##### Chief Mechanical Code Compliance Officer

Rolando Soto ..... x9893

##### Chief Plumbing Code Compliance Officer

Otto Vinas ..... x9894

##### Chief Structural Code Compliance Officer

Michael Guerasio ..... x9886

##### Chief Structural Code Compliance Officer

John "Jack" Morell ..... x9887

#### INTERESTED IN EARNING MORE CONTACT HOURS?

- 28 hours of training is required during the 2-year building certification cycle.
- 60 hours of training is 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. FGAMI, IAEI, 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.



#### BROWARD BORA STAFF DIRECTORY

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MARCH 11, 2021

What Code Authorities Need to Know:  
Transitioning from UL 60950 to UL 2524  
Certification for ERCES

1:00PM – 3:00PM

Zoom Meeting

Meeting Link → <https://zoom.us/j/93262831263>

### MARCH 11, 2021

Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals:  
Board Meeting

7:00PM

Zoom Meeting

Meeting Link →

<https://zoom.us/j/93394652638?pwd=M3d2cK0YeDVZMGxBcFlxc2ZvWE9Sdz09>

### APRIL 14, 2021

An Open Discussion with your Broward County  
Board of Rules and Appeals

2:00PM

Zoom Meeting

Meeting Link → TBA



## BUILDING CODE JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visit [broward.org/CodeAppeals](http://broward.org/CodeAppeals) for the full list of county and municipal job postings.

### CORAL SPRINGS

- Electrical Inspector I (Part-Time/Will-Call)
- Structural Inspector I (Part-Time/Will-Call)

### DAVIE

- Building Plans Examiner/Structural
- Structural Inspector

### OAKLAND PARK

- Asst. Building Official/Chief Inspector
- Chief Inspector – Electrical
- Chief Inspector – Plumbing
- Fire Inspector

### PLANTATION

- Chief Building Inspector/ABO
- Inspector I – Plumbing
- Inspector II – Structural

### POMPANO BEACH

- Building Field Inspector (Structural)
- Building Plans Examiner (Structural)
- Fire Inspector I

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



## 2021 BORA MEETING SCHEDULE

The Board of Rules and Appeals **2021 Meeting Schedule** has been published. The calendar will include voluntary cut-off dates and mandatory emergency appeals deadlines.

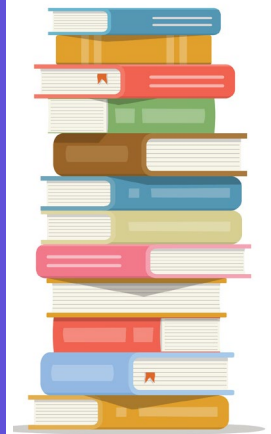
The voluntary cut-off date deadline is noon for all building code and fire code appeals and mandatory deadline for all other agenda items including certifications. The mandatory emergency appeals deadline is noon for all building code and fire code appeals.

To receive Board Meeting Agenda notifications, please send a **request**.

## 2020 CODE BOOK DISTRIBUTION FOR BROWARD COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

The Board of Rules and Appeals along with the Broward County Commission authorized funds to cover the purchase of a code books. The following code books were distributed to the building and fire departments throughout Broward County:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Edition (2020) Florida Building Code
- 2017 NEC Handbook
- 2020 ASHRAE Handbook
  - ASHRAE 90.1 (2016)
  - ASHRAE 188 (2018)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Edition (2020) Florida Fire Code



## EARN CEUs VIRTUALLY!

COVID-19 has challenged the ways that we can gather safely. Code officials are still expected to earn the required Continuing Education Units (CEUs) during the 2020-2021 code cycle. There are **virtual opportunities** available so that you don't have to fall behind in gaining CEUs.

For additional information, please contact a **Broward BORA CCCO**.

## ACH PAYMENTS AVAILABLE FOR BROWARD COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

The Board of Rules and Appeals is now accepting ACH (Automated Clearing House) Payments. This payment solution is voluntary. **We can only process one new ACH jurisdiction at a time.** To enroll in the electronic funds transfer, just send an email to Maria “Pat” Kong ([mkong@broward.org](mailto:mkong@broward.org)).

Be aware that payments processed through ACH are not immediate. The payments may take 2-4 days to process. Therefore, **to take advantage of the 3% discount you must submit your payment ahead of time before the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

During the past quarter, the following cities joined the ACH Payments Program:

- Broward County – Airport and Lazy Lakes
- Dania Beach
- Lauderdale
- Lighthouse Point
- Tamarac
- Weston

In order to report your online payment to BORA, you must send the following supporting documentation to [mkong@broward.org](mailto:mkong@broward.org) every month:

1. Copy of the electronic transaction reporting the total amount made to our account.
2. Remittance Advice form with the information about the month reported, showing the deduction of the 3% discount if submitting the electronic payment before the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.
3. Breakdown showing the minimum of \$2.00 charge if applicable.





## STATE OF EMERGENCY 20-52

Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52 on March 9, 2020 that declared a State of Emergency. That tolls all permits for the period time until the State of Emergency is over plus an additional six (6) months if a request is properly filed before expiration of the required time. An applicant may file for an extension within ninety (90) days **after** the expiration of the State of Emergency.

The initial Executive Order was extended through subsequent Orders until February 27, 2021 so to take advantage of the extension, permit holders must notify the issuing authority of their intent to do so in writing within 90 days **after** the termination of the emergency declaration (i.e., May 28, 2021).

**Any permit that expires between March 9th, 2020 and February 27, 2021 may be extended at no charge, when properly requested. This date range may change if the Governor further extends the state of emergency.**

Anyone requesting an extension for a permit must send it to the Building Official or his/ her designee, reference the full permit number and job site address, request the (up to) 180-day extension and specifically refer to Florida Statute 252.363 and the Executive Orders EO-20-52, EO-20-114, EO-20-166, EO-192, EO-20-213, EO-20-276 and EO 2020-316.

## 7<sup>TH</sup> EDITION FLORIDA FIRE PREVENTION CODE (FFPC)

The **7<sup>th</sup> Edition Florida Fire Prevention Code (FFPC)** is the base fire code document for the state and took effect on January 1, 2021.

In response to the state adopting of the new FFPC, a review of Broward County Local Fire Code Amendments was undertaken to assure compliance with Florida Statute 633 and the new 7<sup>th</sup> Edition Florida Fire Prevention Code.

On February 14, 2021, the Board of Rules and Appeals voted a new Broward County Local Fire Code which does not conflict with the new 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of the FFPC. The new Broward Local Fire Code took affect on February 22, 2021.



## ADVISORY OPINION REGARDING REQUIREMENTS FOR SIGNED AND SEALED DRAWINGS WHEN CONSTRUCTION COSTS EXCEED \$30,000.00.

A Legal Opinion from the Board Attorney, Charles M. Kramer, Esq. titled: "Advisory Opinion Regarding Requirements for Signed and Sealed Drawings When Construction Costs Exceed \$30,000.00." was drafted in January 2021.

### QUESTION:

Is a signed and sealed drawing from an Architect or Engineer required when construction costs exceed \$30,000.00 for one- and two-family residences, where the local rule (BCAP 107.3.4.0.3) appears to be in conflict with the general rule (Florida Statute § 481.229)?

### ANSWER:

A signed and sealed drawing from an Architect or Engineer is required when construction costs exceed \$30,000.00 for one- and two-family residences in Broward County.

To receive a copy of the complete **Advisory Opinion Regarding Requirements for Signed and Sealed Drawings When Construction Costs Exceed \$30,000.00.** document, please send a request to [bcurry@broward.org](mailto:bcurry@broward.org).



## GREATER FORT LAUDERDALE ALLIANCE – PLATINUM PERMITTING CITIES

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Platinum Permitting Program promotes a permit friendly process. The municipalities that are designated “Platinum Cities” are committed to the following main objectives of the Platinum Permitting Program:

- Adopt a streamlined permitting ordinance/resolution focused on permitting excellence.
- Provide a transparent online permit tracking system to follow the permit throughout the process.
- Designate a staff representative as a single point of contact (“The Concierge”) for those involved in the permitting process.

**Learn** more about the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Platinum Permitting Program  
**Download** the Platinum Permitting Concierge Contact Information



## JOHN “JACK” MORELL JOINS BROWARD BORA!

Mr. John “Jack” Morell joined the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals staff! He is our agency’s new Chief Structural Code Compliance Officer. He will help to ensure that that the code is being followed throughout Broward County.

Mr. Morell has been with us since December 2020 after years of serving as a Building Official in Lauderdale-by-the-Sea and Margate. He most recently served as a Plans Examiner/Inspector for the City of Oakland Park. He can be reached by phone at 954-931-1118 or by email at [jmorell@broward.org](mailto:jmorell@broward.org).



## PUBLIC HEARING – MARCH 2021 BORA BOARD MEETING

The Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 11, 2021. The following Public Hearing items will be discussed:

1. Proposed amendment to the FBC, 7th Edition, (2020) Building – Chapter I, Section 101.2.2 Definitions and new section 110.3.13 Virtual inspections
2. Proposed amendment to the FBC, 7th Edition, (2020) Building – Chapter I, Section 104.18 “Recertification of Building Departments and Building Code Inspection Enforcement Personnel”, subsection 104.18.1.3 to accept State of Florida approved online education courses as a form of compliance with the biennial continued educational requirements.
3. Board member recommended amendment to the FBC, 7th Edition, (2020) Building – Chapter I, to reduce the number of training hours required for inspectors due to the COVID-19, said reduction to automatically expire December 31, 2021.

During the public hearing guests are welcomed to speak for 3 minutes each. If you would like a copy of the ordinance, please send your request to [rulesboard@broward.org](mailto:rulesboard@broward.org). If you would like to be included in our agency’s agenda notification email group, please contact our office by phone 954-765-4500 or email your request to Ruth Boselli ([rboselli@broward.org](mailto:rboselli@broward.org)).

To attend the meeting, please see the information below:

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93394652638?pwd=M3d2ck0yeDVZMGxBcFlxc2ZvWE9Sdz09>

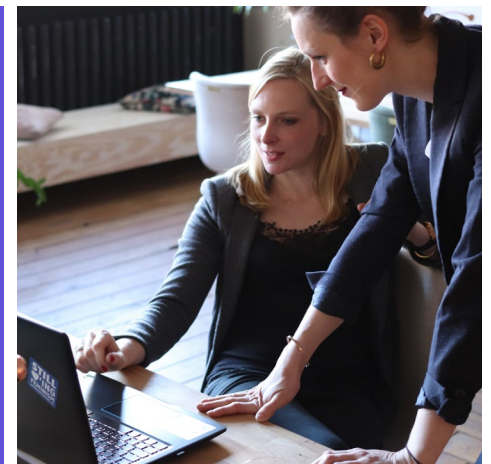
### Join Zoom Meeting by Phone

Phone: +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)  
Meeting ID: 933 9465 2638

## BROWARD BORA OPEN DISCUSSION MEETING

The Broward County of Rules and Appeals is planning the next “Open Discussion with your Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals” Zoom meeting on April 14, 2021 at 2:00 PM. This is an open discussion meeting for you to be able to discuss any building or fire code topic, and/or submit any written question 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 send an email to [rulesboard@broward.org](mailto:rulesboard@broward.org).



## VOTING MEMBERS

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

**Mr. Stephen E. Bailey, P.E. – Vice Chair**  
Electrical Engineer

**Mr. Sergio Pellecer**  
Fire Service Professional

**Mr. John Famularo**  
Roofing Contractor

**Mrs. Shalanda Giles Nelson**  
General Contractor

**Mr. Daniel Rourke**  
Master Plumber

**Mr. Gregg D’Attile**  
Mechanical Contractor

**VACANT**  
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

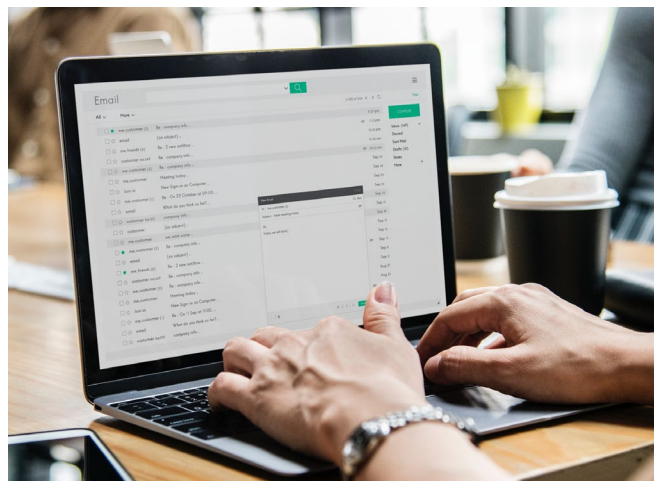
**Mr. Robert A. Kamm, P.E.**  
Mechanical Engineer

## MEET OUR BOARD MEMBERS

The Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals is made up of amazing people! 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](mailto:rulesboard@broward.org) and leave your questions and/or comments. Your email will be forwarded to the appropriate board member.



## ALTERNATE MEMBERS

**Mr. Jeff Falkanger**  
Architect

**Mr. Steven Feller, P.E.**  
Mechanical Engineer

**Mr. Alberto Fernandez**  
General Contractor

**Mr. Robert Taylor**  
Fire Service Professional

**VACANT**  
Structural Engineer

**Mr. David Rice, P.E.**  
Electrical Engineer

**Mr. James Terry**  
Master Plumber

**Mr. David Tringo**  
Master Electrician

**Mr. William Flett**  
Roofing Contractor

### 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.