

THE BORA QUARTERLY

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

HELLO EVERYONE!

We made it to the half-way mark of 2021! This quarter, Broward BORA will continue to provide continuing education opportunities to elevate your education and further your career. We hope that you benefit from what we have to offer and look forward to hearing from you throughout the summer.

Make sure that you stay connected with us to stay informed!



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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

BROWARD BORA STAFF DIRECTORY

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. 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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 2021

Code Officials Educational Association –
2021 South Florida Building Code Virtual
Educational Conference

Registration Form →

<https://www.broward.org/CodeAppeals/Pages/educationalSeminar.aspx>

JULY 13, 2021

2021 BORA Accessibility Training – Session 1-2
Virtual Continuing Education Courses

BORA Contact Hours Available

[Register Online](#)

JULY 28, 2021

2021 BORA Accessibility Training – Session 3-4
Virtual Continuing Education Courses

BORA Contact Hours Available

[Register Online](#)



BUILDING CODE JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visit broward.org/CodeAppeals for the full list of county and municipal job postings.

FORT LAUDERDALE

- Senior Building Inspector/Building Inspector

OAKLAND PARK

- Asst. Building Official/Chief Inspector
- Chief Inspector – Electrical
- Chief Inspector – Plumbing
- Fire Inspector
- Plans Examiner/Inspector (Structural)

POMPANO BEACH

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

TAMARAC

- Building Maintenance Technician
- Chief Electrical Inspector
- Electrical Inspector/Plans Examiner (Will-Call)
- Engineering Construction Inspector/Plans Examiner
- Utilities Service Worker I
- Wastewater Service Worker I

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

2021 BUILDING SAFETY INSPECTION PROGRAM

In the upcoming months, municipal building departments throughout Broward County will notify property owners whose buildings are subject to the Building Safety Inspection Program, beginning the process of having the property inspection completed by a licensed professional engineer or a registered architect. **Please be advised that the Building Safety Inspection Program does not require the building to be brought up to current code.**

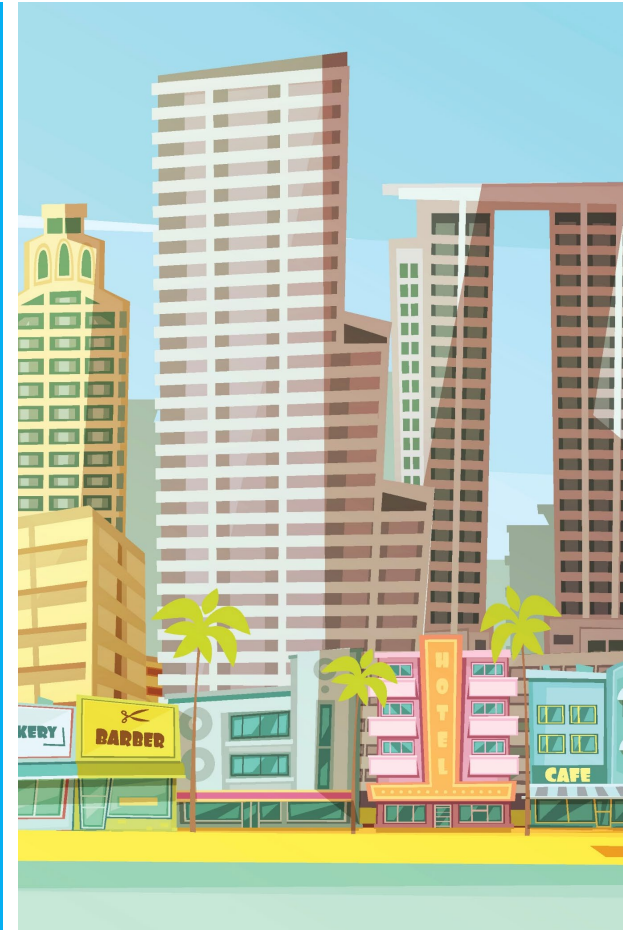
Building Safety Inspection Program – **Handout**

The following structures are included in the Building Safety Inspection Program:

- Buildings 3,500 square feet or more, built in 1981 (40 years ago).
- Buildings 3,500 square feet or more, built in 1971 (50 years ago).

The following structures are **exempt** from the Building Safety Inspection Program:

- U. S. Government Buildings
- State of Florida Buildings
- Buildings built on Indian Reservations
- School buildings under the jurisdiction of the Broward County School Board
- One and two-family dwellings
- Minor structures defined as buildings
- Structures in any occupancy group with gross floor area less than 3,500 square feet



If you do not receive a notification and your property is 40 years or older, please contact 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 (jmorell@broward.org) or Michael Guerasio (mguerasio@broward.org). For electrical questions, contact Kenneth Castronovo (kcastronovo@broward.org). For non-code related issues, contact Brianna Curry (bcurry@broward.org) or Maria “Pat” Kong (mkong@broward.org).

BORA ACH ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS PROGRAM

The Board of Rules and Appeals is 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).

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 15th of each month.

The following cities joined the ACH Payments Program:

- Broward County – Airport and Lazy Lakes
- Dania Beach
- Davie
- Lauderdale
- Lighthouse Point
- Tamarac
- Weston
- ★ Hillsboro Beach is the most recent city to join our program! ★

To report your online payment to BORA, you must send the following supporting documentation to 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 15th of each month.
3. Breakdown showing the minimum of \$2.00 charge if applicable.



BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS COMPLIMENTARY BOOK LOAN PROGRAM

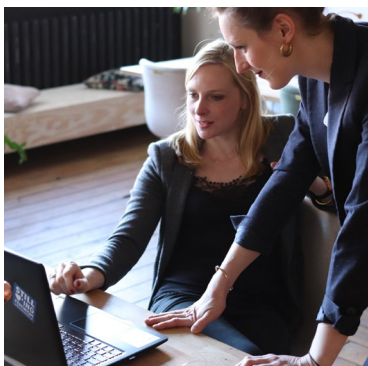
Don't forget about the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals Complimentary Book Loan Program. There are books available for studying for the following state license exams:

- 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

The books will take about two weeks to order. Please follow the steps below:

1. Send your completed **application**, with your City or County Building Official's signature, by email to Brianna Curry (bcurry@broward.org) or Maria Kong (mkong@broward.org).
2. Books can be picked up at our office in Government Center West (1 North University Dr., Suite 3500B Plantation, FL 33324) between the hours of 8:00 AM to 4:15 PM, Monday through Friday.
3. The six-month loan period starts when the books are picked up from the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals' office.
4. Individuals can return borrowed books by the end of the six-month loan period or utilize the onetime 3-month extension.
5. Remember, the books are loaned to other code officials after they are returned. Please show consideration by not writing/highlighting in the books and returning materials on time.

We are happy to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have regarding the Board of Rules and Appeals Book Loan Program, please contact us, at 954-765-4500 or rulesboard@broward.org.



OPEN DISCUSSION MEETINGS WITH BROWARD BORA

The Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals holds open discussion meetings every other month. The meetings allow members of the public to discuss any building or fire code topic with the Broward BORA staff and Board members. The next Open Discussion Meeting will be held in July 2021. **No votes will be taken during open discussion meetings.**

To submit questions or comments before the meeting, please send an email to rulesboard@broward.org.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT VISIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

At a recent Board Meeting, the following items were discussed for building departments throughout Broward County. As the Board of Rules and Appeals' Chief Code Compliance Officers visit the Building Departments please remember:

- Building departments can no longer require contracts unless the building official deems the pricing on the permit application is not correct.
- Applications no longer need to be signed by the owner.



ENERGY CODE COMPLIANCE TRAINING

Broward BORA Chief Energy Code Compliance Officer, Timothy de Carion, provides training to staff members at municipal building departments about energy code compliance. The training will assist with increasing uniformity in the way that they energy code is enforced throughout Broward County. The training sessions can be held virtually or in-person.

For more information or to schedule your training session, please contact Mr. de Carion at 954-765-4500 (x9853) or tdecarion@broward.org.

VIRTUAL TRAINING UPDATES

At the March 11, 2021 Board Meeting, a building code amendment (**FBC, Section 104.18**) was adopted regarding virtual training. Starting, January 1, 2022, only half of the required 28 hours of training will be permitted to be obtained through virtual courses.

For the current 2020-2021 certification cycle, there is no limit on the hours of training acquired virtually due to COVID-19.



NON-INTERFERENCE WITH BUILDING OFFICIALS

Please see the *Interference with Certified Building and Fire Code Personnel* memorandum below. This was approved, by vote by the Board of Rules and Appeals on December 8, 2016.

Pursuant to Florida Statutes 468.604 and 633.118 and the Broward County Charter, the Building and Fire Departments are to be administered on a professional and non-political basis.

The Florida Building Code (Chapter I Broward County Amendments and Local Fire Amendments) addresses on principal code enforcing officer for each of the certified Building and/or Fire Departments; that being, the Building Officials (Section 104.1.1) and/or the Fire Code Officials (104.19.2).

The Board of Rules and Appeals certifies every building and fire department after it has determined to its satisfaction that the building and fire inspectors, (which include the Building Official, Chief Structural Inspector, Chief Electrical Inspector, Chief Plumbing Inspector, Chief Mechanical Inspector, Fire Code Official/Fire Marshal, Fire Plans Examiner and Fire Inspectors), are competent and qualified by the provisions of the Florida Building Code (Chapter I, Broward County Amendments and Local Fire Code Amendments) to act in their respective disciplines as may be amended from time to time by the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals.

For the purpose of inspection and plans examination and other functions that require personnel certified by the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals, competent and qualified building and fire inspectors and building and fire plans examiners along with inspectors shall be employed by the local building departments whose elected or appointed officials charged with the responsibility of ensuring compliance with the Florida Building Code (Chapter I, Broward County Amendments and the Local Fire Code Amendments). If any elected or appointed officials knowingly or negligently allow or permit any new building or structures, both private and public or any alterations, additions or repairs in any new or existing building or structure, both private and public, including but not limited to county buildings or structures, municipal building or structure, hospitals, and any other building or structure of any governmental authority, to be erected within Broward County in violation of the Florida Building Code, or Florida Fire Prevention Code, or if any of the elected or appointed officials prohibit, by any means, directly or indirectly, the use of any materials, types of construction and methods of design authorized by the code or alternate materials, types of construction and methods of design approved by the provisions of the codes, then the elected or appointed officials may be removed from office for nonfeasance, misfeasance or malfeasance in office.

Per state law, violation of the preceding paragraphs by an elected or appointed official or officials shall constitute a misdemeanor of the second degree punishable in Florida Statutes section 775.082 or 775.038.

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

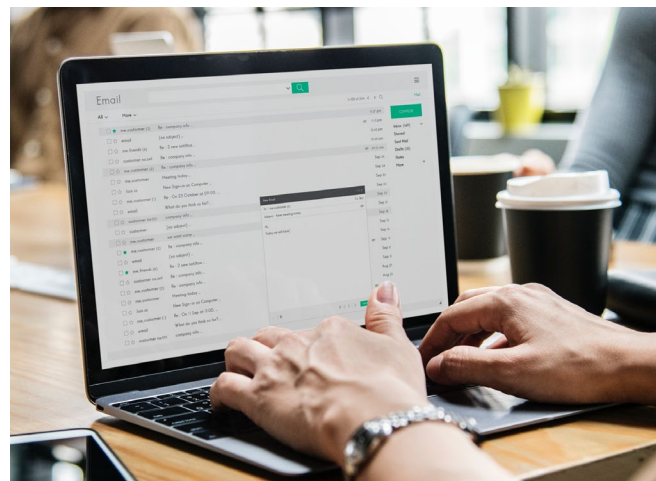
Mr. Robert A. Kamm, P.E.
Mechanical Engineer

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 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.