

THE BORA QUARTERLY

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

HELLO THERE ...

During the summer months, our agency will provide your department with ways to connect with us and we will continue to provide continuing education opportunities for your continued advancement. Make sure that you stay connected with us to stay informed.



IN THIS ISSUE

AN OPEN DISCUSSION WITH YOUR BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

(Page 4)

REMEMBERING OTTO VIÑAS

(Page 4)

BROWARD BORA HVHZ EXAM SPONSORSHIP

(Page 4)

2022 BUILDING SAFETY INSPECTION PROGRAM

(Page 5)

2019-2021 BUILDING SAFETY INSPECTION PROGRAM – UPDATED SURVEY RESULTS

(Page 6)

BROWARD BORA ACH PAYMENT SYSTEM

(Page 7)

JOSE CRUZ-VELLON JOINS BROWARD BORA AS PLUMBING CCCO!

(Page 7)

BROWARD COUNTY FIRE INSPECTOR EXAM FREE FOR FIRST-TIME TEST TAKERS

(Page 8)

RON BURR INDUCTED INTO THE TEAM HORNER HALL OF FAME

(Page 9)

BROWARD BORA COMPLIMENTARY BOOK LOAN PROGRAM

(Page 9)

BOARD APPROVAL: FEE-SIMPLE TOWNHOUSES AMENDMENT

(Page 10)

BOARD APPROVAL: BROWARD COUNTY FIRE CODE AMENDMENTS

(Page 10)

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.

Administrative Director

James DiPietro x9892

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Administrative Specialist

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

Jose Cruz-Vellon..... 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 4, 2022

Code Review 2017 NEC to 2020 NEC Code Discussion Course

7:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Course Information → [Electrical Seminars](#)

JUNE 29 - JULY 1, 2022

2022 Floodplain Course

Course will be held on June 29-30, 2022.

Exam will be held on July 1, 2022.

JUNE 9, 2022

Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals Board Meeting

7:00 PM

Meeting Information → [Board Meeting Agenda](#)

JULY 5, 7, 12, 14, 2022

2022 Masonry Construction & Inspection Certification Workshop

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

JUNE 15, 2022

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

2:00 PM

Meeting Information → TBA

JULY 20, 2022

NEC Alternate Energy Sources Solar FL 0801628, 2-hr. ICC 6746, .2-hr

1:00 PM

Course Information → [Electrical Seminars](#)



BUILDING CODE JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CORAL SPRINGS

- Building Code Inspector

DAVIE

- Assistant Building Official
- Building Plans Examiner/Inspector

MARGATE

- Assistant Director of Building/Building
- Structural Plans Examiner

OAKLAND PARK

- Chief Inspector Structural

PLANTATION

- Inspector I – Structural
- Inspector/Building Plans Examiner

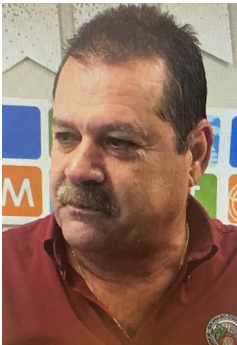
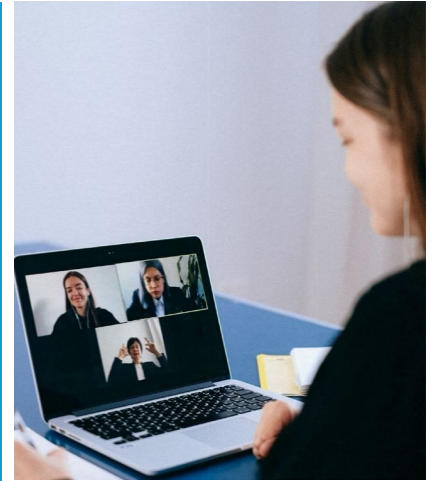
If your municipality would like our agency to post a job announcement on our website, please send an email to rulesboard@broward.org.

OPEN DISCUSSION MEETING WITH BROWARD BORA

The Broward County of Rules and Appeals scheduled the next “Open Discussion with your Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals” Zoom meeting on June 15, 2022.

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.



REMEMBERING OTTO VIÑAS

The Broward BORA family would like to remember our long time Plumbing Chief Code Compliance Officer, Otto Viñas, who passed away suddenly on May 2, 2022.

He will be missed dearly.

BROWARD BORA HVHZ EXAM SPONSORSHIP

The Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals will sponsor the High Velocity Hurricane Zone (HVHZ) Exam for qualified individuals applying for the position of: Building Official, Structural Inspector, Chief Structural Inspectors and/or Structural Plans Examiners. This sponsorship is available the first-time exam costs.

Professionals who have not worked in either, Miami-Dade or Broward Counties can meet the required HVHZ experience by passing the HVHZ exam. To have the first HVHZ exam paid for, a Building Official representing the jurisdiction should submit a request to the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals office.





2022 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 – [Informational Packet](#)

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 completed the inspection whether the municipality contacts you or not.

Please keep in mind property inspection must be completed by a licensed professional engineer or a registered architect. 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).

2019-2021 BUILDING SAFETY INSPECTION PROGRAM – UPDATED SURVEY RESULTS

The Broward BORA director and staff administered a survey about how the Building Safety Inspection Program was being implemented in each municipal building department for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021. To receive a copy of the latest updates to the Building Safety Inspection Program survey, please submit your request to Brianna Curry (bcurry@broward.org). The current survey results can be found below:

MUNICIPALITY	Total number of buildings for 2019, 2020 and 2021?	Date range that the notices were sent?	How many inspection reports were returned to your department for 2019, 2020 and 2021?	Sent to Magistrate or Code Enforcement/Extensions	NO ACTION TAKEN
Broward County	47	July 2019 - August 2021	34	13	
Coconut Creek	68	June 2019 - June 2021	68		
Cooper City	14	12/04/2020 - 11/29/2021	13	1	
Coral Springs	318	June - August	273	45	
Dania Beach	68	June 2019 - June 2021	65	3	
Davie	115	07/26/2019 - 07/12/2021	94	21	
Deerfield Beach	249	06/20/19 - 06/11/2021	198	51	
Fort Lauderdale	7,969	08/20/2019 - 10/31/2021	6,253	1,716	
Hallandale Beach	126	06/30/2021 - 07/22/2021	80		46
Hillsboro Beach	6	Summer	5	1	
Hollywood	2,027	June 2019 - December 2021	1,915	112	
Lauderdale-by-the-Sea	54	07/02/2021 - 08/16/2021	49	4	
Lauderdale Lakes	110	08/26/2019 - 06/28/2021	56		54
Lauderhill	108	July - August 2021	95	13	
Lazy Lake	NO INSPECTIONS REQUIRED				
Lighthouse Point	32	07/16/2019 - 08/13/2021	25	5	2
Margate	128	09/11/2019 - 08/19/2021	119	10	
Miramar	67	08/05/2019 - 07/13/2021	56		11
North Lauderdale	111	September 2019 - August 2021	85	26	
Oakland Park	390	08/29/2019 - 07/14/2021	256	134	
Parkland	NO INSPECTIONS REQUIRED				
Pembroke Park	27	07/10/2019 - 06/15/2021	23	4	
Pembroke Pines	89	June 2019 - June 2022	37		52
Plantation	983	08/12/2019 - 11/19/2021	815	168	
Pompano Beach	757	04/20/2021 - 08/10-2021	415	342	
Sea Ranch Lakes	NO INSPECTIONS REQUIRED				
Southwest Ranches	NO INSPECTIONS REQUIRED				
Sunrise	159	August 2019 - September 2021	147	12	
Tamarac	81	May 2020 - November 2021	65		16
West Park	50	June-21	25		25
Weston	164	02/06/2020 - 06/28/2021	110	54	
Wilton Manors	79	07/14/2021 - 08/26/2021	57	22	
TOTAL	14,396		14,366		

BROWARD BORA ACH PAYMENT SYSTEM

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, 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.**

Advantages of the Electronic Funds Transfer:

- It would facilitate your monthly payments by debiting your account automatically for one payment.
- ACH payments are faster and easier to handle compared to the traditional method of paying by checks, low cost, security, convenience.
- Reduce human error and increase time savings.
- Pay remotely.
- Avoid late payments and keep the 3% discount if submitting your electronic payment by the 15 of each month.

Reporting Electronic Payments:

To report your online payment to BORA, you must send the following supporting documentation to Maria “Pat” Kong mkong@broward.org:

1. Copy of the electronic transaction reporting the total amount made to our account.
2. Remittance Advice form (attached) 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.



JOSE CRUZ-VELLON JOINS BROWARD BORA AS PLUMBING CCCO!

Mr. Jose Cruz-Vellon joined the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals staff! He is our agency’s new Chief Plumbing Code Compliance Officer. He will help to ensure that that the code is being followed throughout Broward County.

Mr. Cruz-Vellon has been with us since May 2022 after years of serving as a Plumbing Plans Examiner/Inspector for the Broward County Building Department. He can be reached by phone at 954-765-4500 (x9894) or by email at jcruzvellon@broward.org.

BROWARD COUNTY FIRE INSPECTOR EXAM FREE FOR FIRST-TIME TEST TAKERS

The Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals will pay for first-time test takers to take the Broward County Fire Inspector Exam.

- The Broward County Fire Exam is an open book test. The following test reference materials will be provided at the time of the exam:
 - Florida Fire Prevention Code Sixth Edition
 - Based on HFPA I, NFPA 101, FS 633 & FAC 69A-Rules (NOTE: FS 633 & FAC 69A can be obtained at State of Florida, Florida Department of State [website](#) for the latest version.)
 - Broward County Amendments ([Broward Local Fire Code](#))
- No electronic devices are permitted in the test room.
- A driver’s license will be required as proof of identification for admission to testing room.
- A maximum of 12 people can register for each exam.

If a first-time test taker fails the exam, there is no limit for times the exam can be taken. The retakes must be paid for by the test taker. A \$60.00 fee must be paid by money order before the exam **OR** by debit card/credit card on the day of the exam.

Also, the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals will, upon request, provide auxiliary aids and services leading to effective communication for people with disabilities, including qualified sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, documents in Braille, and other ways of making communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments. Please see the Fire Inspector Exam **application** to request auxiliary aid or service.



2022 BROWARD COUNTY FIRE INSPECTOR EXAM DATES

There are two more opportunities to take the Broward County Fire Inspector Exam this year. The test will be offered on the following dates:

- September 16, 2022
- November 18, 2022

To qualify for the exam, submit the completed and signed [application](#) and policy statement by mail to the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals (1 N. University Drive, Suite 3500B, Plantation, FL 33324) or by email to Jonda Joseph (jondajoseph@broward.org).

RON BURR INDUCTED INTO THE TEAM HORNER HALL OF FAME

Congratulations are in order for BORA Board Member, Ron Burr!

On March 29, 2022, Ron Burr was inducted into the Team Horner Hall of Fame. Mr. Burr worked at Team Horner for 18 years, serving from 1978 to 1996. He began his career with the company in the warehouse and worked his way up to the VP of Purchasing and Auto Pilot Manufacturing Plant.

Ron Burr has been a member of the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals since January 2009 and served as the Board Chair from 2014 to 2015.



BROWARD BORA COMPLIMENTARY BOOK LOAN PROGRAM

The Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals’ Complimentary 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

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

- Send your completed [application](#), with your department’s Building Official’s signature, by email to Brianna Curry (bcurry@broward.org) or Maria “Pat” Kong (mkong@broward.org).
- The six-month loan period starts when the books are picked up from the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals’ office.
- Individuals can return borrowed books by the end of the six-month loan period or utilize the onetime 3-month extension.

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

BOARD APPROVAL: FEE-SIMPLE TOWNHOUSES AMENDMENT

At the May 12, 2022, Board meeting, the Board approved two fire code amendments which were originally proposed on April 14, 2022.

Chapter 1, Section 110.15 – Amendment

The BORA Staff recommended this Chapter 1 amendment to create a code revision that will clarify whether fee-simple townhouses designed and constructed according to the definitions and requirements for townhouses as stated in the FBC Building and FBC Residential Codes are exempt from the 40-year Building Safety Inspection Program and promote uniform enforcement throughout Broward County.

Formal Interpretation #30

The BORA Staff recommended the Board approve by vote, Formal Interpretation #30. The formal interpretation proposed clarifying if fee-simple townhouses are exempt from the Building Safety Inspection Program. The interpretation will provide a uniform enforcement of the Building Safety Inspection Program throughout Broward County and the municipalities within it.

For more information, please contact Jack Morell (jmorell@broward.org) or Michael Guerasio (mguerasio@broward.org).



BOARD APPROVAL: BROWARD COUNTY FIRE CODE AMENDMENTS

At the April 14, 2022, Board meeting, the Board approved two fire code amendments which were originally proposed on March 10, 2022.

F-108.9.3: Entry Gates

Broward County Fire Rescue Departments transitioned to Closest Unit Response (CUR). There is a need for immediate access through automatic entry gates. CUR uses GPS to locate the closest in-service apparatus, no matter the agency, and dispatches them to critical incident types. With this proposed language, all departments within Broward County can ensure uniformity regarding access gates which will allow for timely responses.

F-121: Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) and Stop the Bleed Kit (SBK)

Several cities have ordinances requiring the installation of Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) and Stop the Bleed Kits (SBKs). The BORA staff recommended that a uniform application should be followed throughout Broward County.

For more information about the recent changes, please contact Bryan Parks (bparks@broward.org).

VOTING MEMBERS

Mr. Daniel Lavrich, P.E., S.I., 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
Air Conditioning Contractor

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

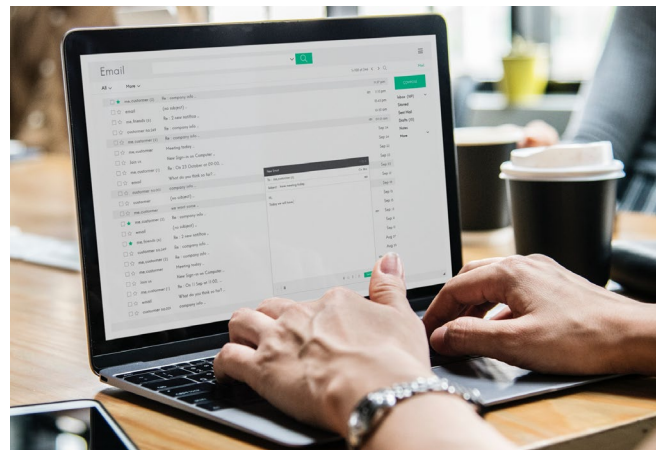
Mr. Robert A. Kamm, P.E.
Mechanical Engineer

MEET OUR BOARD 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.



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

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.