

DIVISION OF BUILDING AND FIRE REGULATIONS

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

SAFE, AFFORDABLE BUILDINGS FOR VIRGINIA COMMUNITIES

The development, promotion and uniform enforcement of regulations that achieve safe, affordable buildings in Virginia.



BUILDING AND FIRE REGULATIONS

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MISSION

The development, promotion and uniform enforcement of regulations that achieve safe, affordable buildings in Virginia.

VISION

Safe, affordable buildings for Virginia communities.



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MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Cindy L. Davis



Cindy L. Davis, CBO, Deputy Director
Division of Building and Fire Regulations
Virginia Department of Housing and
Community Development

Friends and Colleagues,

The Division of Building and Fire Regulations (BFR), within the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), is pleased to present the 2020 Annual Report, which highlights the programs, processes, events and staff that serve and support the commonwealth. I am so proud of the unwavering commitment of the BFR staff who ensured our stakeholders were served in every program area, despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Of significant note, DHCD staff:

- Completed the 2018 code update cycle, transitioning numerous subworkgroup and workgroup meetings to a virtual platform;
- Migrated Technical Review Board hearings to a virtual platform, training all appellants prior to hearings and developing policies to ensure equity;
- Maintained technical support via phone and email with all BFR staff available to provide technical support;
- Transitioned all classroom curriculum to a virtual program, training and providing support to both instructors and participants; and
- Stood up a grant program to provide \$2,000 grants to jurisdictions for the purchase of laptops or other equipment necessary to participate in virtual training.

This past year also marked the retirement of longtime BFR staff member Skip Harper, for whom we wish nothing but the best! We were also pleased to welcome three new team members: Florin Moldovan, Danielle Manuel and Sarah A. Foote. These new BFR staffers bring with them a breadth of knowledge and experience and are truly assets to our team.

We look forward to building our collaborative relationships with our stakeholders this year, whether in person or over our virtual platforms. We are grateful for the opportunities we will have to gather in the future, and until then will continue to provide Virginia with a safe, affordable and efficient built environment.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy L. Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cindy L Davis, C.B.O.
Deputy Director
Division of Building and Fire Regulations
Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development

DIVISION OF BUILDING AND FIRE REGULATIONS

2020 AT-A-GLANCE

INDUSTRIALIZED BUILDINGS (IB)

- 14 Approved Compliance Assurance Agencies
- 8 Plan reviews audited

MANUFACTURED HOUSING (MH)

- 17 Dealer Lots Inspected
- 1 MH Plant Inspected
- 5 MH Board Meetings
- 6 Complaints Resolved

JACK A. PROCTOR VIRGINIA BUILDING CODE ACADEMY (VBCA)

- 13 In-Person Classes Held
- 22 Virtual Classes Held
- 973 Students Trained
- 799 Online Modules Completed
- 427 Certifications Issued
- 974 Continuing Education Applications Processed
- 1,035 Volunteer Subject-Matter Experts/Instructor

IB SEALS SOLD

- 3,874 Industrializing Building Seals Sold
- \$290,550 in Revenue Generated from Seals Sold



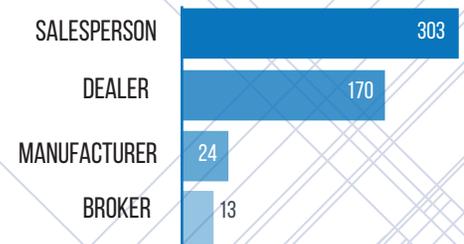
TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND CUSTOMER SERVICE:

- 2,404 Emails Answered
- 516 Phone calls handled

TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND CUSTOMER SERVICE



MH LICENSES ISSUED



DIVISION OF BUILDING AND FIRE REGULATIONS

2020 Outreach

STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT

The Division of Building and Fire Regulations (BFR) maintains positive relationships with various stakeholders, clients and constituent groups across the country, state and region. These collaborative relationships are beneficial to staff, the agency, our stakeholders and Virginians.

Some key opportunities for stakeholder support include serving on boards of directors or as officers in various organizations, providing training and scholarship opportunities, serving as on national code, professional development, certification and testing councils and committees, providing technical code collaboration and presentations specific to industry needs, collaborating with organizations and other agencies to identify subject matter experts for training and curriculum development, and working cooperatively within the industry to devise solutions to problems or concerns.

International Code Council board and national participation:

- Served in roles on the International Code Council (ICC): Vice President of the ICC, ICC Professional Development Council Education Committee member; Chair of an ICC Exam Development Committee; Vice Chair to the ICC Residential Energy Code Development Committee (REDCD); and ICC Off-Site Construction Standard and Development Committee Member.
- Served as a board member for Women in Code Enforcement and Development (WICED).
- Served on the National Certification Program for Construction Code Inspectors (NCPCCI) board of governors.
- Participated as panel expert for Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Off-site Construction review.

Agency support:

- Building and Fire Regulations staff served as members of the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force at DHCD.
- Building and Fire Regulations team members took on lead roles in facilitating the Virginia Governor's Housing Conference (VAGHC) serving as technical support, managing volunteer coordination, and serving as moderators and back-end moderators.
- Building and Fire Regulations staff served as communications liaisons to the agency.
- Support for virtual platforms.
- Provided technical input on the Housing Innovation in Energy Efficiency program.
- Participated in the Agency Rehab Advisory Group with a focus on manufactured and industrialized affordable housing.
- Continued focus on innovation in technology to advance affordable housing with agency and stakeholder groups.

Other Support and Stakeholder Collaboration:

- In response to a request for information-gathering on behalf of HB 779, Building and Fire Regulations staff facilitated three study group sessions to discuss mobile fueling in the state of Virginia and generated a report for the General Assembly.
- Provided locality grants to support continued operations and participation in online training through virtual business and training environments.
- Participated on the Lead Elimination Action Project (LEAP) nworkgroup, with the Richmond City Health Department and participated as a panel expert for a LEAP Virginia Lead Symposium webinar

DIVISION OF BUILDING AND FIRE REGULATIONS

2020 Stakeholders Engaged

- American Concrete Institute
- American Institute of Architects (AIA Virginia)
- Apartment and Office Building Association (AOBA)
- American Wood Council (AWC)
- Climate Action Alliance of the Valley (CAAV)
- Columbia Gas
- Drive Electric RVA
- Eaton
- Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions (FACS)
- Farm Bureau of Virginia
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Home Builders' Association of Virginia (HBAV)
- International Code Council (ICC)
- International Code Consultants
- Interstate Industrialized Buildings Commission (IIBC)
- Modular Building Institute (MBI)
- Modular Homebuilders Association (MHA)
- National Electric Manufacturers' Association (NEMA)
- National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS)
- OmegaFlex
- Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA)
- Responsible Energy Code Alliance (RECA)
- Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA)
- Southern Company Gas
- Sierra Club
- VanMetre
- Vectre Corporation
- Virginia Energy Efficiency Council (VAEEC)
- Virginia Elevator Safety Association (VAESA)
- Virginia Manufactured/Modular Housing Association (VAMMHA)
- Virginia Association of Realtors (VAR)
- Virginia Building and Code Officials Association (VBCOA)
- Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)
- Virginia Department of Corrections (VDC)
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Virginia Department of Health (VDH)
- Virginia Democracy Forward
- Virginia Natural Gas
- Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS)
- Virginia Fire Prevention Association (VFPA)
- Virginia First Technology
- Virginia Chapter of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAEI)
- Virginia Grassroots Coalition
- Virginia Manufactured and Modular Home Association (VMMHA)
- Viridiant
- Virginia Plumbing and Mechanical Inspectors' Association (VP-MIA)
- Virginia Retail Merchants Association (VRMA)
- Washington Gas
- Women in Code Enforcement and Development (WICED – National and Virginia Chapters)
- 350 Alexandria

DIVISION OF BUILDING AND FIRE REGULATIONS

2020 Highlights

DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAVIS SERVES AS ICC'S VICE PRESIDENT FOR THE SECOND YEAR

Deputy Director Cindy Davis once again served as the vice president for the International Code Council (ICC). Davis has continued to support the code profession throughout tumultuous 2020 and served the organization by supporting staff in the development of virtual tools to support professionals as they struggled to continue their important work. Davis also chaired the appeals committee and serving on the budget committee. Also of note, Davis raised the issue of diversity throughout the organization and looks forward to continued success in supporting expanding diversity efforts.

PAUL MESSPLAY IV APPOINTED TO ICC'S EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (EDC)

BFR staffer Paul Messplay IV was appointed head of the ICC's Educational Development Committee (EDC). This committee is responsible for developing and writing the questions for sustainability exams. Sustainability is a growing priority in the building code industry, and the EDC is on the forefront of developing materials to thoroughly test its subject matter.

RICHARD POTTS APPOINTED VICE CHAIR TO ICC'S RESIDENTIAL ENERGY CODE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

BFR staffer Richard Potts was appointed to serve as the Residential Energy Code Development Committee (RECDC) vice chair for the International Code Council (ICC). Potts, who has been at DHCD for nearly a decade and worked in code enforcement prior to joining the agency, has been recognized as a leader in code development. Potts is in his third term as an ICC RECDC member, but this is his first term as vice chair.

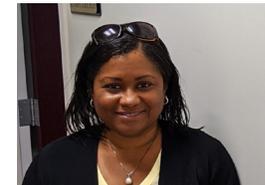
In addition, Richard was appointed to the ECIC Code Interpretation Committee, which interprets codes pertaining to energy, existing buildings, green structures, property maintenance and zoning. The interpretation of the I-Codes is a key service offered by the ICC. While the ICC staff routinely provides thousands of telephone and written interpretations, such interpretations are only considered the opinion of the staff. The ICC are especially important as these committees are responsible for rendering the official position of the International Code Council.

DIVISION OF BUILDING AND FIRE REGULATIONS

2020 Highlights

BFR TEAM ARRIVALS

- Sarah A. Foote joined as the administrative assistant for the State Building Codes Office (SBCO), bringing with her a background in communications and development that spanned the education, faith, and nonprofit sectors.
- Florin Moldovan also joined the SBCO team, bringing with him experience as a contractor in Las Vegas, Nevada, as well as many years of experience in code enforcement and administration for several jurisdictions in Virginia.
- Danielle Manuel joined the Virginia Building Code Academy (VBCA) team as the new training and development coordinator. Previously with the Virginia Poverty Law Center, her experience in training and administration is a valuable addition to the academy.



SKIP HARPER RETIRES

Skip Harper, longtime BFR team member, retired in early 2020 after seven years with DHCD. Known for his extensive experience in building code development as well as his jovial demeanor, Harper will surely be missed!

DIVISION OF BUILDING AND FIRE REGULATIONS

BFR Supports Jurisdictions

Through the Virginia Building Code Academy, BFR provided ICC memberships for all 162 jurisdictions enforcing the USBC. Additionally, DHCD will provide 2018 Virginia code sets to all Virginia localities later this year.

Virtual Training Support Grant

In early 2020, many localities and state agencies were placed in a mandatory telework posture due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In an effort to continue providing necessary certification and continuing education course offerings, the VBCA shifted its entire curriculum to an online format. It quickly became evident that many Virginia localities needed the equipment or software for their employees to properly attend and participate in these virtual offerings. To help bridge the technology gap, DHCD offered a Virtual Training Support Grant to aid with the purchase of equipment, hardware, and software necessary to attend virtual training. A total of \$174,025, in payments of up to \$2000, was distributed to 93 localities across the commonwealth. Localities made purchases of laptops, webcams, tablets, headsets, monitors and LED TVs. Additionally, electronic ICC code references and plan review software were among acceptable grant fund purchases. Echoing the sentiments of many building officials, Gary McIver, CBO Town of Bedford, writes, "I certainly do appreciate this assistance, as I am sure this equipment will be very beneficial in changing the environment."

DHCD supported virtual transitions

During 2020, many building departments were forced to conduct business remotely, navigating the potential use of electronic permitting or virtual inspections. Arlington County was one of those localities who successfully moved to a digitized permitting and inspection process in response to the COVID-19. To support localities faced with this challenge, DHCD and Arlington County collaborated to provide two free webinars about Arlington County's transition process, procedures, and processes and applications, with more than 200 people attending the two sessions. Resource material posted on the DHCD website remains available for those interested.

Similarly, DHCD and Arlington County collaborated to offer a webinar forum focused on the specific experiences and challenges faced by the property maintenance officials during the pandemic. Representatives from Arlington County and City of Richmond presented and facilitated round table discussions on their current experiences and best practices.

In response to the many government office closures at the start of the pandemic, DHCD conducted a survey of the local building department services and delivery methods available during the pandemic. DHCD partnered with the Virginia Building and Code Officials Association (VBCOA) to maintain and make available the information to all jurisdictions, code organizations and the public for the months following.

BUILDING SAFETY MONTH 2020

Building Safety Month (BSM) is a public awareness campaign celebrated by jurisdictions worldwide during the month of May to help individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures.

This year, much like many other initiatives, Building Safety Month took on a different tone than in previous years. While we were unable to gather in person to recognize our building departments and dedicated stakeholders, DHCD's podcast, "Partners for Better Communities" did feature a Building Safety Month episode highlighting their great work across the commonwealth. The episode aired on May 27 and featured a conversation with Virginia Building Code Officials Association President and city of Galax Project Manager Jimmy Moss about the continuous nature of the building code update process. Moss said about the code: "It's not like it's written by someone and handed down. We help develop it... The idea is not for the code to be an obstacle, but the roadmap to where the [customer] wants to be."

In addition, Virginia Secretary of Commerce and Trade Brian Ball, Virginia Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security Nicky Zamostny, DHCD Director Erik Johnston and Deputy Director of Building and Fire Regulations Cindy Davis were part of a special video message to our building community partners and stakeholders to show appreciation during Building Safety Month!

Check out both the podcast and the BSM video by visiting:

- [2020 Building Safety Month Podcast](#)
- [2020 Building Safety Month Video](#)

For additional information about Building Safety Month, please visit www.dhcd.virginia.gov/bsm.



STATE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD (STRB)

2020 Board Overview

The State Building Code Technical Review Board (STRB) consists of 14 citizens appointed by the governor to ensure Virginia's building code is administered fairly and is understood by the residents of Virginia. The organizations represented by the board members are:

- American Institute of Architects Virginia
- Virginia Society of Professional Engineers
- Home Builders Association of Virginia
- Virginia Branch of the Associated General Contractors of America
- Virginia Building and Code Officials Association
- State Fire Chiefs Association of Virginia
- Virginia chapters of the National Apartment Association
- Virginia Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors

The STRB's primary purpose is to hear appeals from enforcement actions under the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC), the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC), the Virginia Industrialized Building Safety Regulations, the Virginia Manufactured Home Safety Regulations and the Virginia Certification Standards.

A secondary function of STRB is to provide interpretations to the provisions of the USBC and SFPC and make recommendations to the Virginia Board of Housing and Community Development (BHCD) for future modifications, amendments or repeals of such provisions. Interpretation requests may be submitted by any code enforcement personnel with approval from the corresponding building, maintenance or fire official.



STATE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD (STRB)

2020 Board Overview

In early 2020, in-person meetings were suspended due to COVID-19, and STRB staff quickly began looking for alternative ways to continue meetings of the review board and offerings of Local Board of Building Code Appeals (LBBCA) training. STRB staff worked diligently to update processes and ensure everyone involved was familiar and comfortable with the new meeting format, resulting in the first virtual LBBCA training in May and the first virtual STRB meeting in July.

2020 saw the end of an era as Patricia O'Bannon resigned from the review board after serving faithfully for more than 23 years. Her expertise and knowledge contributed greatly to the board and will be missed.



STRB ACTIONS

- 5 STRB meetings
- 4 Appeals filed
- 7 Appeals processed
- 10 Final orders
- 8 Interpretation requests

STRB MEMBERSHIP

- Vince Butler
- Daniel Crigler
- James R. Dawson, Chair
- Alan D. Givens
- Christina Jackson
- Joseph Kessler
- Eric Mays, PE
- Joanne Monday
- Kenney Payne
- W. Shaun Pharr, Esq., Vice-Chair
- Richard C. Witt
- Aaron Zdinak, PE

STAFF TO THE REVIEW BOARD

- Justin I. Bell, Esq. | Board Counsel
- W. Travis Luter Sr. | Board Secretary

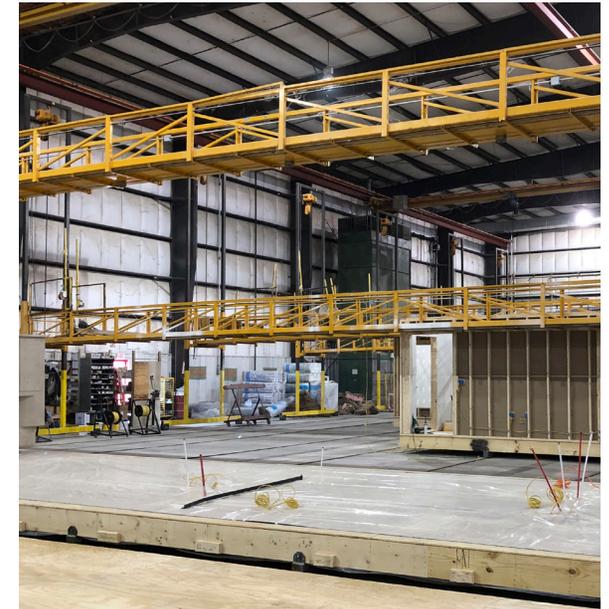
INDUSTRIALIZED BUILDINGS (IB)

2020 Snapshot

Virginia's Industrialized Building Safety Regulations (IBSR) help uniformly regulate industrial buildings (IB), often referred to as modular buildings. The IBSR provides for the administration and enforcement of consistent, mandated statewide standards for the construction and placement of industrialized buildings. SBCO is the authority having jurisdiction over the off-site construction portion of industrialized buildings. The local building departments are responsible for handling permitting and inspections related to installation and site work, as well as the issuance of certificates of occupancy for Industrialized Buildings.

The SBCO approves third party Compliance Assurance Agencies (CAAs) to approve factory quality control programs, perform plan reviews and inspect the construction of buildings in the factories. Prior to leaving the factory, a Virginia registration seal is placed on each module of an industrialized building, certifying that it complies with Virginia's building codes. The SBCO monitors the performance of CAAs through application and auditing processes

To meet the need for more affordable housing, industry professionals are continually coming up with innovative ideas and approaches, as well as using new methods and materials in the factory construction of homes. During the 2018 code update cycle, several code changes related to shipping containers and panelized construction were approved for the 2018 IBSR in an effort to make it easier for manufacturers to utilize these innovative methods and materials in Virginia.



2020 Virginia Approved CAAs:

- Arthur N. Vendola, Inc.
- Companion Systems
- Expert Modular Consultants LLC
- Global Power Components
- Hillborne, Werner, Carter & Associates Inc.
- Modular Code Consultants
- NTA Inc.
- PFS Corporation
- Professional Service Industries Inc.
- Progressive Engineering Inc.
- Pyramid I Inc.
- RADCO
- Simplex Industries
- T.R. Arnold & Associates Inc.

3,874

Industrialized Building
Seals Sold

IB SEALS SOLD

COMMERCIAL

2,141

RESIDENTIAL

1,733

\$290,550

COLLECTED FOR SEALS SOLD

MANUFACTURED HOUSING (MH)

2020 Snapshot

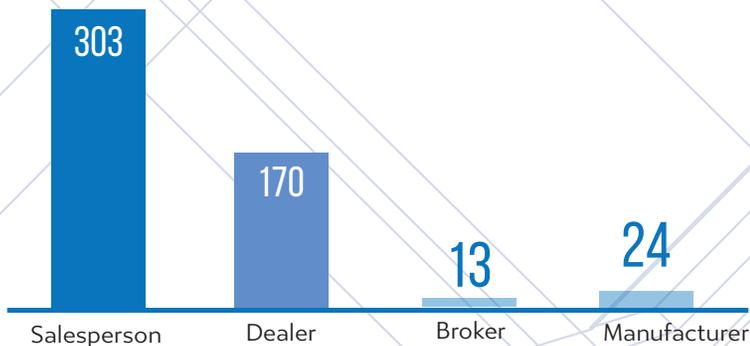
The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) oversees the design and factory construction of manufactured homes, often referred to as HUD homes. DHCD, as a HUD State Administrative Agency (SAA), administers statewide Manufactured Housing Installation and Dispute Resolution programs. Through the Virginia Manufactured Home Safety Regulations (MHSR), the local building departments are responsible for handling permitting and inspections related to installation and site work, as well as the issuance of certificates of occupancy for manufactured homes.

The SBCO licenses manufacturers, dealers, salespeople and brokers of manufactured home in Virginia, on behalf of the Virginia Manufactured Housing Board (MHB), and ensures compliance with the Virginia Manufactured Housing Licensing and Transaction Recovery Fund Regulations (MHLTRF) through inspections and audits. The SBCO regularly works with consumers, manufacturers, dealers, HUD and local building departments to resolve complaints related to the construction or installation of manufactured homes. When complaints are not able to be resolved by the SBCO, the MHB will resolve the complaints and is authorized to approve payments from the Recovery Fund.

The MHB is comprised of nine members appointed by the governor, representing different groups who are designated to enable legislation. The MHB adopts and, with the assistance of DHCD staff, executes enforcement of the Manufactured Housing Licensing and Transaction Recovery Fund Regulations (MHLTRFR).

The board held five meetings in 2020, all of which were conducted virtually.

510 MANUFACTURED HOUSING LICENSES ISSUED



MANUFACTURED HOUSING BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Manufacturer Representatives

- James Trepinski, Fleetwood Homes Inc.
- Scott Montgomery, Champion Homes

Manufactured Home Dealer Representatives

- Walter Cleaton, Home Solutions
- Stephan Geiser

Public Representatives

- David C. Bridges
- Shawna J. Cheney
- Keith W. Hicks
- Sean D. Hicks

Designee of the Director of DHCD

- James W. Roncaglione

CODE DEVELOPMENT

2018 Code Development Process



2020 marked the final phase of the 2018 code update process. As with previous code update cycles, workgroups convened to vet code change proposals that were carried over from the proposed phase of the process or were submitted after the conclusion of the proposed phase.

There were a significant number of proposals considered by the full workgroups over the course of five workgroup meetings, each of which was conducted virtually, and workgroup consensus was reached on all but 37 of the proposals.

A number of proposals, topics and initiatives also went through sub-workgroups prior to being considered by the full workgroups, including: energy, resiliency, residential uses, residential electrical dock safety and school safety. The final regulations have been approved by the full board, which have been published in the Virginia Register of Regulations.

The collaborative efforts of stakeholders throughout the 2018 cycle resulted in significant improvements to energy, resiliency and affordable housing in the 2018 edition of Virginia's codes. Some of those important changes included:

- Mandatory blower door testing in IRC structures
- Increased attic insulation (compliant with 2018 IRC)
- Permanent energy certificates in new dwellings
- Provisions for repurposed Shipping Containers used as building materials
- Provisions for Accessory Dwelling Units
- A new appendix for Tiny Home construction

For additional information on significant changes or detailed information on the energy and resiliency improvements, check out the following reports:

- [2018 Significant Changes Summary](#)
- [Virginia Energy Codes Report](#)
- [2018 Resiliency Impact Analysis](#)

23 code meetings were held:

- General Code workgroups
- Fire Prevention Code Edit workgroup
- Residential Uses sub-workgroup
- School Safety sub-workgroup
- Energy sub-workgroup
- Resiliency sub-workgroup
- Residential Electrical Dock Safety sub-workgroup
- Amusement Device Technical Advisory Committee (ADTAC)
- Building Code Academy Advisory Committee (BCAAC)

STATE BUILDING CODES FIELD OFFICE

Southwest Virginia Spotlight 2020

For many of our stakeholders in the Southwest region, the DHCD's Richmond office in Central Virginia feels like a long way from home, both geographically and when considering the unique challenges that Southwest Virginia faces related to code enforcement, training and manufactured housing.

In late December 2019, in recognition of the importance of having BFR present in the region, DHCD added a new office in Wytheville, Virginia, and Brian Hilderbrand joined SBCO as the Southwest region code and regulation specialist, working out of the new office. Hilderbrand brought with him many years of experience in the construction and code enforcement industries, including experience as a building official for a locality in Southwest Virginia.

Throughout 2020, the new Southwest office has been instrumental in improving support to building department staff and other stakeholders in the region by:

- Regularly attending and participating in stakeholder association meetings.
- Providing regular agency updates to stakeholders.
- Providing daily technical assistance to building department staff.
- Assisting consumers and local building departments in resolving manufactured home consumer complaints.
- Identifying topics of interest to local building departments and developing technical bulletins on the following topics:
 - migrant labor camps
 - garages, carports and sheds
 - industrialized and manufactured homes
 - asbestos info and FAQ
 - industrialized building FAQ



Brian Hilderbrand

JACK A. PROCTOR VIRGINIA BUILDING CODE ACADEMY

2020 Highlights



13
Live Classes Held

22
Virtual Classes Held

1,511
Students Trained

799
Online Modules Completed

974
CE Applications Processed

427
Certifications Issued

1,035 VOLUNTEER SUBJECT MATTER/INSTRUCTOR HOURS

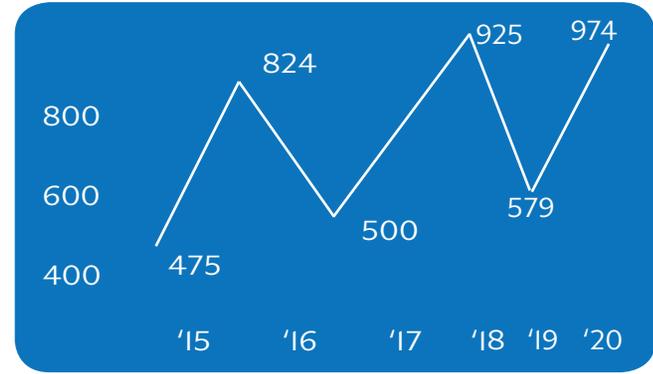
TOTAL ATTENDANCE



CERTIFICATIONS ISSUED



COUNTINUING EDUCATION APPLICATIONS PROCESSED





JACK A. PROCTOR VIRGINIA BUILDING CODE ACADEMY

2020 Accomplishments

Viridiant Energy Training

DHCD, through VBCA, partnered with Viridiant for the development and delivery of a four-hour energy code training. The initiative was funded through a Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA) grant, and was designed specifically for code officials to address code compliance.

In 2019, Viridiant partnered with DHCD to secure Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA) grant funds with the intent to evaluate compliance of energy codes in new construction. Viridiant's grant specifically focused on identifying the knowledge and application gaps related to enforcement of the energy codes in Virginia. Viridiant conducted grant supported surveys, questionnaires and site research exploring both contractors and the code community's knowledge and understanding of the energy code.

Subsequently, DHCD partnered with Viridiant in the training development and implementation process to create a four-hour training offered as an in-person classroom program as well as an online self-paced program to address the identified areas of need. With the support of the VBCA, the Board of Housing and Community Development (BHCD) made the class mandatory for the building official and five other certifications in the residential category.

More than 720 people completed the in-person and online version during 2020, with the online training remaining available as an ongoing training resource. Additionally, DHCD supported the development of a two-hour version of the training specifically designed for contractors.

In addition to the training, DHCD provided technical support to Viridiant as they worked with urban, rural, and suburban localities in compiling information to guide resource development to aid in Residential Energy Code implementation. These resources can be found on the Viridiant website [2015 Virginia Residential Energy Code Resources](#).



viridiant

JACK A. PROCTOR VIRGINIA BUILDING CODE ACADEMY

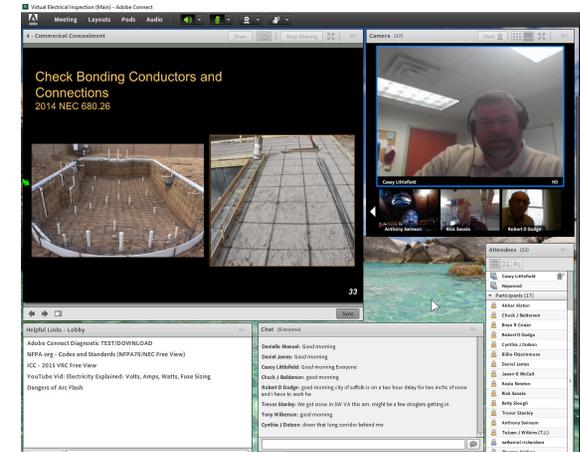
2020 Highlights



VBCA Virtual Course Development Highlights

One of the most meticulous and important initiatives the VBCA took on in 2020 was addressing the need to provide training to the code enforcement community classes could not be held in-person. VBCA pivoted from an in-person classroom to a virtual learning landscape in just six weeks' time. As part of these efforts, VBCA staff:

- Converted 15 multi-day curricula from in-person to the virtual classroom delivery
- Provided 22 virtual classes with the first class going live on May 5, 2020
- Provided training on virtual teaching and platform navigation to over 30 instructors and instructional teams
- Adapted operational procedures to continue student support and customer service virtually





JACK A. PROCTOR VIRGINIA BUILDING CODE ACADEMY

2020 Accomplishments

VBCA Instructor Professional Development Event

VBCA's 2020 Instructor Refresher event was an occasion for the academy to provide its many instructors with two days of learning, networking and gratitude. Forty instructors from around the state convened in Richmond on Jan. 22-23. The agenda included multiple courses to hone their teaching skills, updates about academy operations and a recognition event. Attendees enjoyed a full schedule of learning opportunities.



- The University of Richmond School of Professional and Continuing Studies led participants through a full day course on team teaching with hands-on application.
- Attendees learned how to be more effective team members by applying their DISC Profile, a powerful workplace preference tool.
- Academy staff led multiple sessions:
 - Five ways to Supercharge Classroom Engagement
 - The How-to's of Mentoring
 - Mastering DHCD Technology in the Classroom
 - Navigating eVA



DHCD Director Erik Johnston opened the recognition event extending appreciation for the many instructors dedicated to the academy's success. VBCA recognized the career of recent retiree Charlotte Carter and her decades of outstanding service as the academy's lead training coordinator.

We acknowledge and thank our BHCD members for their dedicated efforts and hard work in maintaining the high-quality codes in Virginia.

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