

**BFR**



# DIVISION OF BUILDING AND FIRE REGULATIONS

2016 Annual Report



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING  
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
*Partners for Better Communities*

**Mission**

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

**Vision**

Safe affordable buildings for Virginia communities.



**Virginia's rank in code  
strength by the Insurance  
Institute for Business and  
Home Safety**



## WORD FROM DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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 its 2016 Annual Report highlighting the programs, processes and staff that serve and support those residents and visitors to the Commonwealth. Some of the more significant accomplishments include:

- Publishing of the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA), officially starting the regulatory process of updating the Virginia Codes and the culmination of the Proposed Regulations phase with the approval by the Board of Housing and Community Development;
- Launching a new online code change system, cdpVA, which won the 2016 Governor's IT Award for best Government-to-Business system;
- Providing 497 code opinions;
- Implementing a new three-day training curriculum for the Virginia Rehab Code;
- Training 1,310 code academy attendees;
- Issuing 456 new certifications; and
- Working on the construction of (and attending the ribbon cutting of) the "Blueprint for the Future" home for disabled veteran Gary Hope and his daughter Diamonique.

Also noteworthy in 2016 was saying goodbye to two longtime DHCD staff members, Lorenzo Dyer and Valrae Negley, who are both now happily retired after serving DHCD for many years. It was a great year!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy L. Davis".

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

# DIVISION OF BUILDING AND FIRE REGULATIONS

# 2016 AT-A-GLANCE

## CODE DEVELOPMENT

### 2015 Code Development

- 13 Work group meetings
- 181 Proposals submitted
- Complete launch of CdpVa—a secure, cloud-based online code change process

### Notices of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA)

- Virginia Manufactured Housing Licensing and Transaction Recovery Fund Regulations (Update)
- Virginia Amusement Device Regulations (Update)
- Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (Update)
- Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (Update)
- Virginia Industrialized Building Safety Regulations (Update) groups
- 1 errata issued for VA codes
- 2 guidance documents published



## NEW CUSTOMER SERVICE

**8,682** Customer service calls and emails answered

## 497 OPINIONS: BY SUBJECT

<b>98</b>	Residential	<b>101</b>	Construction
<b>102</b>	USBC	<b>46</b>	General
<b>21</b>	Rehab	<b>13</b>	Mechanical
<b>14</b>	Plumbing	<b>24</b>	Maintenance
<b>4</b>	Electrical	<b>22</b>	Fire
<b>8</b>	Swimming pool/spa	<b>19</b>	Amusement Device
<b>7</b>	Energy	<b>6</b>	Industrialized Buildings
<b>12</b>	Manufactured Housing		

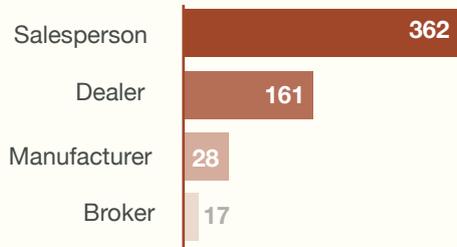
# 2016 AT-A-GLANCE

## JACK A. PROCTOR VIRGINIA BUILDING CODE ACADEMY (JPVBCA)

### MANUFACTURED HOUSING (MH)

- **113** Dealer Lots Inspected
- **3** MH Board Meetings
- **1** New MHB member
- **9** Complaints resolved

### MH LICENSES ISSUED



### INDUSTRIALIZED BUILDINGS (IB)

- **22** plants inspected in 5 states

### IB SEALS SOLD



Classes Held

**50**



Students Trained

**1310**



Online Modules Completed

**267**



Certifications Issued

**456**



CE Applications Processed

**824**



Courses Developed

**4** launched **7** ongoing



Volunteer Subject Matter Expert  
(SME) Development Hours

**1084**

# CODE DEVELOPMENT

## NEW CODE CHANGE PROCESS PLATFORM WINS AWARD FOR INNOVATION

DHCD prides itself on its building code development process. The implementation of CdpVA software has fostered inclusion and transparency in the code development process throughout the state. Through the platform, stakeholders can submit, view and comment on code change proposals anytime, anywhere. CdpVA won the 2016 Governor's Award in Technology as the best in the category of IT as Efficiency Driver—Government to Business.

### 2012 Codes

- Customer service delivered to client groups
- 1 guidance document published: *Residential Energy Alternative Compliance Method*

### 2015 Codes

Significant changes in the 2015 codes with a proposed effective date of June 2018:

- 13 code development workgroup meetings
- 181 proposals submitted
- Ongoing introduction and training of the cdpVA

### 2018 Codes

During 2016 DHCD staff held committee seats on ICC 2018 code development committees:

- Administrative
- Building Code Action
- Correlation
- Residential Energy Code

## PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL CODE PROCESS

Virginia's building and fire codes are based on the codes produced by the International Code Council (ICC), which produce new editions of the International Codes every three years. SBCO staff attends national code hearings and votes on proposals at the national hearings (as government members of ICC). In addition, SBCO staff serve on the following ICC committees and boards:

- Board of Directors
- Code Correlation Committee
- Administrative Committee
- Residential Energy Code Development Committee
- Building Code Action Committee
- Major Jurisdiction Committee
- Global Membership Council

# CUSTOMER SERVICE

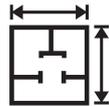
The State Building Code Office (SBCO) publishes code opinions in response to requests from outside of the agency.

CODE OPINIONS PUBLISHED **497**



**98**

Residential



**101**

Construction



**102**

USBC



**46**

General



**21**

Rehabilitation



**13**

Mechanical



**14**

Plumbing



**24**

Maintenance



**4**

Electrical



**22**

Fire



**8**

Swimming Pool/Spa



**19**

Amusement Device



**7**

Energy



**6**

Industrialized  
Building



**12**

Manufactured  
Housing

# STATE BUILDING CODE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD (SBCTRB)

SBCTRB primary's purpose is to hear appeals from enforcement actions under building, fire and other related regulations. This board also issues formal interpretations on code issues and recommends changes to regulations based on its decisions and interpretations.

The SBCTRB consists of 14 citizens appointed by the governor. By law, the organizations represented by the

board members are: the Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects, 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 and Virginia Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors.

## Board Membership

- Welcomed **2** new members
- In January 2016, Mr. John Knepper who represented the Electrical Contractors resigned from the SBCTRB and was replaced by Mr. E.G. (Rudy) Middleton on the Electrical Contractors seat.
- In November of 2016, Mr. John H. Epperson, PE, representing the Virginia Society of Professional Engineers, resigned from the SBCTRB and was replaced by Mr. Aaron Zdinak, PE, of Henrico in January 2017.

J. Robert Allen, CBO  
James R. Dawson  
Matthew Arnold  
W. Keith Brower, Jr.  
Vince Butler  
J. Daniel Crigler  
Alan Givens  
Joseph A. Kessler, III

Eric Mays, PE  
E. G. (Rudy) Middleton III  
Joanne D. Monday  
Patricia S. O'Bannon  
W. Shaun Pharr, Esq.  
Aaron L. Zdinak, PE  
Justin I. Bell, Esq., Board Counsel,  
Assistant Attorney General

## Board Actions

- Met **6** times
- Processed **11** appeals
- Conducted **6** informal fact-finding conferences
- Issued **13** final orders



# MANUFACTURED HOUSING

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) regulates Virginia's manufactured housing industry through the Virginia Manufactured Home Safety Regulations (MHSR) and the Virginia Manufactured Housing Licensing and Transaction Recovery Fund Regulations (MHLTRFR).

868

Manufactured Housing  
Licenses Issued

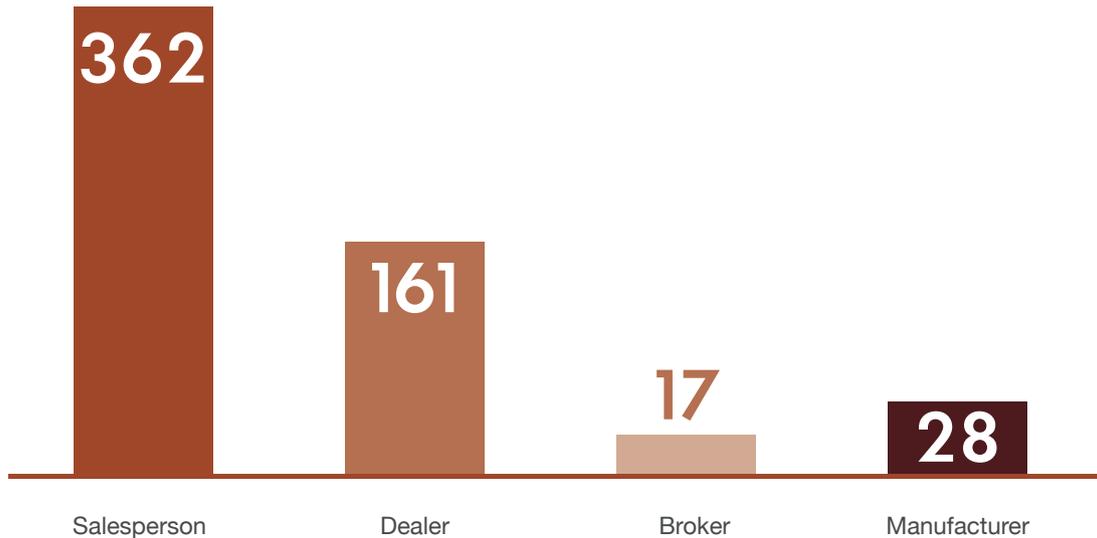
Initiated audits

113 dealer lots inspected

Closed 9 of 9 complaints received

Conducted 2 Subpart I Record reviews

## MH LICENSES ISSUED TO



# VIRGINIA MANUFACTURED HOUSING BOARD

The Virginia Manufactured Housing Board promulgates the licensing regulations to carry out the requirements for licensing of manufactured home manufacturers, dealers, brokers and salespersons.

The VMHB is comprised of nine members, appointed by the Governor, representing specific groups designated in the enabling legislation. The VMHB adopts and, with assistance of DHCD staff, carries out the enforcement of the Manufactured Housing Licensing and Transaction Recovery Fund Regulations. The board is responsible for licensing manufactured home dealers, brokers, manufacturers and the salespersons working for those companies, as well as authorized to receive consumer complaints on manufactured homes and make case decisions as necessary to resolve certain complaints.

In 2016 only two complaints were unresolved and moved to the VMHB. This is a decrease from past years in part due to a consistent and through audit program and industry cooperation.

All licenses, except temporary or special licenses, are issued for a one-year period and must be renewed annually.



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## Board Actions

- Met **3** times
- Issued **1** final order
- Reviewed and revised the Transaction Recovery Fund regulations creating a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action.
- \$38,000 has been paid to consumers through the Transaction Recovery Fund.

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## Board Membership

- Cindy Tomlin, Clayton Homes, was voted in as board chair replacing Ben Flores. Walter Cleaton, Home Solutions, replaces Dennis Jones as vice chair.
- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Cindy Ferreira Tomlin | David C. Bridges     |
| Walter S. Cleaton     | Keith W. Hicks       |
| Ben Flores            | Shawna J. Cheney     |
| Dennis Jones          | James W. Roncaglione |

# INDUSTRIALIZED BUILDING SAFETY REGULATIONS

The Virginia Industrialized Building Safety Regulations (IBSR) regulates industrialized buildings (IB), often referred to as modular buildings. The IBSR provides for the administration and enforcement of uniform statewide standards.

**3995**

Industrialized Building Seals Sold

## IB SEALS SOLD

Commercial

2105

Residential

1890

**\$252,375** collected for seals sold

**28**

Industrialized Building Plants Audited

North Carolina – 5

Virginia – 7

Pennsylvania – 8

Tennessee – 4

Georgia – 4

# PUBLIC RELATIONS AND OUTREACH

DHCD maintains positive relationships with various stakeholder and client groups across the state and region. These relationships remain an integral component to achieving the goals of the division. Such groups include:

- International Code Council (ICC)
- National Institute of Building Safety (NIBS)
- American Institute of Architects (AIA)
- Virginia Building Code Officials Association (VBCOA)
- Virginia Plumbing and Mechanical Inspectors Association (VPMIA)
- Virginia Chapter of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAEI)
- Virginia Fire Prevention Association (VFPA)
- Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP)
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ)
- Home Builders Association of Virginia (HBAV)
- Virginia Manufactured and Modular Housing Association (VAMMHA)
- Virginia Elevator Safety Association (VAESA)
- Women in Code Enforcement and Development of Virginia (WICED of VA)
- Virginia Department of Health (VDH)
- Virginia Association of Realtors (VAR)
- Apartment and Office Building Association (AOBA)
- Virginia Retail Merchants Association (VRMA)

59

Stakeholder meetings  
attended

## OTHER COMMITTEE AND BOARD SERVICE

Interstate Industrialized Buildings Commission  
Blueprint for the Future Design Competition Team

- Women in Code Enforcement and Development  
(national—WICED)
- National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS)
  - National Certification Program for Construction Code Inspectors (NCPCCI)

## May Declared Building Safety Month



*Above:* Governor Terry McAuliffe proclaimed May as Building Safety Month in Virginia with an event held at the state capitol to commemorate the occasion with Secretary of Commerce and Trade, Maurice Jones, presenting the proclamation to VBCOA president John Walsh. Also in attendance was DHCD Director Bill Shelton and representatives from FHCD, VBCOA, VPMIA, IAEL, VFPA, VAESA, WICED of VA, HBA Virginia, AIA, City of Richmond and DHCD staff.

*Right:* At the Governor's Technology Awards, DHCD staff were recognized for CdpVA—a secure, 24/7 online code change proposal system. The award category was best IT as Efficiency Driver—Government to Business.



## Blueprint for the Future Design Competition

DHCD partnered with VBCOA, HBAV, Veridiant and Easy Living Homes and Habitat for Humanity for the Blueprint for Future design competition in association with the Virginia Governors Housing Conference. Fittingly, the home built for veteran Gary Hope and his daughter Diamondique was dedicated on Veterans Day 2016, in Norfolk.



# JACK A. PROCTOR VIRGINIA BUILDING CODE ACADEMY



**50**

Live Classes Held

**1310**

Students Trained

**267**

Online Modules  
Completed

**456**

Certifications Issued



## Launched

- Virginia Rehabilitation Code Technical Training
- Continuing Education–Administrative Refresher
- Asbestos Online
- Water Reuse–Nonpotable Water Systems Online



## New in development

- Elevator Inspection Technical Course
- Administrative Refresher SNAP Series Online

## Relaunches under development

- Relaunches under Development
- Core
- Advanced Official
- Mechanical and Fuel Gas Inspection

**824**

Continuing Education  
Applications Processed

**1084** VOLUNTEER SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT  
DEVELOPMENT HOURS

# PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

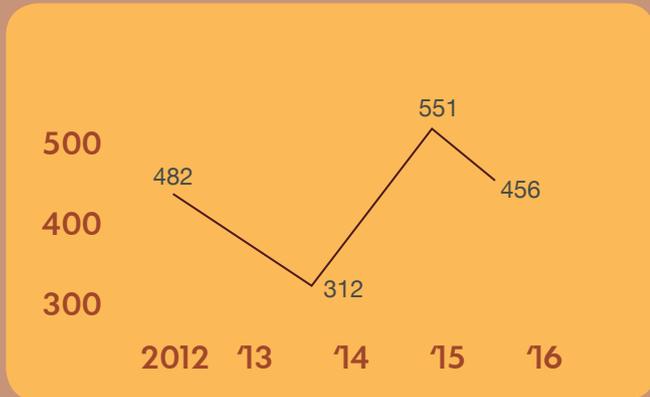


## TOTAL ATTENDANCE

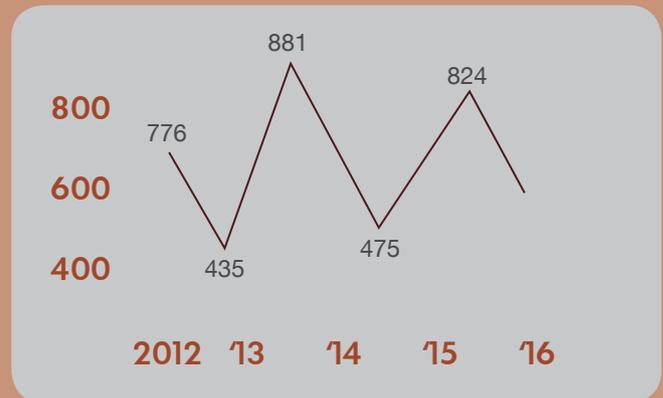


The Jack A. Proctor Virginia Building Code Academy is ramping up for a busy season due to code updates in 2018. Mandatory training occurs prior to code updates.

## CERTIFICATIONS ISSUED



## CE APPLICATIONS



## COMMITTEES

### DHCD (Internal)

- Recharge 2020 (Committee for DHCD organizational development)
- Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign (CVC) annual fundraising; DHCD raised more than \$7,000 for charity in 2016
- Learning Management System (LMS) Evaluating options and providing recommendations for a system to be used and shared across the division

### External

- Virginia Code Education Conference planning committee
- 2018 Richmond ICC Conference planning committee
- Women in Code Enforcement and Development (WICED)
- WICED of Virginia
- National Certification Program for Construction Code Inspectors (NCPCCI)
- VA Code Education Conference Committee (VCEC)
- 2018 Richmond ICC Conference Committee



*Instructors were invited to a full day business meeting on September 30, 2016 in Richmond, VA. Reviews of 2016 classes plus a detailed discussion on updating Core and Advanced official courses led to curriculum updates and process changes for 2017.*

# VIRGINIA BOARD OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DHCD supports various boards including the BHCD and its two advisory committees.

## **Board of Housing and Community Development**

Roger Mclellon  
John Ainslie  
Jeff Sadler  
Helen Hardiman  
Earl Reynolds  
Tommy Shields  
Rich Napier  
Patricia Shields  
Steve Semones  
John Patrick Carr  
Shekar Narasimhan  
Robby Dawson  
Susan F. Dewey  
Sean Farrell

## **Building Code Academy Advisory Committee**

Chris Snidow  
Eric Rice-Johnston  
Randy Pearce  
Dean Fortney  
Hugh Ritchie Cross  
Lou Wolf  
David Sharp  
Donna Rubino  
Jimmy Csizmadia  
Brian Gordon  
Mike Henley

## **Amusement Device Technical Advisory Committee**

Brian Gentilini  
Victor Purchase  
Danny Abner  
Tony Johnson  
Eddie Seyller



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