



TDLR FLASH - Newsletter of the Texas Electrical Safety and Licensing Program

Welcome to the TDLR FLASH

Our newsletter is intended to keep city officials and electricians throughout Texas informed of the Texas Electrical Safety and Licensing Act and TDLR's efforts to enforce the associated requirements. To receive news or updates on the electrical program you may go to <http://www.license.state.tx.us/newsletters/TDLRnotificationLists.asp>. You are also invited to interact with us via Facebook at <facebook.com/TDLRLicense> or Twitter at <twitter.com/TDLRLicense>

2011 NEC Code Adoption & State Electrical Exams



TDLR is mandated by state law to adopt the National Electrical Code (NEC) as the electrical code for the state which establishes the "minimum standard" for all electrical work in Texas that is covered by the Electrical Safety and Licensing Act. Soon, we will be proposing rule amendments to adopt the 2011 NEC and establish a target effective date of September 1, 2011. All non-exempt electrical work started on or after the effective date will have to be installed in accordance with the NEC 2011. For purposes of clarification, the "start" of electrical work is the day the electrician begins installing electrical materials or equipment within the residential or commercial building structure AND this would apply in the *unincorporated areas* of the state (i.e. where there are no city permitting requirements). Inside the corporate limits of a municipality (i.e. where there ARE city permitting requirements), electricians must abide by the permitting and electrical code requirements adopted under local ordinance. See *Statute 1305.201 (d) & (e) and Administrative Rule 73.53*. Additionally, the content of the state electrical examinations will be updated to incorporate the 2011 NEC references and requirements.

Journeyman Reciprocity Agreement with Wyoming



On May 4, 2010, Texas established a reciprocity agreement with the state of Wyoming, making this the third reciprocity agreement for the State of Texas. To be eligible for a reciprocal Wyoming license, Texas journeyman electricians must have passed a state-approved electrical licensing examination. Journeyman electricians who received a license under the provisions of the Texas Electrical Safety and Licensing Act without passing the ICC Texas or Texas exam, including those who passed an exam administered by a regional or municipal authority, are not eligible for a reciprocal license.

Monthly "Licensing Sweeps"



TDLR's monthly "licensing sweeps" continue. Our most recent activities over the last year included visits to the incorporated and unincorporated areas of:

Collin, Bandera, Kerr, Uvalde, Burnet, Real, Smith, Gregg, Angelina, Nacogdoches, Lake Brownwood, Comal, Travis, Blanco, Llano, Nueces, Aransas, San Patricio, Bee, Goliad, Johnson, Washington, Harris, Hamilton, Waller, Bastrop, Galveston, Orange, Jefferson, Williamson, Wichita, Archer, Clay, Titus, Red River, and Lamar Counties.

The "licensing sweeps" are intended to curtail unlicensed activity by establishing a TDLR presence, educating the public on the state electrical licensing requirements, and verifying that electrical work is being performed by licensed electricians in accordance with state law and rules. If you would like to coordinate for a license sweep in your area please contact Jerry Daniel at jerry@license.state.tx.us or (512) 799-1489.

City and Town Electrical Requirements



We have posted a webpage list of local electrical requirements (i.e. code, permitting, licensing, etc...) for many cities throughout the state. We encourage you to review the most current information that we have on record for your city at <http://www.license.state.tx.us/electricians/forms/citylist.pdf>. If you have not provided the agency with your local requirements OR if you need to update us on any changes, please do so by utilizing the [Municipal Electricians Requirements Questionnaire](#). We want to assist in keeping all electricians in Texas adequately informed, so please get us the information as soon as you can. Your input is invaluable!

Electrical Safety and Licensing Advisory Board



The Electrical Advisory Board last met on Wednesday, May 26, 2010. To listen to that or previous meetings via streaming audio...go to: <http://www.license.state.tx.us/electricians/elecmeet.htm>



TDLR Compliance Staff (Other Notable Activities)

- January 12, 2010 - Electrical Safety and Licensing Advisory Board Meeting in Austin
- January 19, 2010 - Spoke to students at MacArthur High School Electrical Trades Program, Teachers from the Texas Industrial Vocational Association (TIVA), and the Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Association in San Antonio
- January 26, 2010 - Town Hall Meeting in Corpus Christi
- February 10, 2010 - Town Hall Meeting at IEC Fort Worth
- February 12, 2010 - Southwest Association of Pool & Spa Professionals (APSP) Pool & Spa Show in San Antonio
- February 18, 2010 - APSP Austin Chapter Meeting in Austin
- March 2, 2010 - Independent Pool and Spa Service Association (IPSSA) Meeting in Austin
- March 23, 2010 - Town Hall Meeting at IEC Gulf Coast in Houston
- March 24, 2010 - Town Hall Meeting at IEC Gulf Coast in Houston
- March 25, 2010 - Town Hall Meeting at A.W. Hodde Jr. Technical Education Center Brenham
- April 1, 2010 - Town Hall Meeting at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Marriott South
- April 8, 2010 - Town Hall Meeting at Cliff Morton Development & Business Svcs. Center in San Antonio
- April 13 thru 15, 2010 - ME and JE Exam Development at TDLR North Campus Meeting Room
- May 26, 2010 - Electrical Safety and Licensing Advisory Board meeting
- July 15, 2010 - Presentation to TIVA High School Electrical Trades Program Teachers & IEC in Houston
- September 21, 2010 - Town Hall Meeting at Wichita Falls
- October 26 thru 28, 2010 - ME and JE Exam Development at TDLR North Campus
- November 16, 2010 - Spoke to the students at Mt. Pleasant High School Electrical Trades Program
- January 27, 2011 - Town Hall Meeting at Lufkin City Hall



Town Hall Meetings – Coming Soon to a Town Near You!

Compliance Division staff will be holding informal “town hall” meetings to touch base with local area contractors, inspectors, and any other interested persons. We hope these meetings will allow us to 1) put some faces to our names; 2) find out about electrical safety issues/concerns that may be specific to your area; 3) establish working partnerships with the local jurisdictions; 4) answer any “hot topic” questions regarding state electrical requirements, and 5) provide additional education on the law and rules. If you would like to invite us to hold a “town hall” meeting in your area please contact Jerry Daniel at jerry@license.state.tx.us or (512) 799-1489.



Additional Contact Information:

For general questions about the electrical program you may contact TDLR at (512) 463-6599 or toll-free (in Texas) (800) 803-9202. For the hearing impaired, Relay Texas - TDD is available at (800) 735-2989. For Questions about the State Electrical Program: electricians@license.state.tx.us
To File a Complaint or Report a Violation go to: <http://www.license.state.tx.us/Complaints/>



Did You Know...

As of **September 1, 2010**, all Apprentice electricians, who are not enrolled in a Department of Labor approved apprenticeship program, are required to take 4 hours of Continuing Education (annually) to renew their licenses.



Closing the Circuit

Your participation/input is critical! If you have any questions, concerns, comments, or observations, please contact us – we want to hear from you. You may reach Jerry Daniel at (512) 799-1489 or e-mail him at: Jerry@license.state.tx.us. You may reach Larry Reichle at (512) 779-2857 or e-mail him at: larry.reichle@license.state.tx.us. Please feel free to take this information and **PASS IT ON!**

Jerry Daniel – Electrical Occupations & Code Specialist
Larry Reichle – Program Specialist
Electrical Compliance Division