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FBC Education Administrator Report

July 18, 2012

- A. Provided administrative support for FBC Education POC for June 4, 2012 meeting
- B. Drafted report in lieu of minutes for FBC meeting June 11, 2012 meeting
- C. Prepared agenda for FBC Education POC meeting on July 30, 2012
- D. Inquiries from the public May 24, 2012 to July 17, 2012 as follows:

14 inquiries: 3 telephone; 9 email; 2 telephone and email

Category of inquirers:

8 Providers	2 Engineers	2 Consumers
2 Contractors		

Types of Inquiries:

2	Provider approval/renewal
3	FBC course approval
1	FBC course content
1	BCIS access
3	Course on Education POC agenda
1	UL certification
1	Types of roofing in Florida
1	Threshold building inspection requirements
1	Course for Infection Control Risk Assessment in health care facility construction

E. IMPORTANT NOTE: The rule number for the education rule has changed to: 61G20-6.002, Florida Administrative Code, as part of moving FBC to DBPR.

F. Workgroup Discussion – A workgroup discussion was held on May 30, 2012. The topic for discussion: To solicit input from FBC Training Providers and Accreditors relating to a recent change in law for submission of courses to DBPR licensing boards. The change was passed in House Bill 887 (now chapter 2012-72, Laws of Florida), and it takes effect October 1, 2012.

A copy of the hand-out is attached. A copy of the meeting summary is attached.

QUARTERLY WORKGROUP MEETING SUMMARY

May 30, 2012

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: Telephone Conference Call Number 800.356.8372

Access Code: 8854762#

In Person Attendance: AIA Florida, 104 East Jefferson Street, Talla. Fla.

Hosted By: Building A Safer Florida (BASF)

Subject: To solicit input from FBC Training Providers and Accreditors relating to a recent change in law for the submission of courses to DBPR licensing boards. The change was passed in House Bill 887 (now chapter 2012-72, Laws of Florida), and it takes effect on October 1, 2012.

Here are the changes made to the law:

455.2179 Continuing education provider and course approval; cease and desist orders.—
(1) If a board, or the department if there is no board, requires completion of continuing education as a requirement for renewal of a license, the board, or the department if there is no board, shall approve the providers and courses for ~~of~~ the continuing education. Notwithstanding this subsection or any other provision of law, the department may approve continuing education providers or courses even if there is a board. If the department determines that an application for a continuing education provider or course requires expert review or should be denied, the department shall forward the application to the appropriate board for review and approval or denial. The approval of continuing education providers and courses must be for a specified period of time, not to exceed 4 years. An approval that does not include such a time limitation may remain in effect pursuant to the applicable practice act or the rules adopted under the applicable practice act. Notwithstanding this subsection or any other provision of law, only the department may determine the contents of any documents submitted for approval of a continuing education provider or course.

Attendees

Cam Fentriss (Moderator) (BASF)	Eileen Johnson (AIA Fla.)
Michael Clark (BASF)	Vicki Long (AIA Fla.)
Rhonda Koning (Contractors Institute)	Bernice Ryder-Smit (Fla. Swimming Pool Assn)
Bob Neely (Alarm Assn. Of Fla.)	Dan Acock
Darrell Phillips (Fla. DOE)	Michelle (Camtech)
Jeffrey Stone Ph.D. (Commissioner, FBC, and Chair-FBC ED POC)	

Meeting Summary

Cam Fentriss welcomed everyone and asked if they had received the handout provided as an attachment to the emailed meeting notice (see attachment).

Cam stated that DBPR, as a result of HB 887, now has the authority to review and approve certain continuing education courses. Previously, those course reviews and approvals could only be conducted by the appropriate licensure board. This added authority means that DBPR will now need to develop the appropriate processes for course review and approval. She further stated that within the new rule language, there is a provision that states that DBPR can determine that an “expert review” of a course or provider application is required, in which case that course or provider application will be sent to the appropriate licensure board for review and approval/denial. Cam stated that because of the new provision, the boards may develop a set of guidelines for course reviews.

The Florida Building Commission has its review (accreditation) and approval process, which could have some similarities to what DBPR may develop. So with this background, Cam asked the participants if they had any input/ideas/suggestions regarding the soon to be developed course review and approval process by DBPR?

Rhonda Koning asked if DBPR will combine the FBC process with the DBPR process, because the CILB has talked about this before. Cam stated that she did not think that would be a result of this change in the law, but rather to generally take some of the pressure off of the boards regarding course approval. Rhonda also asked about combining all board applications into one master application that could be used for any board. Cam suggested this question be raised with DBPR.

Bob Neely stated that he was a bit confused, asking what has changed? He stated that he would submit a course to the FBC, and then he would separately submit that course to the ECLB. Cam stated that the process of submitting advanced courses to the FBC for approval, then submitting that course to DBPR would not change. The new language in the law would apply to a host of professions, and only apply to courses that fit specific criteria. Specifically, the new language applies to courses that would not require technical/expert review. Cam further stated that the law will take effect on October 1, 2012, and that more than likely DBPR will conduct some workshop(s) to explain the new processes in place and to solicit feedback from providers.

A participant asked if the FBC process would work for DBPR, and that it looked like these changes would mean more fees for providers. Cam stated that the type of fees addressed are currently charged for accreditors to review advanced courses, which constitutes an expert review. The new changes apply to courses that would not require expert review, so based on the change alone, there may not be an increase in fees. Cam reiterated the fact that many courses do not require expert review.

A participant stated that they really liked to submit courses electronically to the FBC. Another participant stated that they have recently submitted a course to the CILB electronically, and further said that they (CILB) are doing this with more frequency. Cam asked how the CILB handled payment with the electronic submissions. The participant stated that the CILB accepted both check and/or credit card.

Cam reiterated that the current FBC accreditation process will remain intact. She further stated that it seems to be working well, especially with providers who produce many courses.

A participant stated that she likes the FBC process. In fact, she wished that all CE courses (not just advanced) went through the FBC accreditation process, with all licensure boards then subsequently “rubberstamping” those course approvals. She also stated that she would like more guidelines for uniform review by accreditors.

Cam asked for other questions, comments, suggestions. None were given so Cam asked that if others had suggestions, to please email those to Cam. The meeting was then adjourned.

Written comments submitted before the workgroup meeting by Dean Jarvis (who could not attend the workgroup meeting):

Subj: RE: Discussion - Changes in DBPR CE Course Processing Law - May 30 at 2 p.m.
Date: 5/24/2012 7:16:59 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: deanjarvis@tampabay.rr.com
Reply-to: flrenovators@tampabay.rr.com
To: BASFanswers@aol.com
Sent from the Internet (Details)

Cam, thank you for taking my call. You have always been most helpful. I will be in an education class all day on the 30th. I am responding as a general contractor and as a provider. We continue to add huge mandatory codes and regulation ,but no education!

1. There is too much information and regulation concerning the FBC to have just one hour of advanced core. Not one contractor really understands or reads the code. Almost all contractors don't even know some code specifics. The contractors gain only some code info from discussion or issues when complying with issues. (Blind leading the blind)
2. FBC basics: understanding occupancy codes. Most field inspectors don't know the code. Complexities of occupancy and fire codes should be separate education requirements. 5 types of construction who knows that. I ask; what is type “H” occupancy
3. The administration code is not adhered to by city building departments personnel. We do what we want to because no one will challenge us.
4. SOME FBC needs to be geared towards the design professional
5. FEMA flood rules are dropped in chapter 16. Understanding basic NFIP as implemented by FEMA is way to much for the average CBO to understand let alone inspectors. I have been trained on NFIP and CFR44 at Emergency Management Institute and hold a CFM designation. I attended my first FEMA

seminar in 1981. There has been so many violation its pathetic. 158 unanswered violation in St.Petersburg beach! (I have photos and evidence) I see failures in administrating flood codes. Name two types of flood proofing! When we get a hurricane and the underside of homes that have been flooded and FEMA pays. 880 million go's to pay the interest from Katrina alone! I have worked with FEMA on presenting the minimum requirements of the NFIP, it takes 4 hours done by FEMA

6. Mitigation: there is no mitigation. I am tired of the constant failures of state programs. WWM Wind mitigation. In 2007 in Tampa mandatory gable end reinforcement. Citizens doesn't discount for gable end reinforcements. Wind mitigation is too much info in chapter 16 alone. You need 4 hours to just hear the very basics on wind. I know I have presented the information on ASCE-7, building zones, Wind zone "C" or "B"? level of importance factors and height of structure, tributary loads, load transfers.

7. The presentations that I have seen and that are promoted are eclectic and week. State grants and BOAF FREE education seminars are incomplete.

I am out of time since I don't get paid for doing this like some people. Just a product of my environment. You would think I would give up, but it's my only solace against the rhetoric !

Regards,
Dean Jarvis
CGR-CR-CFM-CKBR-CGP-GMR-GMB
Florida Renovators, Inc. and Professional Training & Consultants, Inc.
Phone: 727-531-9520
Fax: 727-536-2643
www.floridarenovators.com

Subj: **REVISED FW: Discussion - Changes in DBPR CE Course Processing Law - May 30 at 2 p.m.**
Date: 5/25/2012 11:30:04 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: deanjarvis@tampabay.rr.com
Reply-to: flrenovators@tampabay.rr.com
To: BASFanswers@aol.com
Sent from the Internet (Details)

I have an additional comment. Please consider the source. Application is everything. All interpretations are subject to how is it applied.

THE EXISTING BUILDING CODE needs to be mandatory! 20 million in this state means that all existing buildings must follow under these codes. How is the FBC existing code applied? How is the existing structure documented? How much can be upgraded? Subject to provisions in the existing code should be all up grade requirements. Remember Citizen does give discounts for gable end reinforcements.

Regards,
Dean Jarvis
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Informal Workgroup Discussion – Changes in Law for DBPR Continuing Education Course Processing

Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: Telephone conference call number 800-356-8372 Access code 8854762#
To attend in person: AIA Florida, 104 East Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, Florida

Subject: To solicit input from FBC Training Providers and Accreditors relating to a recent change in law for submission of courses to DBPR licensing boards. The change was passed in House Bill 887 (now chapter 2012-72, Laws of Florida), and it takes effect October 1, 2012.

This does NOT affect submission and processing of advanced codes courses through the FBC Building Code Information System (BCIS). The change in law applies only to courses submitted for licensure board approval.

As FBC training providers and accreditors who have experience submitting advanced codes courses electronically and having these courses reviewed by accreditors, your perspective on submission, review, and approval of courses is valuable in considering questions and issues that are relevant to implementation of the changes for processing courses for licensing board approval. This discussion is an opportunity to express your thoughts. We will compile your thoughts, suggestions, and questions and provide these to DBPR. Please know that DBPR may schedule one or more meetings with training providers as they get closer to implementation of the changes.

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Some possible topics for discussion:

- Do you think the FBC accreditation system is beneficial for course review? If yes, why and how.
- Do you think the FBC accreditation system saves time in processing course applications?
- Do you think it is beneficial to submit course applications electronically? If yes, why and how.

May 30, 2012