
THE ARKANSAS HVAC/R NEWSLETTER

Summer 2009 Issue

2009 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Listed below are a few changes that came out of the 87th General Assembly of 2009. The whole text of the Acts will not be printed because of space requirements. However, each can be researched at the State of Arkansas Web Site. You might want to read these Acts in their entirety. Each one could have an effect on you as well as other contractors.

Act 341 – An Act to increase the maximum fines for violation of a municipal ordinance and for other purposes. This Act changes the maximum fine from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00 and from \$250.00 to \$500.00 a day for continued violation. Better think twice about not pulling that permit and know each city's requirements before starting a job.

Act 1196 – An Act to add “Aviation Fuel” to the data collected by the Arkansas Energy Office, to direct the Arkansas Energy Office to issue a rule requiring an Arkansas city or county that issues building permits to adopt the 2004 Energy Code for new construction, and for other purposes. Are you familiar with the Energy Code? Is the enforcement of the Energy Code coming to a city near you?

Act 1467 – An Act to license mold investigators, to establish standards for mold investigations, to establish qualifications for mold investigators, and other purposes. This chapter shall be known as the “Arkansas Mold Investigator Licensing Act”. This program will be set up under the administration of the State Plant Board.

MECHANICAL CODE UPDATE

At the HVACR Board Meeting on May 13th, the Mechanical Code Committee asked for and received approval from the full HVACR Board to proceed with the rule adoption process for the 2009 Arkansas Mechanical Code. Copies of the draft are now being printed and will be sent out to interested parties throughout the state for their comments. At the time of this printing a Public Hearing date has not been set. We will keep you posted.

FROM THE BOARD

APRIL MINUTES

The regular scheduled meeting of the HVACR Board was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Arkansas HVACR Association in Fort Smith, AR.

Excerpts from the minutes:

Mr. McClellan recognized Board Member Keith Merritt to give a report on the committee studying proposed contractor insurance, CEUs and fee increases.

Mr. Merritt said the committee had agreed to the following proposals to present to the full Board: (a) Staff should prepare and present to the committee a proposed license fee structure based, as accurately as possible, on the most recent data available, (b) Institute a minimal continuing education requirement for each of the following license classifications A, B, C, D, E, and registrants, and (c) A requirement for contractor liability insurance for all active license holders. After a general discussion, a motion was made to support the recommendations. Motion carried by 4 yeas, 2 nays, and 2 abstentions.

Staff will keep you posted as this moves forward.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following people who studied hard and passed their HVACR test and are now licensed HVACR Contractors: Results are for the months of March and April.

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Class</u>
Khanh Bui	Texarkana	Class B
Kendall Dunbar	Bella Vista	Class B
Scott Herring	Haynesville LA.	Class B
Thomas Swann	Alexander	Class A
Chadd Hoffmann	Kaukauna WI.	Class A
David Reed	Sherwood	Class B
Richard Arman	Maumelle	Class B
Jimmy Davis	Calico Rock	Class B
Natalie Kramer	Fayetteville	Class B
Kenneth Andrews	Benton	Class D
Carl Blanchard	Ward	Class B
Russell Gibbons	Ward	Class B
Theodore Friedman	Bryant	Class B
Gary Manske	Rogers	Class C
Michael Catron	Walnut Ridge	Class A
Dino Vergura	Springdale	Class C
Blake Brasher	Paragould	Class A
Jerry Cary	Mountain View	Class B
Cody Smith	Germantown TN.	Class B
Mark Rogers	Benton	Class A
William Norrell	Hamburg	Class A
James Tomlin	Hot Springs	Class B
Randy Cates	England	Class B
Matt Holsted	Mountainburg	Class B
Steven Bradley	Clarksville	Class B
Stanley Mize	Paragould	Class B
Derek Pike	Alexander	Class B
Ronald Shirley	Texarkana	Class A
Don Wright	Sherwood	Class A

FEE INCREASE?

Stop and think for a minute about how long your HVACR license fees have remained the same. The HVACR licensing program is like any other business out there. Our cost keeps going up. However, our revenue continues to drop. Do you want to keep the program in place as it is currently or do you want to lose Staff and Enforcement? Please start giving this question some thought. Every member of this industry is going to have to make that decision in the next year or so. Think about it!

HEARING RESULTS

We are running a little behind on hearings this year because of the Fort Smith Meeting and new mechanical code review, however; things will be picking up the next two months as we have seven hearings scheduled for the months of June and July.

January

Allen Bryant	Conway	\$ 500.00
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February

No Hearings

March

Jerry Coleman	Kosciusko MS.	\$1500.00
Mickey Smith	Delight	\$ 250.00

April

No Hearings

May

Ken Andrews	Little Rock	\$ 250.00
David Wiley	Mt. View	Postponed
Robert Burgess	Jonesboro	\$1500.00

CHINESE DRYWALL

Have you heard about the toxic drywall imported from China? There was some drywall imported from China between 2005 and 2007 and according to the EPA this drywall contained sulfur, a corrosive material, and high levels of Strontium. It's my understanding that when the sulfur and moister mix it causes sulfuric acid which in turn corrodes metal (eats up the coils) and turns cooper pipe black. Florida leads the nation in complaints. Complaints are also coming from homeowners in Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee and Mississippi. Replacing the same coils over and over? You might want to Google Chinese drywall!

Note: The U.S. government has made clear that not all Chinese drywall is bad.

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY????

If you would like to offer comments, suggestions, or ideas for articles, please let us know. You may write to us at the Arkansas Department of Health, Protective Health Codes, 4815 West Markham Street, Slot #24, Little Rock, AR 72203 or call 501.661.2642