

Subject **July 2021 MIACCA Newsletter**  
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*Working hard to Protect, Promote & Educate our Profession*

## JULY 2021 NEWSLETTER



**MICHIGAN**  
AIR CONDITIONING CONTRACTORS  
ASSOCIATION

### **Edition Highlights**

- [BCC Hearing on Necessity for 2021 Residential Code Update](#)
- [MIACCA's SB 60 awaiting House Floor Vote](#)
- [2020 Utility VAPS Reports](#)
- [MIACCA's Introduced HB 4705 in the House Oversight Committee](#)
- [Statewide Permit Update](#)
- [July is National UV Safety Month](#)
- [Heat Related Illnesses and What to Look For](#)
- [ACCA Seeks 2021 Service Manager of the Year Nominations](#)
- [Federated Insurance - Is your Facility Protected from Potential Theft?](#)



# Message from President

## Phil Forner

With the summer heat in full swing, and a heatwave headed our way, I know how busy you all are and will continue to be. I just want to stress the importance of staying safe in the heat. We have included a heat illness awareness chart on what to look for and what to do for your convenience.

Please share this with your employees and staff, so everyone is aware of what to look for. Also please be sure to keep plenty of water available in coolers on your work vehicles for yourself and techs. MIACCA continues to provide you with up to date information and resources that we feel are fitting to our industry.

*Have a safe and happy fourth of July holiday!*



### BCC Hearing on Necessity for 2021 Residential Code Update

The Bureau of Construction Codes will hold a public meeting Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Michigan Library and Historical Center, [702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, MI 48915](#), 1st Floor Forum.

The purpose of the meeting is to allow persons an opportunity to present data and comments on the general need to update the current [Michigan Residential Code](#) with the [2021 edition of the International Residential Code](#).

Comments may be presented in person at the public meeting on Tuesday, July 20, 2021.

If presentations at the public meeting are available in written form, please provide a copy to the Rules Analyst at the conclusion of comments. Individuals who are not present at the meeting may submit written testimony by email or mail to be received no later than 5:00 pm, Tuesday, July 20, 2021,

**We are asking our members for your opinion** on whether or not you would like MIACCA to take a position on this. If you have an opinion you would like to share, please do so as soon as possible. If you would like us to take a position and if you would like MIACCA to submit your written testimony, please provide it to M.J. D'Smith at [mjdsmith@miacca.org](mailto:mjdsmith@miacca.org) by **July 16th at 5:00 p.m.**

## MIACCA Bill SB 60 and Passes through Senate and awaiting House Floor Vote

On February 25th, SB 60, which was SB 827, the bill that MIACCA introduced last year, was reintroduced and has passed the Senate. Our bill will be heading to the House shortly. This bill is important to the HVAC industry as it will continue the long standing safety practice of having employers attest to an applicant's mechanical work experience; and provide for a reasonable work experience credit for those who go to school to learn a skilled trade and successfully completes a recognized HVAC trade school, community college, or university program.

The bill is currently unopposed by the Governor and is awaiting House Floor vote . MIACCA will continue to keep you posted on the bills progress.

## 2020 Utility Annual VAPS Reports

DTE has also submitted their 2020 VAPS annual reports to the Michigan Public Service Commission. Visit the MIACCA [Code of Conduct Page](#). DTE profited \$20 million on the gas VAPS program. You will recall that Consumers Energy ASP gross sales amount for its breakdown insurance \$78,883,877 and the total amount of "Cost of Goods Sold" "Material & labor (including labor overheads)" \$26,590,500. This adds up to about \$50 million which roughly represents the amount of repair business that regular HVAC contractors did not do in 2020.

The reports were due on April 30th and are now coming available. As more reports are obtained by MIACCA, we will post them on our page. Remember, this is one of MIACCA's initiatives to have the reports turned into the Michigan Public Service Commission and we are the only ones who have the reports online for your reference. This is an accomplishment we are proud of as we important to share the impact of the program, to our industry, with our members.

## MIACCA's Introduced HB 4705 in the House Oversight Committee

This bill would mandate that every meeting of a public body that is a state licensing board, commission panel, or rule-making board, except a meeting or part of a meeting held in closed session, must be recorded in a manner that allows for the capture of sound. MIACCA has been active in trying to get these meetings recorded in order to reference things that are not always captured in minutes. This will provide our members involved in these meetings to access them in a thorough manner. The bill states that these recordings will have to be maintained for one year. You may [view the bill here](#).

The bill has been referred to the House Oversight Committee where they are in the process of a second reading of the bill. We will keep you posted on the next steps in the process.

We gratefully appreciate Representatives Luke Meerman, Gary Howell, Jeffrey Yaroch and Steven Johnson for introducing this important piece of legislation.

## MIACCA's Statewide Permit Update

At the last Construction Code Commission (CCC) meeting, in April, MIACCA's request for a statewide permit was on the agenda. They had sought input for building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing permit applications. MCL 125.1510(1) requires these applications to be on a form prescribed by the commission. The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) highly encourages the CCC to prescribe these forms, and the CCC acknowledges assistance from the Bureau of Construction Codes. For your reference, this was the [MIACCA proposed form](#), that we submitted.

Their next meeting is July 21st, 2021 and MIACCA's Executive Director, M.J. D'Smith, will be in attendance to encourage the commission to keep moving forward to prescribe a consistent statewide mechanical permit. We will continue to keep you informed.

THREE TIPS ON  
**SUN SAFETY**



July is national UV safety month! As you have fun in the sun, here are some tips on how to stay safe and protected from one of the leading causes of skin cancer.

### Become sun smart!



Companies are selling "sunscreen pills," which may seem too good to be true. They are! This spring, the FDA published a warning against these products.



Know your risk. Some people are more prone to UV damage, including those with skin cancer in their family and with light eyes and skin that easily burns.



Always wear sunscreen when you're outside, and, when possible, find a shady spot and wear protective clothing and eyewear, too!

To read more about skin cancer, visit [curetoday.com/tumor/skin](http://curetoday.com/tumor/skin)

## July is National UV Safety Month

July is UV Safety Awareness Month, but it is also important to remember skin protection throughout the whole year. According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), ultra-violet (UV) radiation exposure is the root cause of most skin cancers.

Sun safety has been on former Philadelphia Phillies third basemen [Mike Schmidt](#)'s mind since he was diagnosed with stage 3 melanoma in 2013. For the past five years, the MLB Hall of Famer has been advocating for staying protected in the sun and has even advocated for the implementation of sunscreen dispensers in Citizens Bank Park, as well as throughout parks and public spaces in Philadelphia. However, sunscreen should not be the first — and definitely not the only — line of defense against the sun. The ACS stressed that it is also important for individuals to wear protective clothing, and find time in the shade, when possible.

Knowing your risk of skin cancer is crucial, too. One *CURE* contributor found out that she was at a [higher chance of](#)



[developing skin cancer](#) since she was a breast cancer survivor with a BRCA2 genetic mutation. Now, she is sure to get annual dermatology checkups, and practices her own sun safety, which includes protective clothing, sunscreen and hats!

[READ MORE](#)

## Heat Related Illnesses - Know What to Look For

HEAT-RELATED ILLNESSES	
WHAT TO LOOK FOR	WHAT TO DO
<b>HEAT STROKE</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High body temperature (103°F or higher)</li><li>• Hot, red, dry, or damp skin</li><li>• Fast, strong pulse</li><li>• Headache</li><li>• Dizziness</li><li>• Nausea</li><li>• Confusion</li><li>• Losing consciousness (passing out)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Call 911 right away-heat stroke is a medical emergency</li><li>• Move the person to a cooler place</li><li>• Help lower the person's temperature with cool cloths or a cool bath</li><li>• Do not give the person anything to drink</li></ul>
<b>HEAT EXHAUSTION</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Heavy sweating</li><li>• Cold, pale, and clammy skin</li><li>• Fast, weak pulse</li><li>• Nausea or vomiting</li><li>• Muscle cramps</li><li>• Tiredness or weakness</li><li>• Dizziness</li><li>• Headache</li><li>• Fainting (passing out)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Move to a cool place</li><li>• Loosen your clothes</li><li>• Put cool, wet cloths on your body or take a cool bath</li><li>• Sip water</li></ul> <p><b>Get medical help right away if:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You are throwing up</li><li>• Your symptoms get worse</li><li>• Your symptoms last longer than 1 hour</li></ul>
<b>HEAT CRAMPS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Heavy sweating during intense exercise</li><li>• Muscle pain or spasms</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stop physical activity and move to a cool place</li><li>• Drink water or a sports drink</li><li>• Wait for cramps to go away before you do any more physical activity</li></ul> <p><b>Get medical help right away if:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cramps last longer than 1 hour</li><li>• You're on a low-sodium diet</li><li>• You have heart problems</li></ul>
<b>SUNBURN</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Painful, red, and warm skin</li><li>• Blisters on the skin</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stay out of the sun until your sunburn heals</li><li>• Put cool cloths on sunburned areas or take a cool bath</li><li>• Put moisturizing lotion on sunburned areas</li><li>• Do not break blisters</li></ul>
<b>HEAT RASH</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Red clusters of small blisters that look</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stay in a cool, dry place</li></ul>

like pimples on the skin (usually on the neck, chest, groin, or in elbow creases)



- Keep the rash dry
- Use powder (like baby powder) to soothe the rash



## ACCA Seeks 2021 Service Manager of the Year Nominations

The Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA) is seeking nominations for the Service Manager of the Year award, sponsored by [XOi Technologies](#). Each year, ACCA presents the Service Manager of the Year award to one outstanding individual. This year, ACCA will present the award at [ACCA's Service Managers Forum](#), November 2-3 2021 in New Orleans, LA.

Service Managers who work for an ACCA member company in good standing are eligible and must be nominated by their company's owner, president, or general manager. The ideal candidate promotes teamwork amongst all departments, emphasizes the importance of continuous training and learning, develops programs to motivate employees, and focuses on providing superior customer service.

"ACCA is proud to recognize the important role that service managers play in contracting businesses," said Barton James, ACCA president and CEO. "We look forward to receiving many outstanding nominations from ACCA's top contracting businesses across the country."

To nominate a service manager, contractors must submit the online form at [acca.org/members/awards/smotyaward](https://acca.org/members/awards/smotyaward). Nominations are due September 24, 2021.

For additional information on ACCA's Service Manager of the Year Award, or any of ACCA's award programs, please contact Melissa Broadus, ACCA director of member communications at [melissa.broadus@acca.org](mailto:melissa.broadus@acca.org) or (703) 824-8842.

For more information about ACCA, please contact Deb Weiner, ACCA manager of communications and strategic partnerships at [deb.weiner@acca.org](mailto:deb.weiner@acca.org) or (703) 824-8862.

**It's Our Business to Protect Yours**  
**FEDERATED**

### Is Your Facility Protected From Potential Theft?

Take a close look at your business. Does it seem like a place that may attract thieves? Predicting when a theft will occur is difficult – if not impossible. The thief could be someone with high intent who does a lot of planning, or potentially an amateur acting on impulse. Either way, consider the habits and situations that might make you an easier target, and what steps you may need to take to enhance the security of your business.

There are five key physical protection strategies that can assist you in protecting your business from theft. They are: deter, detect, delay, deny, and defeat. Combined, these strategies could go a long way in helping to prevent theft at your facility:

**Deter** – Help prevent crime through environmental design such as maintaining defined boundaries around the workplace. This also includes proper signage, use of alarms and surveillance systems, strategic lighting, and designating spaces where vendors or visitors are allowed – and not allowed. The use of access controls such as ID cards and badges can help limit entrance to only those who should be present.

**Detect** – Monitoring through the use of alarms, both inside and outside the building, and especially at all entrance and exit points. Motion sensors, thermal imaging, intelligent video and surveillance, and closed-circuit television can all help provide a quick response to any unwanted visitors.

**Delay** – Utilizing perimeter barriers such as fences, gates, keypads with secure PIN numbers, control locks, reinforced windows, and secured roof openings can help contribute to a safer workplace. Actively controlling vehicle access, using electronic access for certain areas, providing specific areas for walkways that can be monitored, and using construction techniques may help add another level of security.

**Deny** – Immobilizing large, valuable objects with locks and chains or cables can help frustrate a would-be thief, as can storing valuables in a secure place. Lock all doors and fences securely, and remind your employees to do the same. Consider conducting background checks or other employment screening where allowed by applicable law on anyone who may be in a security-sensitive role to help ensure they are trustworthy.

**Defeat** - Collaborating with other nearby businesses or law enforcement to come up with security tactics can benefit you and your neighbors. Incorporating a daily walkthrough of your building is also recommended to help verify that everything is secure and in order.

Don't make it easy for a thief to gain access to your business. Keep these strategies in mind when looking for vulnerable points around your facility, and take action now before a theft occurs.

*This article is for general information and risk prevention only and should not be considered legal or other expert advice. The recommendations herein may help reduce, but are not guaranteed to eliminate, any or all risk of loss. The information herein may be subject to, and is not a substitute for, any laws or regulations that may apply. Qualified counsel should be sought with questions specific to your circumstances. © 2020 Federated Mutual Insurance Company.*



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