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Sent: Friday, February 2, 2018 7:01 AM
To: M.J. D'Smith
Subject: MIACCA February Newsletter



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February 2018 Newsletter

- MIACCA / Ferris State University HVACR scholarship applications due February 28, 2018
- Add additional users to your MIACCA membership for more online access
- Mechanical contractors be aware of new Skilled Trades Regulation Act licensing requirements
- HB 5376 introduced to provide for code review committees
- 2015 Michigan Residential Code to remain in effect for 3 more years
- Gov. Rick Snyder Reorganizes Agency for Energy but keeps the Energy Ombudsman

Message from President Bill Krestakos



Greetings MIACCA Members. February is here and that is one month closer to warmer weather. I hope you have all been keeping safe this winter season. MIACCA is proud to be sponsoring the student chapter of ACCA at Ferris State University to attend the ACCA conference in Washington D.C. in February. If you are attending, be sure to introduce yourselves to them as a MIACCA member. The deadline for the Ferris State University MIACCA scholarship & other HVAC scholarships is February 28, 2018. For details visit: [:https://ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/technolo/Scholarships/HVACR.htm](https://ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/technolo/Scholarships/HVACR.htm)

As I have mentioned before, the Code classes, hosted by our Associate Member Behler-Young have been very successful and we hope to be putting more of them on. With the confusion of the new roof top air conditioning standards Also, I encourage you to check with your local jurisdiction for the requirements. If you are looking for Code change or a CSD-1 class please contact M.J. to put in a request.

Message from Executive Director M.J. D'Smith



Happy February Members! I will be attending the ACCA conference in Washington D.C. February 12-14th. I look forward to meeting some of our members, so please introduce yourselves. I look forward to this opportunity to network and gain more knowledge of your profession and see how things are done on a national level. I will give you an update in March!

Please take advantage of our new option to add employees or other associates from your organization to your profile by logging in at www.miacca.org. This will allow them to receive news and other membership benefits under your membership umbrella and at no charge to you. Follow these instructions: [Adding individuals to your membership.pdf](#) If you have questions or need assistance getting members added, please contact me at mjdsmith@miacca.org

Michigan Legislative Update

MECHANICAL LICENSE HOLDERS BEWARE now that the Forbes Mechanical Contractors Act has been replaced with the Skilled Trades Regulation Act.

As many of you know, the former Forbes Mechanical Contractors Act was not enforced that often. However the new Skilled Trades Regulation Act (STRA) makes it much easier to go after unlicensed activities. [Article 6](#) of the STRA states in Sec. 601 that “a person shall not engage in or attempt to engage in the practice of an occupation regulated under this act or use a title designated in this act unless the person possesses a license issued by the department for the occupation”. Which not only means a person with no mechanical license cannot engage in mechanical work as identified in [Article 8](#) of the STRA, but also means that a person without the proper mechanical license classifications cannot do other mechanical work that requires a different mechanical license classification. Such as a person with an HVAC Equipment mechanical license classification, who is licensed to install HVAC equipment and systems, may not do limited heating service work for which a “limited heating service” license classification is required.

Sec. 603 of the STRA, states that “if a person violates this act or a rule or order promulgated or issued under this act, the department shall assess penalties”; which could include “if the person is licensed under this act and except as otherwise provided in this act, an administrative fine to be paid to the department of not more than \$10,000.00”. Basically this provision is indicating that if you are already licensed under the STRA that you should know better and that because you are licensed under the STRA you are subject to an additional fine of up to \$10,000. So those with mechanical licenses may want to think twice about doing mechanical work for which they do not have the proper mechanical license classification.

This potential fine is in addition to the other provisions of Sec. 607 of the STRA; which identifies the following as violations of the STRA: practices fraud, deceit, or dishonest in practicing an occupation; demonstrates a lack of good moral character; commits an act of gross negligence in practicing of an occupation; practices false advertising; commits an act that demonstrates incompetence; and aids or abets another person in the unlicensed practice of an occupation.

So mechanical license holders beware of what mechanical license classifications you have and don't have. If you are not sure about what classifications you have, you can look up a Bureau of Construction Code issued license at: <https://aca3.accela.com/lara/>

HB 5376 Update– Required Code Advisory Committees

On Wednesday, January 10, 2018, [HB 5376](#) was introduced by Reps. Iden, Bellino, Kesto, Crawford, Griffin, Webber, Brann and McCready and referred to the Committee on Regulatory Reform.

The introduced bill would amend the [Stille-DeRossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act, PA 230 of 1972](#) to require the Director, before adopting new editions of Michigan construction codes, to appoint specific advisory committees to review the proposed codes in public meetings and make recommendations to the Director. HB 5376 calls out for industry experts and other appropriate representation to be on the different advisory committees.

MIACCA is in support of the initial concept behind the bill and will be working to bring more mechanical expertise and transparency to Michigan mechanical codes and regulations. We will continue to keep you posted of any updates we receive.



Michigan Regulatory Update

2015 Michigan Residential Code to remain In effect for 3 more years

The Bureau of Construction Codes has just [announced](#) that the Michigan will not be updating to the 2018 International Resident Code. Which means the 2015 Michigan Residential Code will remain in effect until Michigan adopts the 2021 International Residential Code with Michigan amendments.

Gov. Rick Snyder Reorganizes Agency for Energy

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced a restructuring of the Michigan Agency for Energy (MAE) and the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) with Executive Order 2018-1. However this order keeps the Energy Ombudsman for monitoring the Code of Conduct, on-bill utility financing, and serving as a liaison for business and individuals. As well as a change in the chair of the Pipeline Safety Advisory Board in response to MAE Executive Director Valerie Brader's resignation from the administration.

MAE Deputy Director Madhu Anderson will serve as the agency's acting executive director after Brader's departure. [Read More.](#)

Upcoming LARA Meetings

Board of Mechanical Rules
February 28, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.
611 W. Ottawa, Lansing, MI 48933

[Visit here for more information](#)



The [2018 Committee Action Hearings](#) are on April 15–25, 2018, in Columbus, Ohio. The hearings offer code and fire officials, architects, builders, engineers, and plumbing, mechanical and energy conservation professionals the opportunity to debate proposed changes to the Group A International Codes®. The hearings are free to attend, but preregistration is recommended. [Sign up today](#)



ACCA Gives Service Award to MIACCA Member Supervisor



A MIACCA member from Grand Rapids, Michigan, has been named the ACCA's 2017 Service Manager of the Year.

Chris Gessner of Schaafsma Heating and Cooling Co. received the award at the Air Conditioning Contractors of America's Service Leadership Forum in October 2017 in New Orleans.

"Once again, we received many excellent nominations for the Service Manager of the Year Award. Chris, however, stood out in the nomination process because he proved that he is committed to upholding the quality contracting practices that ACCA members are known for," said Paul T. Stalknecht, ACCA's president and CEO. "His efforts to encourage professional development among Schaafsma's technicians and his commitment to quality training programs are widely recognized by Chris's colleagues. He is very deserving of this great award."

Gessner was given an American flag that was flown over the U.S. Capitol June 22, 2017, which was designated National HVAC Technician Day.

"It is an honor to be named as ACCA's Service Manager of the Year," Gessner said. "Being honored this way is a reflection of the people that we have on our team. It truly is easy to give 100 percent effort, 100 percent of the time when you want everyone around you to succeed. That is why I have worked so hard on the programs we have implemented. I do believe that we can achieve all of our goals if we work together."

On behalf of MIACCA- A Big Congratulations Chris!

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