

## ICC Government Relations

November 2024

### Monthly Update

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#### Moving away from paper?

Participate in this brief survey on digitization Page 3

# Group B deadline is January 9 ICC accepting proposed changes

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Code Council Board Members elected at Long Beach stand for their swearing in ceremony.



# UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR

ICC Leadership Week + 2025 Committee Action Hearings – Group B #1 April 27 – May 6, 2025 Doubletree at the entrance to Universal Orlando, FL

2025 Annual Conference, Expo & Committee Action Hearings – Group B #2 October 19–30, 2025 Huntington Convention Center Cleveland, OH

# Code Council voting members elect their 2024–2025 Board Officers and Directors

The International Code Council welcomed a new slate of officers and directors to its <a href="2025-Board of Directors">2025-Board of Directors</a> at the Code Council's Annual Conference in Long Beach, California. Three officers were elected to the Executive Committee and seven directors were elected or re-elected to serve on the board by eligible Code Council voting members. The three officers elected to the Executive Committee are:

- President: David Spencer
- Vice President: Mike Boso
- Secretary/Treasurer: Steve McDaniel

The newly elected and re-elected Members of the ICC Board of Directors are:

- Section A Director (three-year term): Randy Metz (Section A includes Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada and Hawaii)
- Section E Director (three-year term): Ben Breadmore (Section E includes Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, Washington, D.C., Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland)
- Section F Director: JC Hudgison (Section F Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and the Caribbean)
- Director At-Large (three-year term): Christina Jackson
- Director At-Large (three-year term): Jim Sayers
- Director At-Large (three-year term): Sam Palmer
- Director At-Large (two-year term): Sean Toomey

Read more here →





NACO officers and members met in Long Beach with ICC Board President-elect David Spencer, incoming ICC CEO John Belcik and Board Member Shirley Ellis.

### NACO: Code Council Board makes historic vote approving newest Chapter

The Code Council's Board of Directors voted unanimously at its October 18 meeting to accept the application of the first Native American chapter of ICC, the Native American Code Officials (NACO). The vote was followed by a standing ovation. NACO was incorporated in December 2023 by four Native Americans who are active in ICC and share a passion to utilize building codes as an additional means of empowerment for tribal nations and Indian Country. With the belief that building codes can promote tribal sovereignty, tribal health and safety, and tribal economic growth and empowerment, NACO quickly grew to coast-to-coast and today has over 50 members including members enrolled in over a dozen tribal nations and counting.

### Take a minute to sign up as a mentor and share your career insights

The Code Council launched an updated Mentorship Program, an exclusive member benefit designed to support professional growth and strengthen building safety. Whether a Code Council member is looking to advance their career or use expertise to shape the industry, ICC's Mentorship Program offers a platform for members to connect, learn and grow. You can learn more about the mentorship program by visiting ICC's online member community. The community provides easy-to-navigate search filters for finding the right mentor, as well as FAQs for both mentees and mentors. If you're interested, you can apply directly through the portal. *Learn more and get involved here.* 

Read more here →

### Individuals and organizations recognized for their service to building safety

During its 2024 Annual Conference in Long Beach, California, the International Code Council recognized individuals and organizations within the building safety industry who continuously go above and beyond in their respective roles. The Code Council honors the following individuals and organizations:

- The Bobby J. Fowler Award honors the legacy of the organization's first chair of the Board of Directors and is presented to a leader who demonstrates compassion, professionalism and integrity in their duties John Terry, CBO, Building Code and Life Safety Consultant for JNTerry Code Consulting.
- The Chapter of the Year Award is presented to a chapter that best promotes the goals and mission of the Code Council - Women in Code Enforcement and Development of Virginia.
- The Chapter Merit Award is dedicated to chapters exhibiting the Code Council's goals and objectives -Southern Nevada Chapter and the Code Administrators Association of Kentucky.
- The Community Service Award is given to those with outstanding service and promotes the public health, safety and welfare of their local community - Robert Davidson, Managing Partner, Davidson Code Concepts.



- The Educator of the Year Award acknowledges excellence in promoting professional development and is given in memory of Brent Snyder, a renowned Code Council educator and past presiding officer - Matthew Hunter, CBO, BCO, Northeast Regional Manager at the American Wood Council.
- The Excellence in Public Safety Award recognizes a member who has shown exceptional integrity and dedication to public service - Serena Locke, Permit Technician for Jackson County, Oregon.
- The Gerald H. Jones Code Official of the Year Award is given to one who has helped promote the code enforcement profession and carries out the Code Council's mission Michael Shannon, Director of Development Services for the City of San Antonio, Texas.
- The Global Award acknowledges distinguished service to the Code Council's global mission and vision -The Bureau of Standards Jamaica.
- The Innovation in Code Administration Award honors fire and building departments for innovation in the
  delivery of code administration services to their communities The City of Cincinnati Building Department
  under the Director of the Buildings and Inspections Department, Art Dahlberg.
- The Meritorious Service Award recognizes an individual who has dedicated their time and talent to furthering the development of the Code Council's codes and standards – Awarded posthumously to Chip Dence, a gifted craftsman, builder, leader and statesman, in recognition of his exceptional contributions.
- The National Leadership in Sustainability and Energy Efficiency Award recognizes contributions to the growth and enhancement of codes or public policy related to sustainability and energy efficiency - Hope Medina, Energy and Sustainability Plans Examiner, Inspector, Instructor for Shums Coda Associates.
- The PMG Leadership Award is given to an individual or organization for exceptional service to the plumbing, mechanical, fuel gas, and swimming pool/spa (PMG) industry - Kenneth Gregory, Compliance and Safety Manager for Pentair Water Quality Systems.
- The Raising the Profile Award recognizes acts or contributions that raise public awareness of accomplishments by code personnel - Pete Roque, National Director of Code Enforcement at 4 Leaf Inc.
- o The Regions Spotlight Award ICC Midwest Region V.
- The Robert W. Gain Fire Prevention Leadership Award is presented to an individual who has
  demonstrated exceptional leadership and longstanding dedication to the support of fire codes and fire
  prevention Coy Porter, former Utah State Fire Marshal..
- The Trailblazer Award recognizes an outstanding mentor in the building safety industry Van Tran, CBO,
   Vice President at Bureau Veritas, Plano, Texas.
- The W. Scott Copp Chapter Leadership Award recognizes a chapter/individual that champions the Code Council mission and inspires others to become Code Council leaders. This award honors the memory of Scott Copp who dedicated his career to advancing building safety at the local, state, regional, and national levels. The 2024 winners are Dawn Neil, Permit Technician for the Township of Bernards in Masking Ridge, New Jersey, and Cindi Somers, retired Permit Technician for the city of Richland, Washington.

Read more here →

### YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED: Survey provides insight for digitalization project

The "Code Official Digitization and Efficiency Support (CODES)" project, led by the International Code Council and other industry organizations, aims to aid building code implementation through a transition to electronic code enforcement processes, with a primary focus on resource-constrained municipalities. Through stakeholder input, the program will identify and address implementation barriers and provide training resources to support workforce development in code enforcement. We are seeking participants to complete our survey so that we can better understand the challenges that small and under-resourced building and fire prevention departments may encounter in transitioning away from paper-based systems. This work is part of the (CODES) project, an initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Energy. The project seeks to explore ways technology can help code departments save time and do more to advance their mission of advancing public safety and resiliency despite resource constraints. The survey takes less than 15 minutes to complete. You can take it HERE,

### FEMA boosts federal share to communities enforcing newer code editions

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently released an interim policy that would increase the amount of the federal government's cost share in post-disaster repair and reconstruction for public facilities from 75 percent to 85 percent for communities that have already adopted and enforce one of the two most recent editions of the IBC and IECC (or ASHRAE 90.1). This means that the building safety work you do could bring significantly greater resources to your community during disaster recovery. Why do updated codes matter? FEMA's Building Codes Save report noted the IBC helped avoid more than \$600 billion in losses, while the National Institute for Building Sciences Mitigation Saves study showed \$11 in mitigation savings for every \$1 invested. Three national labs found the IECC can reduce extreme heat deaths associated with disaster-induced power outrages by 80 percent, or



extreme cold deaths by 30 percent. FEMA already requires the use of these codes for repair and reconstruction efforts. Providing additional funding for jurisdictions that adopt updated codes recognizes the importance of their mitigation benefits and will incentivize smart planning before disaster strikes. We need your help! Send a comment to FEMA to encourage them to recognize and support modern codes that promote resiliency. Click here for more information. →

### ICC accepting proposals for 2027 Group B I-Codes until January 10

The International Code Council is now accepting proposed changes to the 2027 Group B International Codes® (I-Codes), with the submission deadline set for 11:59 p.m. PT on January 10, 2025. For the full list of Codes open for revision in Group B please visit the following link. To submit proposals for the Group B codes, please go to cdpACCESS. The I-Codes are a family of 15 coordinated, modern building safety codes that help ensure the engineering of safe, sustainable, affordable and resilient structures. The Code Council's code development process is transparent, accessible and inclusive, and all interested parties are encouraged to participate. Code change proposals will be heard at the Group B Committee Action Hearing #1 from April 27-May 6, 2025, in Orlando, Florida. Read more here →

### Here's what you need to know about first Committee Action Hearings #2

The International Code Council's first Committee Action Hearing (CAH) #2 begins October 23, 2025, and is set to be completed on October 31, 2025. There are nearly 400 comments on roughly 330 code change proposals. These proposals were originally heard at the Group A CAH #1 hearing in Orlando earlier this year and voted on last month in Long Beach. While essentially a continuation of CAH #1, CAH #2 will operate a little differently. Code Council staff want to ensure all participants are informed of these changes in order for the hearings to run smoothly.

Read more here →

# PRC survey underscores public support for stronger building codes in communities vulnerable to extreme weather events

A recent <u>Pew Research Center survey report</u> sheds light on public support for stricter building standards in regions vulnerable to extreme weather events. With climate change increasing the frequency and intensity of these events, such as hurricanes, floods and wildfires, the push for more resilient infrastructure is gaining momentum across the nation. The survey found that a significant majority of Americans (73 percent) support implementing more stringent building standards in areas prone to extreme weather. This broad consensus cuts across political, geographic and demographic lines, highlighting a strong national desire for action to mitigate the impacts of climate change and enhance community resilience.

Read more here →

### Sims featured as a speaker at Windsor Summit on water scarcity issues

International Code Council Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims, CBO was a guest speaker at the Windsor Summit: Pulling Together to Address Water Scarcity and Antimicrobial Resistance. The Summit took place from October 31 through November 1, 2024, at St George's House in Windsor Castle. Presentations addressed two existential threats: water scarcity and antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Attendees focused on building a comprehensive understanding of water scarcity and AMR as distinct yet intertwined challenges. Discussions centered on identifying growth opportunities through sustainable innovation and practices and fostering stronger partnerships within the industry. Read more here →

### Locascio named President/CEO of American National Standards Institute

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has appointed Laurie E. Locascio, Ph.D. as its next President and Chief Executive Officer. Locascio is currently serving as Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and was elected by the ANSI Board of Directors in October. She will assume her new position in January 2025. The Code Council has worked closely with Locascio and NIST over the years to strengthen coordination between NIST's applied research and the Code Council's code and standards development. These efforts have ensured that the International Codes® (I-Codes) benefit from NIST's expertise and have provided important direction for both organizations in addressing emerging challenges in the built environment. The 2024 I-Codes' incorporation of first-ever tornado mitigation measures stems directly from our organizations' collaborative efforts.

Read more here →

### HUD incorporates several provisions from the IRC in its major updates

The <u>U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development</u> (HUD) recently announced the most <u>extensive updates to the Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards (HUD Code)</u> in over 30 years. The updates to the HUD Code include 90 new or revised standards. As part of these updates, HUD has incorporated several provisions from



the International Code Council's International Residential Code® (IRC), which can be found <a href="here.color:blue">here.color:blue</a>. Specifically, the IRC serves as a benchmark in certain areas to ensure consistency in safety and construction practices between manufactured homes and other on-site or off-site built homes. The Code Council plays a key role in supporting manufactured housing by developing and maintaining codes and standards that ensure the safety, quality and sustainability of these homes.

Read more here →

### ICC Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Updates

### Q&A: Get behind the lens with the 'American Plumber' docuseries

With the rise of construction professionals gaining increased popularity on social media, the transition from working with tools to being in front of the camera is a journey filled with unexpected twists and inspiring moments. For many plumbers, the trade is more than just a job; it's a passion that shapes their lives. The *American Plumber Stories* (APS) docuseries captures the essence of this passion, showcasing plumbers who have dedicated their careers to mastering their craft. To talk about the transition from the tools to spending time in front of the camera, Tom Roberts, Director of PMG Global with the International Code Council sat down with two of the plumbers featured in Season 5 of APS; Jorge Arias-Alvarez from California and Martin Porte from Tasmania, Australia. We also spoke to Mark Falcon from South Dakota, U.S., who was featured in Season 3. Jorge, Martin and Mark were able to join Tom and the PMG team at the Code Council's 2024 Annual Conference & Expo in Long Beach, CA, where they networked with other Code Council members, joined educational sessions and more.

Read more here →

### Newsletter article highlights works conducted by Buildwise in Belgium

As a global leader in the plumbing industry, the International Code Council has the privilege of collaborating with several international universities, academic institutions and research partners. With so many organizations making significant contributions to plumbing knowledge worldwide, staying updated with the latest research and academic findings can be challenging. Through the Code Council's PMG Newsletter, we aim to spotlight these outstanding contributions from various regions, showcasing one country at a time. In this edition we delve into some of the fantastic work being conducted by Buildwise in Belgium, with this article focusing on domestic heated water sizing, the reuse potential of drainage water from construction sites and the quality of treated greywater.

Read more here  $\rightarrow$ 

To subscribe to the bimonthly ICC PMG newsletter, just click here.

# ICC Family of Solutions Updates

### Customers now can improve efficiency with Municity and DigEplan

ICC Community Development is now a technology partner with Avolve Software, the global government electronic plan review leader. Municity customers who want to integrate DigEplan with their solution can work directly with CDS to improve connectivity and efficiency with electronic plan review. Learn more. Municity is the only ePermitting and Code Enforcement software from the International Code Council. To learn more, visit our website or join a Municity DigEplan Overview Webinar on 11/20 at 1 pm ET/10 am PT.

### ICC-ES strengthens structure to unify leadership of testing and certification

ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) announces changes to the senior management team, harmonizing the oversight of testing, inspection and certification services in order to better serve its customers. Phil Jones will serve as Senior Vice President of Operations for the Conformity Assessment Group, overseeing operations for Evaluation Services, Testing, Engineering, and Off-Site Construction Services. Having previously served as the president of ICC NTA, Phil brings decades of leadership skills and experience in maintaining company operations and financial matters to guide the overall growth of the company.

Read more here →

### ICC-ES expands its certification offerings for Australian market

ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) is proud to announce its accreditation by <u>JASANZ</u> as a certification body for <u>CodeMark Australia</u>. This development enables ICC-ES to certify new or innovative building products in Australia by providing a nationally accepted process for demonstrating compliance with the National Construction Code (NCC) under the CodeMark Scheme. CodeMark Australia is a voluntary third-party building product certification scheme, administered by the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB). As part of its commitment to maintaining the highest standards in the construction industry, ICC-ES is now equipped to offer CodeMark certification, alongside its other expert certification services, helping to ensure that building products used in Australia meet the highest levels of safety, quality, and performance.



#### Read more here →

### General Code announces partnership with technology expert Revize

General Code®, a member of the International Code Council® family of solutions, has reached a partnership agreement with Revize of Troy, Michigan. Revize is a recognized leader in providing custom government website design and content management software to municipalities nationwide. The goal of the partnership is to develop high-value integrations between Revize municipal websites and web applications, and General Code platforms and content to help improve client and constituent efficiency and productivity. "Together, we'll provide our clients with even more robust, efficient, and integrated user-friendly platforms to better serve their communities," said Wayne Childs, Director of Business Development for General Code.

Read more here →

# Accreditation from IAS is 'badge of honor' in building industry, symbolizing commitment to excellence

The International Accreditation Service (IAS) is a vital member of the International Code Council family of solutions, providing accreditation services that ensure the highest levels of quality and competence across a wide range of industries. Established as a global leader in accreditation, IAS plays an essential role in the building industry by promoting safety, reliability and trust through its accreditation processes. Accreditation provides recognition that a company or organization meets specific standards of quality and competence, which is especially important in the building industry, as buildings directly impact public safety and environmental sustainability. Accreditation from IAS is a badge of honor in the building industry, symbolizing a commitment to excellence, safety and continuous improvement.

Read more here →