



TDLR FLASH - Newsletter of the Texas Electrical Safety and Licensing Program

Welcome to the TDLR FLASH

This is the second installment of our newsletter which is intended to keep city officials and electricians throughout Texas informed of the Texas Electrical Safety and Licensing Act and TDLR's efforts to enforce the associated requirements. To receive news and updates on the electrical program, you may sign up for TDLR's free email subscription service at: <http://www.license.state.tx.us/newsletters/TDLRnotificationLists.asp>. Once on that page, scroll down, enter your name, enter your email address, select "Electricians" from the Notifications List, select "Continue", verify the information is accurate, and then select "Submit". That's it!

New Addition to the TDLR Compliance Division

It is official – Lawrence (Larry) Reichle has joined the TDLR's Compliance Division as our new Electrical Program Specialist. Mr. Reichle has 20 years of electrical experience, holds a Texas Master Electrician license, and is certified as an ICC Electrical Inspector. He will be assisting Electrical Occupations & Code Specialist Jerry Daniel in overseeing the state electrical program and we are very pleased to have him on board!

Survey Questionnaires for Local Electrical Requirements

The information collection is ongoing and TDLR has not yet heard from all municipalities. See if you are on our list at <http://www.license.state.tx.us/electricians/forms/citylist.pdf>. If you have not provided the agency with your local electrical licensing requirements, you will most likely be receiving a call from Mr. Reichle. To help expedite matters and ensure the accuracy of the information, you can go to TDLR's website, download the questionnaire, and fax it to (512) 463-2417 OR you can email the form to: LarryR@license.state.tx.us. Remember...your input is invaluable!

ESLA Board Met in November

TDLR's Electrical Safety and Licensing Advisory (ESLA) Board met on Thursday November 30, 2006. An audio file of the meeting will be archived and available at: <http://www.license.state.tx.us/electricians/elecmeet.htm> Some of the topics discussed include: 1) ESLA Board approval to establish an Electrical Enforcement Task Force; 2) ESLA Board approval of proposed amendments to the Electrician Penalty Matrix; 3) ESLA Board approval of journeyman reciprocity with Arkansas(with mid-December effective date) & Washington(with possible effective date sometime in January); 4) ESLA Board approval of the Department's on-going negotiations towards a master reciprocity agreement w/Arkansas and a possible multi-state journeyman electrician reciprocity agreement (current members include: Alaska; Arkansas; Colorado; Minnesota; Montana; Oklahoma; Nebraska; New Hampshire; New Mexico; North Dakota; South Dakota; Utah; Washington, and Wyoming).

Inaugural "License Sweep"

Late September hailed the Compliance Division's first official "license sweep" which was conducted in the unincorporated areas of Waller and North Harris County. TDLR staff was successful in identifying many violations including: vehicles not properly marked with the TECL#, electrical work performed without proper license, and the lack of onsite supervision. The "license sweeps" are intended to curtail unlicensed activity by 1) establishing a TDLR presence, 2) educating the public on the electrical licensing requirements, and 3) verifying that electrical work is being performed by licensed electricians in accordance with state law and rules. A second "license sweep" was conducted in the unincorporated areas of Freestone/Limestone County in November. Other notable activities of TDLR Compliance staff regarding the state electrical program include...

- Attending the Texas Electrical Examination Advisory Committee meeting in Austin on August 1st, 2nd & 3rd and assisting with review/edit of the state electrical examinations.
- Providing technical support for a TDLR Electrical & Air Conditioning sting held in Austin in September.
- Providing a presentation on state electrical program activities at the 8th Annual Fire Marshal's Convention held here in Austin on October 25th where over 176 were in attendance.

Additional Contact Information:

For general questions about the electrical program you may contact TDLR at (512) 463-6599 or toll-free (in Texas) (800) 803-9202. For the hearing impaired, Relay Texas - TDD is available at (800) 735-2989. You can also email the agency at the addresses referenced below:

For Questions About the State Electrical Program: electricians@license.state.tx.us

To File a Complaint or Report a Violation go to: <http://www.license.state.tx.us/Complaints/>

Closing the Circuit

Your participation/input is critical! If you have any questions, concerns, comments, or observations, please contact us – we want to hear from you. You may reach Jerry Daniel at (512) 475-0538 or e-mail him at: jerry.daniel@license.state.tx.us Please feel free to take this information and **PASS IT ON!**



Remember - It is not what a person does that determines whether their work is sacred or passionate; it is why they do it!
Thanks! - J.L. Daniel