



## **TDLR BLAST** - *Newsletter of the Texas Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Licensing Program*

### **Welcome to the TDLR Blast**

Our newsletter is intended to keep city officials and Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors throughout Texas informed of the Texas Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Licensing Act and TDLR's efforts to enforce the associated requirements. To receive news and updates on the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Program go to <http://www.license.state.tx.us/newsletters/TDLRnotificationLists.asp>.



### **Local Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Requirements**

A new web page listing the local air conditioning and refrigeration requirements has been posted using data received from city officials throughout our state. We encourage you to reference the municipal requirements list at <http://www.license.state.tx.us/acr/forms/citylist.pdf>. For city officials who have not had a chance to provide TDLR with their local air conditioning and refrigeration licensing requirements, please download our [Municipal Air Conditioning Requirements Questionnaire](#) and get the information to us as soon as you can. Your input and information is invaluable!



### **HB463 - Registration of Air Conditioning Technicians**

As of June 30, 2008, all persons assisting Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors in the performance of air conditioning and refrigeration maintenance work (i.e. service, repair, limited replacement, etc...) must be registered with TDLR. This includes...

- **Installers**
- **Sub-Contractors**
- **Service Technicians**, and
- **Any Other Personnel** who will be working on the job site or come in contact with the public in the course of air conditioning and refrigeration maintenance unless specifically exempted by statute. Reference Chapter 1302 of the Occupations Code for more information.

To register online go to [https://www.license.state.tx.us/App\\_Online/default.asp?LicenseType=ACR&bhcp=1](https://www.license.state.tx.us/App_Online/default.asp?LicenseType=ACR&bhcp=1)  
To register by mail go to <http://www.license.state.tx.us/acr/Forms/actechapp.pdf> for a downloadable application. **NOTE:** All covered work performed by Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technicians must be coordinated thru a licensed Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractor. For answers to Frequently Asked Questions - visit our website at <http://www.license.state.tx.us/acr/acrfaq.htm>



### **Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Advisory Board**

The Board met on May 15, 2008 in Austin to discuss many agenda items including a request to amend our administrative rules and questions regarding statutory exemptions. To listen to the meeting and get more detail on the outcome of these matters go to: <http://www.license.state.tx.us/acr/acrmeet.htm>.



### **TDLR Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Enforcement Task Force**

The Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Enforcement Task Force (ACRETF) met in Houston on January 17, 2008. The turnout of approximately 150 people was outstanding and re-emphasizes the interest that the industry has in the state air conditioning program. Jeff Rinard, Lead Investigator for TDLR, gave an overview of the Enforcement Division and their continued efforts. Afterwards, John Lain of the Compliance Division answered a multitude of questions from the audience. Another Enforcement Task Force meeting was held in Dallas on June 19<sup>th</sup> as well. We are appreciative of all those who attended these meetings and take an active role in assisting TDLR with our regulatory responsibilities. For the most current information on upcoming task force meetings, send your email address to [acrtask@license.state.tx.us](mailto:acrtask@license.state.tx.us) and we will add your name to the list.



### **Air Conditioning Examination Review Committee**

On May 13<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> in Austin, TDLR coordinated with PSI (our third party exam provider) and subject matter experts from the ACR industry to review and update the state ACR Examinations. Special thanks to our volunteer participants whose hard work and diligence will help maintain the integrity of our examinations. Participants included:

- Roy Jones of ACCA from Lubbock
- Rick Rivera of Everest Institute from San Antonio
- Rogelio Longoria of Texas State Technical College from Harlingen
- J R "Dick" Burks of RSES from Leander

If you would like to be considered for participation on our Air Conditioning Examination Review Committee, please send your contact information to [air.conditioning@license.state.tx.us](mailto:air.conditioning@license.state.tx.us). We will add your name to our list of willing prospects.

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## **TDLR Compliance Staff (Other Notable Activities)**

- On 01/17/08 answered the air conditioning "Hot Topic" questions at the ELC & ACR Enforcement task force meeting in Houston. *Many thanks to Bob Wilkinson, Robert Jones and the IEC Gulf Coast Chapter for the use of their facility for the joint Enforcement Electrical & ACR Task Force meeting!*
- On 01/18/08 attended and manned a booth at the Texas Industrial Vocational Association (TIVA) Midwinter Conference in Houston. John Lain also gave a presentation on requirements of HB463 regarding ACR Technician registration. *Thank you to Linda Holcombe for the invitation and opportunity to inform TIVA members and guests on Texas Air Conditioning and Refrigeration requirements.*
- On 03/31/08 attended TDLR's external focus group for air conditioning and refrigeration industry stakeholders. Participants shared ideas and concerns regarding critical issues affecting regulation of their industry and helped map out a shared vision for TDLR's future. *To review input we received from that meeting and the 2009 – 2013 Strategic Plan go to <http://www.license.state.tx.us/stratplan.htm>.*
- On 04/12/08, John Lain was guest of "ON THE AIR" radio program, Houston with host Gary Parr to discuss ACR Technician registration.
- On 04/30/08 gave presentation at the Texas State Technical College in Harlingen for students, faculty and Valley Contractors and Building Officials. *Thanks to Ruben De La Rosa and Rogelio Longoria for coordinating the facilities and getting the word out.*
- On 7/16/08 gave presentation at the TIVA Summer Conference in Irving. Addressed TDLR Law and Rule with emphasis on HB463 requiring all persons assisting a licensed contractor in the performance of maintenance work.
- Gave presentations throughout the spring at state ACCA Chapter meetings addressing new requirements of ACR Technician registration.

## **Additional Contact Information:**

For general questions about the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration 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 Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Program: [air.conditioning@license.state.tx.us](mailto:air.conditioning@license.state.tx.us)

To file a complaint or report a violation go to: <http://www.license.state.tx.us/Complaints/>

## **Did You Know?**

Each air conditioning and refrigeration contracting company shall display the license number of its affiliated licensee and company name in letters not less than two inches high on both sides of all vehicles used in conjunction with air conditioning and refrigeration contracting. When an unlicensed subcontractor is at a job site not identified by a marked vehicle, the site shall be identified either by a temporary sign on the subcontractor's vehicle or on a sign visible and readable from the nearest public street containing the contractor's affiliated license number and company name.

An invoice shall be provided to the consumer for all air conditioning and refrigeration work performed. The company name, address, and phone number shall appear on all proposals and invoices. The affiliated licensee's number shall appear on all proposals and invoices for air conditioning and refrigeration work. The following information: "Regulated by The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, P. O. Box 12157, Austin, Texas 78711, 1-800-803-9202, 512-463-6599" shall be listed on:

- (1) Proposals and invoices;
- (2) Written contracts; and
- (3) A sign prominently displayed in the place of business if the consumer may visit the place of business.

## **Sub cooling to Superheat**

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 John Lain at (512) 463-2898 or e-mail him at: [JohnL@license.state.tx.us](mailto:JohnL@license.state.tx.us). Please feel free to take this information and **PASS IT ON!**

As we tolerate the blistering temperatures of the Texas summer within our cool air-conditioned homes and vehicles, let us take a moment to remember Willis Haviland Carrier (the celebrated father of air conditioning) and his "Apparatus for Treating Air" U.S. Patent# 808897.

**Thanks! – John Lain**

**Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation**

**Compliance Division - Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Program**