



Welcome to the TDLR FLASH

Our newsletter 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, please sign up for TDLR's free email subscription service at: <http://www.license.state.tx.us/newsletters/TDLRnotificationLists.asp>.

Survey Questionnaires for Local Electrical Requirements

The information collection continues. Larry Reichle, one of our two Electrical Program Specialists, has attempted to contact as many cities as possible leaving messages for call back when necessary. TDLR strongly encourages you to see if your city's name is on our list at <http://www.license.state.tx.us/electricians/forms/citylist.pdf>. A new list is being developed from the data received and will be posted on our website to indicate the electrical requirements of municipalities throughout the state. If we receive no information from municipal officials, the listing will have "**No Response**" posted beside it. Your input is invaluable, so please remember to get us the information as soon as you can!

Reciprocity Agreements with Arkansas and Washington

Journeyman electrician reciprocity agreements have been reached with the states of Arkansas and Washington.

To be eligible for a reciprocal license from Arkansas or Washington, Texas electricians must have passed a state-approved electrical licensing examination. Currently, the only journeyman electrical examination approved by TDLR is the International Code Council (ICC) Texas Journeyman examination. Those journeyman electricians who received a license under the grandfathering provisions of the Electrical Safety and Licensing Act without passing the ICC exam (including those who passed an exam administered by a regional or municipal authority) are not eligible for a reciprocal license in those states. See our *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)* on the Electricians Webpage for more information.

Monthly "Licensing Sweeps"

TDLR's Compliance Division's monthly "licensing sweeps" are continuing. Our second quarter activities included visits to the incorporated and unincorporated areas of:

- **Llano** and **Burnet** counties where we accepted an invitation from the local officials and performed a sweep in mid-December.
- **Potter** and **Randall** counties, where we accepted an invitation from the local officials and performed a sweep in late January.
- **Kerr** and **Bandera** counties, where we accepted an invitation from the local officials and performed a sweep in mid-February.

Through our cooperative efforts with local municipal officials, TDLR staff has been successful at identifying violations including: **1)** vehicles not properly marked with the Electrical Contractor License # (i.e. TECL#), **2)** electrical work performed with expired licenses, and **3)** electrical work performed without electrical licenses. The "licensing sweeps" are intended to curtail unlicensed activity by establishing a TDLR presence, educating the public on the state electrical licensing requirements, and verifying that electrical work is being performed by licensed electricians in accordance with state law and rules.

During the third quarter of the fiscal year, TDLR's Compliance Division will be around the state extending our "licensing sweep" efforts into the counties of South Texas and North Texas, as well as counties in Central Texas. Invitations or requests from local officials for TDLR to establish a presence in unincorporated areas of their counties are always welcome.

Other Notable TDLR Compliance Activities

- Made a presentation at the Capitol Area Building Officials Association meeting
- Made a presentation at the Texas Panhandle Inspectors Association meeting
- Made a presentation at the CenTex IEC State Compliance meeting
- Participated in the Texas Standard Electrical Advisory Board Exam Developmental Committee meeting

TDLR Electrical Task Force

TDLR's Electrical Safety and Licensing Advisory Board has asked that an Electrician Enforcement Task Force Team be established as a sub-committee of the Advisory Board to assist/advise the Department on enforcement matters. The stated purpose of the task force is:

To bring together electrical municipal officials, electricians, electrical contractors, electrical suppliers, electric utility companies, and Department staff for the purpose of improving awareness and enforcement of the Electricians Statute, i.e., Electricians, Title 8, Occupations Code Chapter 1305, Administered by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation effective September 1, 2003.

The task force will consist of persons involved in the industry, i.e., electrical municipal officials, electricians, electrical contractors, electrical suppliers, electric utility companies, and Department staff. The task force will meet quarterly to discuss: **1)** enforcement issues at the respective levels, **2)** new methods of discovering violations occurring in the field; and **3)** improvements to existing enforcement processes at the state and municipal levels. A report of the meetings will be made to the Electrical Safety and Licensing Advisory Board and may include recommendations for action by the Department, such as rule changes or enforcement policy changes.

If you wish to serve as a member of the Electrician Enforcement Task Force Team, please send an e-mail to elctask@license.state.tx.us.

Exam Committee Changes

The Texas Standard Electrical Advisory Board Exam Developmental Committee will be changing its name to the ICC Texas Electrical Examination Advisory Committee or EAC. Beginning next month, from April 1st through May 31st of every year, the ICC will accept applications for appointment to the EAC, which is the committee that oversees the development of the Texas Electrical Exams. The application will be posted at http://www2.iccsafe.org/contractor/dsp_state.cfm?state=TX

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. You may reach Larry Reichle at (512) 463-7289 or e-mail him at: larry.reichle@license.state.tx.us. Please feel free to take this information and **PASS IT ON!**



Remember - Those who are trusted with Leadership must show they are worthy of that Leadership.

Thanks! - J.L. Daniel and L. Reichle
Electrical Program - Compliance Division
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation