



CONTRACTOR CONNECTION



April May June 2018

Professional Licensing Matters: How To Handle A “Petition for Review”

The Indiana Professional Licensing Agency and each of its boards and commissions is charged with the responsibility of disciplining license holders who have violated practice standards, acted dishonestly, or acted unethically. Indiana has standards of practice that apply to all regulated professions. Those standards, along with laws and rules specific to each profession, provide the basis upon which boards impose discipline on licensed professionals.

At some point in your professional career you may disagree with a decision that the Indiana Plumbing Commission makes regarding your license or with an answer to correspondence you had with the Commission or Agency. You have the right to address the Commission but you need to understand how the full process works.

If you disagree with an official decision or action of the Plumbing Commission and you feel the Commission did not fully understand the facts of your original application or correspondence you may appeal. This process is called **“Petition For Review.”** It is a scheduled public hearing where you

may personally or through an attorney explain your case and present any additional evidence or supporting documents.



This is a legal proceeding with the Plumbing Commission or a Commissioner acting as the Administrative Law Judge. The Commission will always have a staff attorney present to advise the Commission. There is also a court stenographer who will make a transcript of the proceeding. During the proceeding you will be asked if legal council is representing you or if you choose to represent yourself that you understand that you have the right to be represented by an attorney. You will be sworn in as a witness along with anyone else who might testify on your behalf or against you.

You will be given the opportunity to make a general “opening statement” about your appeal and then later you will given time to “state your case.” At this time you may give testimony, call witnesses or present additional documents to be admitted as evidence in your support. Members of the Commission or our legal staff may ask you questions. After the proceeding is closed the Commission will consider the testimony and evidence and render a decision based on the provisions allowed by law. You may not offer additional testimony or evidence during the deliberation.

To better prepare for your hearing you may visit the iaphcc.com website where you can get a compilation of laws and administrative rules pertaining to Indiana Plumbing licensing. Also there is a reference sheet to help you find the sections that may pertain to your case.

For any other Plumbing Commission information you may visit the IPLA web-site:

<http://www.in.gov/pla/plumbing.htm>

Or you may contact them by e-mail at pla14@pla.in.gov . Or call (317) 234-3022

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THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Randy Lynch is President of the Indiana PHCC. Randy is a licensed plumbing contractor PC89100339 with Brenneco Plumbing, Lafayette



Randy Lynch
Indiana PHCC President

Getting Involved!

Humans by nature are social beings - it's a universal law that no one can escape. We need to be around other people for us to feel happy, secure and safe. Hanging out with friends helps, but that isn't quite enough. For us to truly thrive, we need to be active in our local community such as our local schools, churches, volunteer efforts and even organizations that support our field of expertise.

In the last 100 years there has been a shift in our local communities. In the "good ole days" your local plumber, HVAC, electrician, grocer, hardware people were the "pillars of the community". They were the movers and shakers. They served on school boards, township boards, church boards and on and on and on. The term "pillar of the community" was coined after the local men and women that held up the values of our nation and our communities they were the people that were engaged and involved in the world around them.

They worked to make our world a better place.

Over the years things have changed some and as a nation changes so does its people. Being active within our society helps individuals feel less lonely, have a more vital and interesting life, stay healthy and feel happier. We feel connected, important, significant, appreciated and safe. Being active within our society brings us inspiration, helps us succeed in business and helps us find our way in life. Participating in our local community helps us fulfill our need of purpose. Communities thrive when people are better connected. Local economies expand, businesses succeed, education grows, support systems become more efficient, etc.

When things become difficult, it's those who have a strong community support system that are best off and that takes some investment on our part to shore up and strengthen that support system. It takes getting involved and communicating our thoughts and feelings with one another along with working side by side on community projects that matter to us. Not waiting or expecting someone else or the government to do it. That's not what built this nation or our local communities.

Imagine if a natural disaster occurred wouldn't it be better to turn to people you knew you could trust for help? Imagine if you became ill..., couldn't a community of people who cared about you makes you feel better? Of course they could!

With online social media, entertainment, virtual worlds, email and chat, it's easy to become engrossed in a

computer. It's a modern day reality that people turn to their computers for connection to others. I find myself checking Facebook to keep up with friends and family and this can be a great thing but it can also go too far and we can become detached from our local communities and society in general. Computers are usually at their best when used as a tool to accomplish tasks and not as a portal into an online existence that dominates our life. Online communities such as Facebook and Snapchat etc. have become very real and help millions feel more connected, but they must not take the place of our physical life community.

Getting active in our community does require effort but its well worth it. Remember that energy you put into it will certainly come back to you.

- Smile
- Be kind to people around you
- Say hello to those in your community and people at work
- Greet new members of your community
- Become active in community events, clubs and activities
- Volunteer
- Get to know people from different backgrounds or ethnicity's
- Become active in local school systems
- Organize local gatherings or parties (block parties)
- Spend more time outside and away from television or computers

We all have the need to belong and be accepted by our fellow man and to close with the words of John F. Kennedy: "*ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.*" Those words ring as true today as they ever have.



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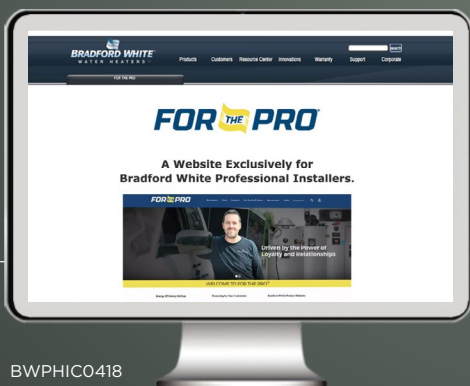
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Information Regarding Taking the Indiana Plumbing License Test

You must first complete the appropriate application with the Indiana Plumbing Commission. Applications are posted online. Once you have been approved, you will be notified to contact Prov to schedule your exam. You may attempt to pass the exam up to seven times within a two-year period, however have one year from your approval date to take the exam for the first time. If you do not take the exam within a year, you must reapply.

The exams are open book and are timed. The cost for the Indiana Plumbing Contractor exam is \$100; the Journeyman Plumber exam is \$75.

There are 28 testing centers within Indiana to take the exam. They will be listed on the Candidate Information Bulletin you will receive.

Scheduling your exam is a two-step process; first, you must register for the exam, and then you must select a testing date and make payment for your exam.

Among the test day rules are: you may not bring highlighters, pens or note paper into the testing room. You may not write in your reference materials during the test. You are not permitted to leave the building during the testing session.

You will be required to show government-issued, photo-bearing identification. You will be required to sign a test center log and will be photographed by the test center staff.

No cameras, recorders, cell phones or other communication devices are allowed in the testing room. Talking and smoking are not allowed.

Candidates may bring a simple 4-function calculator. PDAs, cellphones or other special calculators are not permitted. For the Journeyman exam you may bring the 2006 IPC, 2nd printing Indiana, 2012; 2012 Indiana Amendments (675 IAC 16-1.4 and a compilation of the Indiana Code and the Indiana Administrative Code, 2014. Candidates should prepare their reference materials using **ONLY** highlighting and by attaching permanent tabs. No handwritten notes, removable tabs, post-it notes, or added photocopied documents are allowed.

There are 90 questions on the exam and you must be completed in 3 hours.

The Candidate Information Bulletin will give you more details including how to request a review and the process to challenge an exam question.

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What's Happening At PHCC

State Members on National Stage



Congratulations to IN PHCC member Doug Isley of L.E. Isley & Sons, Inc. Westfield, who was elected to a three-year term as a Trustee of Quality Service Contractors (QSC), an Enhanced Service Group of PHCC-National Association.

PHCC's Enhanced Service Group, the Union-Affiliated Contractors (UAC) elected David Frame, Bob Frame Plumbing Services, Inc., South Bend as Vice Chair for a one-year term.



Another Indiana PHCC member, Mark McKnight, D.A. Dodd, Inc., Rolling Prairie, was elected as a Trustee.

Local Chapter News

Congratulations to **St. Joe Valley PHCC/MCAI** new officers:

President: Tim Stuver
1st VP: Jason DeMeyer
2nd VP: Tyler Frame
Secretary: Kevin Conery
Treasurer: David Niezgodski

They will be installed at their meeting on June 20th at Tabor Hill in Buchanan, MI.

Greater Indianapolis PHCC recently installed their new officers:

President: Jamie Carter
1st VP: Cathy Stegemoller

They also named Dick Poynter,



R & R Plumbing, as their GIPHCC Contractor of the Year and inducted four associates into their Hall of Fame: Dave Barry and Tom Barry of the Barry Company and Steve Hullett and Rick Meyer of P-M & Associates. The chapter has hired Marie Barr as their Executive Secretary.

Pump Installer/Well Driller Workshop

Mark your calendar for a 6 hour class on October 19th in Indianapolis that has been approved for CEU credits by the IN DNR/Division of Water. Training will be on motors, pumps, and electrical water systems. A special session on Bacteria in Water Wells will be taught by Purdue University professor, Ron Turco. Contact the Association office at (317) 575-9292 for registration.

Apprentice Graduations!

April and May bring apprentices completing their classroom hours and taking the next step to becoming a licensed professional in the industry!

Southwestern PHCC - April 19th
Haub Steak House - Haubstadt

Fort Wayne Area PHCC - May 15th
Don Halls Factory - Fort Wayne

Mechanical Skills - May 18th
Primo Banquet Hall - Indianapolis

St. Joe Valley PHCC/
MCAI - May 30
UA 172 Hall, South Bend

North Central IN PHCC - June 12
Bremen American Legion/VFW - Bremen

Indiana PHCC Convention: Strategies and Solutions

Be sure to save Sept 13-14 on your calendar and plan to attend the Indiana PHCC Convention in French Lick.

Join us for our version of "The Amazing Race" on Thursday. Big fun with teams and prizes. The evening features an opening cocktail reception and annual meeting. Friday will feature keynote speaker Susan Frew of Sunshine Plumbing & Heating & Air of Denver. Susan helps contractors take the fear and confusion out of today's marketing, millennial workers, and cutting edge technology.

Susan uses REAL LIFE examples of how she grew her company from the ground up to 3M in less than 5 years. She gives away ALL of her secrets in an entertaining fast paced and honest way.

Seminars will focus on strategies for attracting talent and roundtables for contractors. Lunch speaker will be Josh Bleill who will motivate and inspire you. The evening closes with a President's party and auction. Stay tuned for registration details!





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*The individual firms listed, each a member of Indiana PHCC, have pledged their financial support toward the continued operation of this publication as they believe it is an asset to the Association and the p-h-c industry.