#### VIRGINIA BOARD FOR ASBESTOS, LEAD, AND HOME INSPECTORS Tentative AGENDA

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 2021, 9:00 A.M. BOARD ROOM 2—SECOND FLOOR

## DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION PERIMETER CENTER—9960 MAYLAND DRIVE RICHMOND, VA 23233

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#### II. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES

#### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

a. Board Agenda, August 26, 2021

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Home Inspector Regulatory Review Committee Meeting Minutes, February 3, 2021
- b. Board Meeting Minutes, May 13, 2021

#### V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – Five minute public comment, per person, on those items not included on the agenda with the exception of any open disciplinary or application files

#### VI. CASE FILES \*

- a. File Number 2021-01084, David Charles Gardner (HI)
  - Consent Order (Rushton)
- b. File Number 2021-00545, David Charles Johnson (HI)

Consent Order (Rushton)

c. File Number 2021-00708, Mark Lewis Stewart (HI)

Consent Order (Cranor)

d. File Number 2021-01206, Dennis Bruce White (HI)

Consent Order

e. File Number 2020-02832, Wendy E. Granados Granados (ASB)

Prima Facie

f. File Number 2020-02516, Donald Lindsy Smith, Jr. (HI)

Prima Facie

g. File Number 2021-00120, Victor Manuel Suazo (ASB)

Licensing—IFF by Eldridge

h. File Number 2021-00313, Juan Sorto Baires (ASB)

Licensing—IFF by Eldridge

#### VII. REGULATIONS

- Regulatory Action Update
- o. Revised Proposed RR&P Regulations
  - i. Review and Consider Public Comments
  - ii. Consider and Adopt Board Response to Public Comments
  - iii. Review and Consider Amendments/Adopt Final Regulation

#### VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Consider Guidance Document on Home Inspections without a Written Report
- b. Discuss Virtual Format for Home Inspector Pre-Licensing Education
- c. Board Financial Statements
- d. Outreach Update

- e. Biennial Board Member Conflict of Interest Training
- f. Other Board Business

#### IX. FUTURE MEETING DATES

a. November 4, 2021

#### X. COMPLETE CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORMS

#### XI. ADJOURN

Persons desiring to participate in the meeting and requiring special accommodations or interpretative services should contact the Department at (804) 367-0362 at least ten days prior to the meeting so that suitable arrangements can be made for an appropriate accommodation. The Department fully complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

\* Agenda materials made available to the public do not include disciplinary case files or application files pursuant to \$54.1-108 of the Code of Virginia.

#### PERIMETER CENTER CONFERENCE CENTER EMERGENCY EVACUATION OF BOARD AND TRAINING ROOMS

(Script to be read at the beginning of each meeting.)

#### PLEASE LISTEN TO THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT EXITING THE PREMISES IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY.

In the event of a fire or other emergency requiring the evacuation of the building, alarms will sound. When the alarms sound, <u>leave the room immediately</u>. Follow any instructions given by Security staff

#### **Board Room 1**

Exit the room using one of the doors at the back of the room. Upon exiting the room, turn **RIGHT.** Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

#### **Board Room 2**

Exit the room using one of the doors at the back of the room. (Point) Upon exiting the room, turn **RIGHT.** Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

You may also exit the room using the side door, turn **Right** out the door and make an immediate **Left**. Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

#### **Board Rooms 3 and 4**

Exit the room using one of the doors at the back of the room. Upon exiting the room, turn **RIGHT.** Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

#### **Training Room 1**

Exit the room using one of the doors at the back of the room. Upon exiting the room, turn **LEFT.** Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

#### **Training Room 2**

Exit the room using one of the doors at the back of the room. Upon exiting the doors, turn **LEFT.** Follow the corridor to the emergency exit at the end of the hall.

Upon exiting the building, proceed straight ahead through the parking lot to the fence at the end of the lot. Wait there for further instructions.

#### VIRGINIA BOARD FOR ASBESTOS, LEAD, AND HOME INSPECTORS HOME INSPECTOR REGULATORY REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Home Inspector Regulatory Review Committee of the Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors (Board) met on February 3, 2021, at the offices of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Board Room 4, Richmond, Virginia 23233.

The following members of the Committee were present:

Alex Aderton
Sandra Baynes
John Cranor
James Oliver
David Rushton, Chair
Patrick Studley

Erin Barton, Realtor Representative, was not in attendance at the Committee meeting.

The following staff members were present for part or all of the meeting:

Trisha I Uand Joseph C. Haughwout, Jr., Board Administrator Lisa Robinson, Licensing Administrator Tanya M. Pettus, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Rushton called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Call to Order

Ms. Henshaw advised the Board of the emergency evacuation Emergency procedures.

**Evacuation Procedures** 

Ms. Henshaw advised the Committee of safety measures currently in place due to COVID-19.

**COVID-19 Safety** Reminders

Mr. Oliver moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Baynes seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Aderton, Baynes, Cranor, Oliver, Rushton, and Studley.

**Approval of Agenda** 

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

**Public Comment** 

Period

Ms. Henshaw gave a brief overview of the resources and information Resources and provided to the Committee.

Information

Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors' Home Inspector Regulatory Review Committee February 3, 2021

Page 2

The Committee reviewed draft proposed amendments made to the Review Draft Home Inspector Licensing Regulations following the November 10 Amendments Committee meeting.

Discussion included the following topics:

- Definitions, including adding relevant terms and removal of unnecessary terms;
- Incorporation of various guidance documents;
- Distinctions between fireplaces, solid-fuel burning appliances, and gas fireplaces;
- Revision to requirements for disclosure of certain convictions and disciplinary actions;
- Revision to qualifications for licensure, including broadening The Committee recessed from 12:27 p.m. to 1:01 p.m.

  Discussion of qualification options for education and experience that may be used to

Recess

**Review Draft Amendments** 

Discussion was held on revisions to license renewal procedures, including submission of proof of continuing professional education for license renewal for all license types.

Discussion began on minimum standards for conducting home inspections and standards of conduct.

**Begin Discussion and Review of Minimum** Standards for **Conducting Home Inspections and Standards of Conduct** and Practice

The Committee agreed by consensus to review draft amendments and discuss prohibited acts, the term "direct supervision," and home inspection contract and report provisions at its next meeting.

**Review Timeline and Discuss Topics for Next Meeting** 

Ms. Henshaw reviewed the regulatory timeline with the Committee and advised that the proposed regulatory amendments are on track to be presented to the full Board at its May 2021 meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 Adjourn p.m.

Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and February 3, 2021 Page 3	Home Inspectors' Home Inspector Regulatory Review Committee  Gene E. Magruder, Chair
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#### VIRGINIA BOARD FOR ASBESTOS, LEAD, AND HOME INSPECTORS **MEETING MINUTES**

The Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors (Board) met virtually via Google Meet on May 13, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. Board staff was present at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23233. The meeting was held virtually due to the current public health emergency related to COVID-19 declared by the Governor, which made it impracticable or unsafe for the Board to assemble in a single location. The purpose of meeting was to discuss or transact business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the Board.

The following members of the Board were present:

Sandra Baynes, Vice-Chair Chadwick R. Bowman

Peter Palmer David P. Rushton

Jonn E. Cranor
Gene E. Magruder, Chair
Paul D. Thomas
Louis Walker

Board members James Haltigan, Rick Holtz, and Galappa Madhusudhan were not present at the meeting.

The following staff members were present for all or part of the meeting:

Mary Broz-Vaughan, Director Trisha L. Lindsey, Executive Director Joseph C. Haughwout, Jr., Board and Regulatory Administrator Tanya M. Pettus, Administrative Assistant

Joshua Laws from the Office of the Attorney General was present.

Mr. Magruder, finding a quorum of the Board present, called the Call to Order meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Ms. Lindsey took roll of Board members and advised those in **Announcements** attendance at the meeting of staff present. Connor O'Donnell from the Post-Adjudication and Licensing section, and Caroline Pruett from Adjudication were present to observe the meeting.

Ms. Lindsey advised the Board of procedures in place for conducting the meeting virtually. Members of the public attending the meeting identified themselves for the record.

Mr. Rushton moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Magruder, Palmer, Rushton, Studley, and

**Approval of Agenda** 

Thomas. Due to technical difficulties Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting at the time of the vote.

Mr. Rushton moved to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2021, Board meeting as presented. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Magruder, Palmer, Rushton, Studley, and Thomas. Due to technical difficulties Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting at the time of the vote. Mr. Studley moved to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2021, Home Inspector Regulatory Review Committee meeting as presented. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Magruder, Palmer, Rushton, Studley, and Thomas. Due to technical difficulties Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting at the time of the vote.

Approval of Minutes

There were no members of the public present to address the Board on matters other than the case files to be presented.

Public Comment Period

Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting during discussion and deliberation of File Number 2020-02568.

Recusal of Board Member

In the matter of **File Number 2020-02568**, **Josue Felipe Ochoa Landero**, the Board members reviewed the record which consisted of the Notice of Prima Facie Case, Report of Findings, evidence, and the Recommendation. Mr. Rushton moved to accept the recommendation and find Mr. Ochoa Landero in violation of the following Board regulations and impose sanctions as outlined in the Recommendation:

File Number 2020-02568, Josue Felipe Ochoa Landero

18 VAC 15-20-410.C as outlined in Count 1; and 18 VAC 15-20-410.C as outlined in Count 2.

Revocation of Mr. Ochoa Landero's asbestos worker license for violations of Counts 1 and 2 as outlined in the Recommendation.

Mr. Palmer seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Magruder, Palmer, Rushton, Studley, and Thomas.

Mr. Cranor joined the meeting at 9:21 a.m.

Arrival of Board Member

Mr. Cranor recused himself from the meeting for discussion and deliberations on File Number 2020-00064. Mr. Rushton recused himself from the meeting for discussion and deliberations on File

**Recusal of Board Members** 

Numbers 2020-00064 and 2020-0087.

In the matter of File Number 2020-00064, Tillman Simms, the Board members reviewed the record which consisted of the investigative file, the transcript, and exhibits from the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, and the Summary of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference. Mr. Palmer moved to accept the recommendation of the Summary and find Mr. Simms in violation of the following Board regulations as outlined in the Summary:

File Number 2020-**00064, Tillman Simms** 

18 VAC 15-40-120.B as outlined in Count 1, 18 VAC 15-40-130. A as outlined in Count 2; and 18 VAC 15-40-130.B as outlined in Count 3.

Mr. Thomas seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Magruder, Palmer, Studley, and Thomas. Due to technical difficulties Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting at the time of the vote. Mr. Thomas then moved to accept the recommended sanctions as presented in the Summary, which imposed a monetary penalty of \$125.00 for violation of Count 1, a monetary penalty of \$125.00 for violation of Count 2, and \$125.00 for violation of Count 3, for a total monetary penalty of \$375.00 imposed. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Magruder, Palmer, Studley, and Thomas. Due to technical difficulties Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting at the time of the vote.

Mr. Cranor returned to the meeting.

In the matter of File Number 2020-00807, Bradley Alan Gamlin, the Board members reviewed the Consent Order. Mr. Gamlin admits to a violation of 18VAC 15-40-120. A as outlined in Count 1, 18VAC 15-40-130.A as outlined in Count 2, 18VAC 15-40-180.B as outlined in Count 3, and 18VAC 15-40-155.6 as outlined in Count 4, and consents to the imposition of (i) monetary penalties totaling \$,1400.00, and (ii) Board costs of \$150.00. In addition, for violation of Count 1, Mr. Gamlin agrees to complete a minimum of two (2) contact hours of continuing education pertaining to home inspection contracts. Further, for violation of Count 2, Mr. Gamlin agrees to complete a minimum of two (2) contact hours of continuing education pertaining to home inspection report writing. For violation of Count 3, Mr. Gamlin agrees to a sixty (60) day suspension of his license. Ms. Baynes moved to approve the Consent Order as presented. Mr. Cranor seconded the motion which was unanimously **Return of Board** Member

File Number 2020-00807, Bradley Alan Gamlin

approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Cranor, Magruder, Palmer, Studley, and Thomas. Due to technical difficulties Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting at the time of the vote.

Mr. Rushton returned to the meeting.

Return of Board Member

Mr. Cranor recused himself from the meeting for discussion and deliberations on File Numbers 2020-01518 and 2020-02517.

Recusal of Board Member

In the matter of File Number 2020-01518, Andrew Bryan Renaux, the Board members reviewed the Consent Order. Mr. Renaux admits to a violation of 18VAC 15-40-120. A as outlined in Count 1, 18VAC 15-40-130. A as outlined in Count 2, and 18VAC 15-40-130. B.2 as outlined in Count 3, and consents to the imposition of (i) monetary penalties totaling \$850.00, and (ii) Board costs of \$150.00. Ms. Rushton moved to approve the Consent Order as presented. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Magruder, Palmer, Rushton, Studley, and Thomas. Due to technical difficulties Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting at the time of the vote.

File Number 2020-01518, Andrew Bryan Renaux

In the matter of **File Number 2020-02517, Christopher John Nelson**, the Board members reviewed the Consent Order. Mr. Nelson admits to a violation of 18VAC 15-40-155.3 as outlined in Count 1, and consents to the imposition of (i) a monetary penalty of \$1,000.00, and (ii) Board costs of \$150.00. In addition, Mr. Nelson agrees to complete twelve (12) contact hours of continuing professional education (CPE) wherein the subject matter covers content areas of the Board-approved exam, and shall provide acceptable proof of attendance and successful completion of the CPE within ninety (90) calendar days of the effective date of the Order. Ms. Rushton moved to approve the Consent Order as presented. Ms. Baynes seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Magruder, Palmer, Rushton, Studley, and Thomas. Due to technical difficulties Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting at the time of the vote.

File Number 2020-02517, Christopher John Nelson

Mr. Cranor returned to the meeting.

Return of Board Member

In the matter of File Number 2021-00780, Mark Alden Adams, the Board members reviewed the record which consisted of the application file, transcript and exhibits from the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, and the Presiding Officer's Summary and

File Number 2021-00780, Mark Alden Adams

Recommendation.

Mr. Adams was present to address the Board and stated he has dedicated one and a half years of his life to obtaining a home inspector license in hopes to continue the business of his current employer. Mr. Adams stated his criminal activity occurred when he was a teenager and since then he has worked his way up from a laborer to a supervisor who is serious about making a positive difference.

Mr. Palmer moved to accept the recommendation of the Presiding Officer and approve Mr. Adams' application for a home inspector license. Mr. Rushton seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Cranor, Magruder, Palmer, Rushton, Studley, and Thomas. Due to technical difficulties Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting at the time of the vote.

In the matter of File Number 2021-00782, Aaron Salem Ellis, the Board members reviewed the record which consisted of the application file, transcript and exhibits from the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, and the Presiding Officer's Summary and Recommendation. Ms. Baynes moved to accept the recommendation of the Presiding Officer and approve Mr. Ellis' application for a home inspector license. Mr. Rushton seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Cranor, Magruder, Palmer, Rushton, Studley, and Thomas. Due to technical difficulties Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting at the time of the vote.

File Number 2021-00782, Aaron Salem Ellis

In the matter of File Number 2021-01131, Christopher Taber dePolo, the Board members reviewed the record which consisted of the application file, transcript and exhibits from the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, and the Presiding Officer's Summary and Recommendation.

File Number 2021-01131, Christopher Taber dePolo

Mr. dePolo was present to address the Board and stated he has dedicated one and a half years of his life to obtaining a home inspector license and expressed his appreciation for the Board's time and consideration. Mr. dePolo stated he hopes to use home inspection as a way to provide for his family.

Ms. Baynes moved to accept the recommendation of the Presiding Officer and approve Mr. dePolo's application for a home inspector license. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Cranor, Magruder, Palmer,

Rushton, Studley, and Thomas. Due to technical difficulties Mr. Walker was not present at the meeting at the time of the vote.

Mr. Haughwout provided an update on the current status of the regulatory review processes for the Board's regulatory packages.

**Regulatory Action Update** 

A Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) for a general review of the Home Inspector Licensing Regulations was filed on November 13, 2020, and is currently in executive branch review. The Home Inspector Regulatory Review Committee finalized recommendations at its March 24, 2021, meeting. Following completion of executive branch review, the NOIRA will be submitted for publication in the Virginia Register and open for public comment.

The revised proposed Lead-Based Paint Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program Regulations (Initial Promulgation) will be published on May 24, 2021. A sixty-day public comment period will begin May 24, 2021, to include a public hearing scheduled for July 14, 2021.

Ms. Lindsey reminded the Board that the Lead-Based Paint Renovation, Repair and Painting Program (RRP) regulations are a result of amendments made to EPA law in 2009, which requires the renovation and repair of homes built prior to 1978 to be completed by those with an RRP certification from the EPA. Ms. Lindsey advised the Board that after final review of the proposed regulations at the next Board meeting, the regulations would again undergo executive branch review.

Discussion was held on outreach and education, and the potential impacts on the regulant population of the Board, as well as the Board for Contractors.

Ms. Lindsey and Mr. Haughwout presented the Board with several recommendations and items for discussion from the Home Inspector Regulatory Review Committee. The Board reviewed the Committee's recommendations for amendments to entry requirements, CPE topics, licensee responsibility, and prohibited acts. After lengthy discussion, the Board agreed by consensus to further discuss licensee responsibility and prohibited acts at its next meeting.

Discuss HI
Regulatory Review
Committee
Recommendations
for HI Licensing
Regulations

Ms. Pettus provided an update of home inspector CPE audits conducted on five percent of eligible certified home inspectors

<u>Update on Home</u> <u>Inspector CPE Audit</u>

beginning on February 17, 2021.

Ms. Pettus advised the Board of lead courses audited for approval from February 4, 2021 to present.

Update on Lead Training Course Audits

Ms. Lindsey asked the Board for guidance on types of evaluations that are considered consultations or "walk and talk inspections." Ms. Lindsey advised the Board that it was brought to her attention that licensed home inspectors are conducting evaluations on homes, with potential buyers present, which do not appear to meet the requirements of a home inspection as they do not include a written report. After lengthy discussion, the Board agreed by consensus that staff will work with Board counsel to draft a guidance document to be considered by the Board at its next meeting.

<u>Discussion of Home</u> <u>Inspections without a</u> <u>Written Report</u>

Ms. Lindsey reminded the Board that temporary waivers of certain regulations pursuant to Executive Order 51 in response to COVID-19 remain in place, and advised that the temporary waivers will be extended until the 30th day after the date by which the state of emergency is lifted. Board staff is working to get notice to licensees that the 30 day extension will have a hard deadline for those who have not renewed their license during the state of emergency.

DPOR Updates as it Relates to COVID-19 Response

Ms. Lindsey advised that the waiver extending exam eligibility expiration dates will expire on June 30, 2021.

Ms. Lindsey provided the Board with the most recent financial statements for review.

**Board Financial Statements** 

Ms. Lindsey updated the Board on recent and upcoming virtual and in-person outreach opportunities.

**Outreach Update** 

Ms. Lindsey also advised that outreach will likely increase due to proposed RRP regulations.

Ms. Lindsey presented the Board with tentative Board meeting dates for 2022 for consideration. Mr. Cranor moved to accept the following meeting dates:

**Consider 2022 Meeting Dates** 

- February 10, 2022
- May 12, 2022
- August 19, 2022
- November 10, 2022

Ms. Baynes seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Baynes, Bowman, Cranor, Magruder, Palmer, Rushton, Studley, Thomas, and Walker.

Ms. Broz-Vaughan advised the Board that the Governor's emergency declaration order (Executive Order 51) in response to COVID-19 will expire on June 30, 2021. Accordingly, all waivers authorized by the Director will also be expiring. The Department is working to communicate these updates to those who may be impacted.

**Other Business** 

Mr. Laws brought a typographical error in the tentative 2022 Board meeting dates to the attention of staff.

The following meeting dates have been scheduled:

**Future Meeting Dates** 

- August 26, 2021
- November 4, 2021

Mr. Magruder reminded Board members to complete their conflict of interest forms.

Conflict of Interest Forms and Travel Vouchers

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m. Adjourn

Gene E. Magruder, Chair

Mary Broz-Vaughan, Secretary

## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Five minute public comment, per person, with the exception of any open disciplinary or application files.

## Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors

#### **Update on Regulatory Actions**

(as of August 6, 2021)

#### **Action: Home Inspector Regulations General Review**

#### **Current Stage: NOIRA**

- Board authorized filing of NOIRA, and formation of regulatory review committee on 8/20/20.
- Regulatory review committee formed.
- Regulatory review committee meetings held on 11/10/20, 2/3/21, and 3/24/21.
- NOIRA filed on 11/13/20. Executive Branch review completed and submitted to Registrar on 6/22/21.
- Published in Virginia Register on 7/19/21 for 30-day public comment period.
- Public comment period concludes on 8/18/21.

#### Next Step: Proposed Stage

- Board review and consideration of NOIRA stage public comments.
- Board review and consideration of committee recommendations.
- Adoption of proposed regulatory text.

#### Action: Lead-Based Paint Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program

#### **Current Stage: Proposed**

- Executive Branch review completed on 4/12/21.
- Revised proposed regulations submitted to Registrar on 4/26/21.
- Published in Virginia Register on 5/24/21 for 60-day public comment period.
- Public comment period concluded on 7/23/21. Public hearing held on 7/14/21.

#### **Next Step: Final Stage**

- Board review and consideration of Proposed Stage public comments.
- Board review of regulation, consider any amendments, and adoption of final regulation.
- Final regulation to be submitted for Executive Branch review.
- Following completion of Executive Branch review, publication in Virginia Register, and final public comment.

# REVISED PROPOSED RR&P

PROPOSEL REGULATIONS

AND THE PROPOS

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Agency

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation

Board

Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors

Chapter

Lead-based Paint Renovation, Repair and Painting Regulation [under development] [18 VAC 15 - 50]

Action Initial promulgation of Lead-based Paint Renovation, Repair at Painting Regulation	
Stage	Proposed
Comment P	eriod Ends 7/23/2021

#### 2 comments

All good comments for this forum

**Show Only Flagged** 

**Back to List of Comments** 

Commenter: Mason Hearn, and NARI Central VA

6/28/21 7:48 pm

#### Requirements for Promulgation of the RRP Regulations

As the Board reviews the requirements for promulgation of the RRP Regulations, I request consideration of the following:

That the regulation is founded in the knowledge that the release of lead-containing paint into the environment is potentially hazardous to the occupants of the home, workers, and the public.

That (quoting from the Agency's Background Document) "the goal of the proposed regulation is to ensure that individuals and businesses conducting lead-based paint renovation, repairs and painting activities are properly licensed so as the enhance the Department's ability to protect the health, safety and welfare of Virginia citizens from the hazard of lead-based paint poisoning."

That the *regulation* itself will *not* protect occupants, workers and the public from these hazards. Compliance with the regulations – assured by monitoring activities and enforcement of the regulations, will.

That the EPA, since the RRP regulation's inception effective 2010, has substantially failed to assure significant compliance with the law, for lack of a clear means and resources to do so. It is likely that Virginia will find itself in the same position once responsibility for administration and enforcement passes to responsibility of the Commonwealth.

There is substantial disregard for this law. One of the Nation's largest home improvement outlets, Home Depot, was found to have violated the regulation in "hundreds of instances" in 2020. Popular Home Television stars Chip & Joanna Gaines were found in serious violation of the regulations as they broadcast their unsafe practices to millions on their show, "Fixer Upper".

Homeowners desiring renovations to their pre-1978 homes are uninformed of the law, and therefore unwittingly endangered by illegal and unsafe practices performed by untrained / uncertified contractors.

The mandate for promulgation requires that Virginia shall include the requirements of the Federal law, but is allowed to have requirements more restrictive than that law.

I propose that Virginia can lead the way in assuring the effectiveness of this law, and thereby the safety of its citizens, as the RRP regulation promulgates to our administration and enforcement.

One logical path is to increase in-progress enforcement. However, locating / identifying instances of violation has previously been accomplished solely by reliance on "whistle-blowers". That is problematic in many ways, and still requires multiple enforcement officers to follow-up on tips. Any reasonably effective means for in-progress enforcement will surely require legions of new enforcement officers throughout the state, for which there would be substantial expense to the Commonwealth.

I propose instead, a more cost-effective and generally effective means of assuring substantially-increased compliance.

The Commonwealth may order that municipalities issuing building permits for renovations and repairs add the following requirements to their permit applications:

- The date of construction of the structure to be renovated or repaired shall be included on the building permit application.
- If the date of construction is pre-1978, that the renovation contractor responsible for the work and listed on the permit shall be RRP-certified, and shall provide evidence of the same. In this case, there would at least be a presumption that the responsible contractor would follow the rules for testing, disturbance and clearance.
- In cases where the renovation contractor may not be RRP-certified, a requirement that areas to be disturbed should be tested (in accordance with the law) for lead-containing paints, and cleared as having no leadcontaining paint in the areas scheduled to be disturbed, by a professional firm or individual certified to perform such testing, prior to the issuance of a permit and/or start of work. The results could be submitted to building officials in the same manner as any of the other multitude of inspections required by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (VUSBC) and/or the municipality.

These simple additional requirements, which would require a minimum of effort and expense on the part of Virginia municipalities' planning departments, could be easily established and administered with a minimum of expense. The Commonwealth of Virginia could then be exemplary in its leadership toward the health, safety and well-being of its citizens.

I look forward to discussing the means to doing so, at your public hearing on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

CommentID: 99281

Commenter: Bob Becker

7/14/21 7:58 am

#### **Comments on RRP Rule**

COMMENTS ON 18VAC15-50, Lead-Based Paint Renovation, Repair and Painting Regulations.

Submitted by Bob Becker, Richmond City Health District, Lead Safe and Healthy Homes Initiative.

Although I work for the Health Department in the lead program, I am making these comments on my own. These comments do not represent a statement by the Richmond City Health District, or any other part of the Virginia Department of Health

Let me start by stressing the importance of regulations like these that protect Virginians, especially young Virginians, from the dangers of lead poisoning. The individual impacts of lead poisoning remain serious. Even lead poisoning levels that are below the current "reference value" (5 ug/dl) will cause decreased academic achievement, including lower IQ, increased attention disorders, and increased antisocial behaviors. The social and economic costs of this lead poisoning are huge.

In general, the proposed regulations are excellent. They show the solid work of the Board and staff in putting them together as well as a good understanding of all of the steps that need to happen to make this project a success.

I have a few specific comments/questions:

18VAC15-50-40, paragraph 3: We should add a clear requirement that the person claiming the exemption keeps a copy of the test results.

In general your regulations for training programs and testing of students seem broad enough to allow the Board to push for improvements where needed. I would suggest considering a "bad actor" provision in which a trainer or training program who has multiple violations is subject to a higher standard of conduct.

The record-keeping requirements of section 18VAC15-50-320 seem sufficient. I would like to add major addition. I want to suggest that the Board become the repository of all material that proves a dwelling unit is lead free. The language could be: "In addition to the record-keeping requirements of 40 CFR 745, all reports prepared by a certified inspector or certified risk assessor (certified pursuant to either Federal regulations at §745.226 or an EPA-authorized State or Tribal certification program) that find an entire dwelling unit to be lead free shall be vould urge the Boament of these regulating the importance of the electronically submitted to the Board. The Board shall maintain a publicly accessible listing, by address, of all such reports filed. Such properties shall be permanently exempted from the provisions of this section." This language would ensure that property owners will not be wasting time or money inspecting dwellings that are

Finally, I would urge the Board to take the next step in the process as seriously as they have taken the development of these regulations. The education of contractors will be critical to the success of this effort. Realizing the importance of this next phase, I am open to helping in whatever ways the Board suggests.

1	COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
2	DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION
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4	BOARD FOR ASBESTOS, LEAD, AND HOME INSPECTORS
5	(OPOSE SKIIC)
6	PUBLIC HEARING
7	RE: PROPOSED LEAD-BASED PAINT RENOVATION, REPAIR, AND PAINTING REGULATION
8	RE: PROPOSED LEAD-BASED PAINT RENOVATION, REPAIR, AND PAINTING REGULATION  JULY 14, 2021  SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE CENTER
9	JULY 14, 2021
10	SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE CENTER
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23	FARNSWORTH & TAYLOR REPORTING, LLC
<ul><li>23</li><li>24</li><li>25</li></ul>	FARNSWORTH & TAYLOR REPORTING, LLC P.O. BOX 333 ROCKVILLE, VA 23146 804-749-4277

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APPEARANCES:

STAFF PRESENT:

Joseph Haughwout, Board and Regulatory Administrator
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     Tanya M. Pettus, Board Administrator
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MR. HAUGHWOUT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I'm Joe Haughwout and with me is Tanya Pettus. We are members of staff for the Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors.

This is a public hearing held at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia.

This hearing is being held pursuant to Section 2.2-4007.01 of the Administrative Process Act of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of receiving public comment on the Board's revised proposed regulations published in the Virginia Register on May 24, 2021. The list of interested parties and organizations which were notified of this process and invited to come is available upon request.

The staff of the Department of
Professional and Occupational Regulation
will prepare a report of all public comment
received which will be presented to the
Board for consideration of any revisions to
the revised proposed regulations.

Now I would like to present the rules for this public hearing. Comments will be received from any member of the public and initial comments will be limited to a maximum of five minutes depending on the number of individuals who wish to speak.

If you have not signed up to speak and you wish to give testimony today, please sign your name on the sign-up sheet at this time.

Staff man'

Staff members may ask speakers to--ask speakers questions or to clarify statements. However, this is not the proper form for questions to the Board. If you have a question for the Board, please forward them in writing to the Board.

Any speaker who wishes to provide a written statement in additional to oral testimony or in lieu of oral may do so until June 23, 2021.

All right. And just for the record I see we have two members of the public who are here. Do either of you wish to make any public comment at this time?

DONA HUANG: I'll do it.

MR. HAUGHWOUT: Okay. So if I can get you to give us your name for the record, please.

DONA HUANG: Good morning. My name is Dona, last name H-u-a-n-g. I'm here representing myself as well as my profession.

MR. HAUGHWOUT: Okay.

DONA HUANG: I work for the Virginia

Department of Health, Richmond City Health

District. I'm in lead poisoning

prevention. I'm a program manager, but my

comments here are strictly representing

myself, as well as my professional

experience.

I'm wholly supportive of this regulation. And I know that you guys have brought it back, so thank you very much for bringing it back. We sorely needed this.

As an individual, as well as a profession, I would like to offer my assistance for any type of outreach if the regulation is passed as it is to help with outreach, educating the public, any way that I can help. I'm not talking about

representing the Richmond City Health
District, but I think I have the backing of
the organization. But as a professional, I
think this is a regulation that we sorely
needed and would be glad to assist any way
we can. Thank you.

MR. HAUGHWOUT: Thank you. I'll wait about another ten, fifteen minutes. If nobody else shows up, we'll conclude it.

(Off the record.)

MR. HAUGHWOUT: If you'd introduce yourself for the record, please.

MASON HEARN: Sure. Mason Hearn.

MR. HAUGHWOUT: Mr. Hearn, let me give you five minutes. The little light box up here, green means go, yellow means you've got a minute, red means stop. If we go a little bit over, no big deal.

MASON HEARN: Okay. Good morning. My name is Mason Hearn, president of Home Masons, 28-year-old home improvement firm based in Manakin-Sabot. I'm also here representing the National Association of the Remodeling Industry, the voice of the remodeling industry. My role here is

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founder of Central Virginia Chapter 20 years ago, past president and chairman and currently serving on the National Committee for Government Affairs.

We're here as staff and volunteer citizens today, committing our time because we share mutual interests in this industry and a passion to get things right.

My understanding that this is your board's first opportunity to work with the lead paint issue in some detail, so I'm sure we want to handle this properly with the attention it deserves.

As the Board reviews the requirements for the promulgation of RRP regulations, I do request consideration of the following:
One, that the regulation is founded in the knowledge that the release of lead containing paint into the environment is potentially hazardous to the occupants of the home, worker, and the public, and that, quoting from the agency's background document, the goal of the proposed regulation is to ensure that individuals and businesses conducting lead paint renovation,

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repairs, and painting activities are
properly licensed so as to enhance the
department's ability to protect the health,
safety, and welfare of Virginia citizens
from the hazard of lead-based paint

poisoning.

The regulation itself will not protect those occupants, workers, and public from these hazards. Compliance with regulations assured by monitoring activities and enforcement of the regulations will.

Also, that the EPA since the RRP regulations inception effective 2010 has substantially failed to assure significant compliance with the law for the lack of clear meaning and resources to do so. It's likely that Virginia will find itself in the same position once responsibility for administration and enforcement passes to the responsibility of the Commonwealth.

We do know that there is substantial disregard for this law. One of the nation's largest home improvement outlets, Home Depot, was found to have violated the regulations in hundreds of instances in

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2020. Popular home television stars, Chip and Joanna Gaines, were found to be in serious violation of the regulations as they broadcast their unsafe practices to millions on their popular show Fixer Upper.

Homeowners desiring renovations to their pre-1978 homes are uninformed of the law and therefore unwittingly endangered by illegal and unsafe practices performed by untrained and uncertified contractors.

So we know that the mandate requires that Virginia shall include the requirements of this federal law which has been in effect for over ten years, but is allowed to have requirements more restrictive than the law.

I propose that Virginia can lead the way in assuring effectiveness of this law and thereby the safety of its citizens as the RRP regulation promulgates through our administration and enforcement.

What I propose specifically is that the Commonwealth may order municipalities issuing business permits for--building permits for renovations and repairs add the following requirements to their permit

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applications. This is similar to many municipalities who require the same certification of asbestos prior to renovation.

The date of construction of the structure to be renovated or repaired shall be included in the building permit application. If the date of construction is pre-1978, that the renovation contractor responsible for the work and listed on the permit shall be RRP certified and shall provide evidence of the same.

In this case there would at least be a presumption that the responsible contractor would follow the rules for testing the surface and clearance.

In cases where the renovation contractor may not be RRP certified, and there are hundreds of thousands nationally that are not, the requirement that areas to be disturbed shall be tested in accordance with the law for lead containing paint and cleared as having no lead containing paint in the area scheduled to be disturbed by a professional firm or individual certified to

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perform such testing prior to the issuance of a permit and/or start of work.

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The results could be submitted to building officials in the same manner of any of the other multitude of inspections required by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code and/or the municipality.

These simple additional requirements which would require a minimum of effort and expense on the part of the Commonwealth's municipalities' planning departments could be easily established and administered with a minimum of expense. The Commonwealth of Virginia could then be exemplary in its leadership toward the health and safety and well-being of its citizens.

Thank you for your consideration.

MR. HAUGHWOUT: Thank you. Question for you. You're discussing or referencing the authority of localities. Do localities already currently have the authority to add these requirements to building permits or is this something that you think would probably require a change in the law?

MASON HEARN: I don't know that they

1 wouldn't have the authority to do so. 2 Again the -- an asbestos certification is 3 already on many municipality building permit applications. 4 5 So I think, you know, what I'm suggesting is that in promulgating this rule 6 to State administration and enforcement, 7 8 that that might be a requirement that comes 9 down from the state. MR. HAUGHWOUT: Okay. Thank you. MASON HEARN: Do you have any other questions? MR. HAUGHWOUT: No, sir. 14 Go off the record. 15 (Off the record.) 16 MR. HAUGHWOUT: So thank you for your 17 comments today. The record of the public 18 hearing will be kept open until June 23, 19 2021, and written comments will be accepted 20 through five p.m. that day. This hearing 21 is now closed. 22 (The hearing concluded at 10:33 23 a.m.) 24 25

#### CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

I was the Court Reporter at the Public Hearing held

at the time of the hearing herein.

in the County of Henrico, Virginia, on July 14, 2021,

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I further certify that the foregoing transcript is, to the best of my ability, a true and accurate record of the testimony and incidents of the hearing herein.

Given under my hand this 21st day of

Bush, hereby certify that

Holly Bush

Holly M. Bush

P. O. Box 333 Rockville, VA 23146

# IND ADO INSE TO PU COMMENTS AND ADO ONSE TO PU COMMENTS CONSIDER AND ADOPT BOARD **RESPONSE TO PUBLIC**

# REVIEW AND CONSIDER AMENDMENTS/ADOPT FINAL REGULATION

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#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Members, Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors

FROM: Trisha L. Lindsey, Executive Director

Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors

**DATE:** August 11, 2021

**SUBJECT: Inspections without a Written Evaluation** 

#### I. Background

Board staff has received inquiries regarding whether inspections of residences conducted by a home inspector which do not include a written report are 1) considered home inspections, and 2) allowed under the law. Informally known as "walk-and-talk inspections," these are a specialized service offered by some home inspectors wherein the home inspector and client walk through the home and the home inspector verbally reports on the observable components of the residence. The client is expected to make notes and/or take pictures during the walk-through and the home inspector does not provide a written report. Based on anecdotal information from those in the real estate industry, these types of inspections have become more commonplace as a result of the current competitive real estate market.

#### II. Issue

Section 54.1-500 of the Code of Virginia defines a home inspection as:

"...any inspection of a residential building for compensation conducted by a licensed home inspector. A home inspection shall include a written evaluation of the readily accessible components of a residential building, including heating, cooling, plumbing, and electrical systems; structural

components; foundation; roof; masonry structure; exterior and interior components; and other related residential housing components. A home inspection may be limited in scope as provided in a home inspection contract, provided that such contract is not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter or the regulations of the Board. For purposes of this chapter, residential building energy analysis alone, as defined in § 54.1-1144, shall not be considered a home inspection."

The definition of "home inspection" contains several elements that are necessary for an inspection of a residential building to fall within the meaning of home inspection: 1) the service is provided for compensation; 2) it is conducted by a home inspector; and 3) there is a written evaluation of readily accessible components. While a home inspection contract can limit the scope of a home inspection, these three conditions, at a minimum, must be satisfied to be considered a home inspection under the Board's laws and regulation. The "walk-and-talk" inspections described herein do not include a written evaluation.

#### III. Request for Guidance

As the "walk-and-talk" inspection does not include one of the primary elements of a home inspection, a written evaluation, pursuant to the definition in § 54.1-500 of the Code of Virginia, Board staff requests guidance from the Board whether these types of inspections are considered to be home inspections. Board staff recommends the Board consider adopting the following guidance:

Based on the definition of "home inspection" in § 54.1-500, a home inspection must include, among other things, a written evaluation of readily accessible components. Because a "walk-and-talk" inspection does not include a written evaluation, it is not considered a home inspection. It would be contrary to state law for a home inspector to represent a "walk-and-talk" inspection as a home inspection. While the Board's authority over an individual licensed as a home inspector is limited to such individual's performance of home inspections, the specialized service described herein should not be called, described, or referred to as a "home inspection" as it does not comply with the definition of a home inspection in § 54.1-500 of the Code of Virginia. A home inspector who represents a "walk-and-talk" inspection as a home inspection may be subject to disciplinary action by the Board.

From: Inspection Certification Associates Subject: FW: Question about Online Training
To: trisha.henshaw@dpor.virginia

To: trisha.henshaw@dpor.virginia.gov <trisha.henshaw@dpor.virginia.gov>

#### Hello Trisha,

I am requesting approval from the board to allow our Virginia Hybrid Class students to continue to do their 35 hour live class training with us in a live interactive zoom format going forward.

As you are aware, due to the pandemic we started offering our live classes via livestream zoom classes through which our instructors and students can interact and see each other while training from home. This was to keep everyone safe from covid during the state of emergency. We have come to realize that there are so many benefits for our students and instructors by offering the training in this format, that I am requesting permission to continue this method of instruction delivery.

#### Benefits include:

- 1. Students from all of Virginia can attend any class without travelling
- 2. Instructors do not have to travel and can spend more time with their families.
- 3. Instructors and students can focus on the training without distractions from others around them.
- 4. Students do not have to spend money on hotel accommodations/meals while attending.
- 5. The carbon footprint of these classes are reduced greatly by not requiring travel
- Classes do not have to be cancelled due to unforeseen. circumstances such as weather
- 7. Opportunity for training providers to offer more classes and opportunity for faster make-up days without waiting for the next session in the student's home town.
- 8. Tuition remains affordable for the students. This is important as so many are looking to improve their way of life right now.
- 9. Students who live hours away from each other have a unique opportunity to interact with each other and share stories about their prior professional experiences in these classes. We have found that

they are so much more willing to support each other through this online learning experience when they do not see each other as future competition, because many are not in the same region.

Based on this last year, it would be ideal for ICA to offer one 35 hour live class online in a zoom meeting for students all over Virginia. These classes would be offered once every month. We also have all of these students complete our online self-paced coursework in addition to the 35 hour live class.

While this last year of covid had so many negatives, these live online webinar classes are one a the few positives that have come from such a devastating situation.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Thanks,
Jesse Kennedy
Student Support
Inspection Certification Associates
www.icaschool.com

#### Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation Statement of Financial Activity

### Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors 954540

2020-2022 Biennium June 2021

	60 40	Biennium-to-Date Comparison		
30%	June 2021 Activity	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2020 - June 2021	
Cash/Revenue Balance Brought Forward			9,163	
Cash/Revenue Balance Brought Forward Revenues Cumulative Revenues Cost Categories:	26,690	291,096	297,084	
Cumulative Revenues			306,247	
Cost Categories:				
Board Expenditures	3,350	35,136	39,770	
Board Administration	3,848	95,264	81,694	
Administration of Exams	166	2,417	389	
Enforcement	222	4,675	500-	
Legal Services	0	1,869	75	
Information Systems	7,529	79,784	6036	
Facilities and Support Services	3,296	48,088	4543	
Agency Administration	1,489	42,904	3746	
Other / Transfers	0	(5)	ı	
Total Expenses	19,899	310,132	274,381	
Transfer To/(From) Cash Reserves	(3,665)	0	(9,686	
Ending Cash/Revenue Balance			41,552	
Cook Bosowie Beginning Balance	304,780	0	310 000	
Cash Reserve Beginning Balance Change in Cash Reserve	(3,665)	0	310,800 (9,686	
Cash Reserve Ending Balance	301,115	0	301,115	
Number of Regulants Current Month	5,691			

6,298

Previous Biennium-to-Date

## OUTREACH UPDATE

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## **BIENNIAL BOARD MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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# a. November 4, 2021

# COMPLETE CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORMS AND TRAVEL VOUCHERS

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Please return your document folders to Tanya Pettus.