

# International Code Council Professional Development Council Certification Committee (CC)

December 15, 2014 Teleconference

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CC Member	Location	Office Phone	Cell Phone
Richard C. Witt [CC Chair]	Chesterfield, VA	(804) 751-4161	(804)
Jeremy Searfoss [CC Vice-chair]	Reading, PA	(610) 655-5333	
Cindy Davis	Richmond, VA	(804) 371-7161	
Autumn Hartsoe	Goodyear, AZ	(623) 882-7307	(480)
Jeff Whitney	Moab, UT	(435) 259-1345	
Gilbert Gonzales – BOD liaison	Murray, UT	(801) 270-2413	(801)
Cash Olszowy – BOD liaison	Lexington, KY	(859) 258-3237	

ICC Staff	Location	Office Phone	Cell Phone
Michelle Porter	ICC Birmingham	(888) 422-7233	(205) 222-0561
Hamid Naderi	ICC Austin	(888) 422-7233	
Mark Johnson	ICC Brea	(888) 422-7233	
Autumn Saylor	ICC Birmingham	(888) 422-7233	

## **MINUTES**

# 1. Call to Order - 2:04 pm CT on December 15, 2014

- a. Rick Witt, CC Chair, requested that Michelle Porter call roll. CC members and ICC staff members were present as noted above; Jeremy Searfoss was absent. Visitors present were Lynn Nielson, chair of the Fire Alarm Exam Development Committee [EDC]; and Mike Davis, chair of the Certified Building Official [CBO] EDC.
- b. Quorum was established.
- c. The agenda was approved as presented, with a request from Mr. Witt that CC members send cell phone numbers to Ms. Porter to include in future agendas.
  - i. Motion. Second. Pass unanimous.

### 2. Previous Minutes

- a. Gilbert Gonzales noted that the minutes from the October 28, 2014, CC meeting should read "let ICC certifications expire" under 4.k.
  - i. Motion to approve minutes as amended. Second. Pass unanimous.

# 3. Unfinished Business

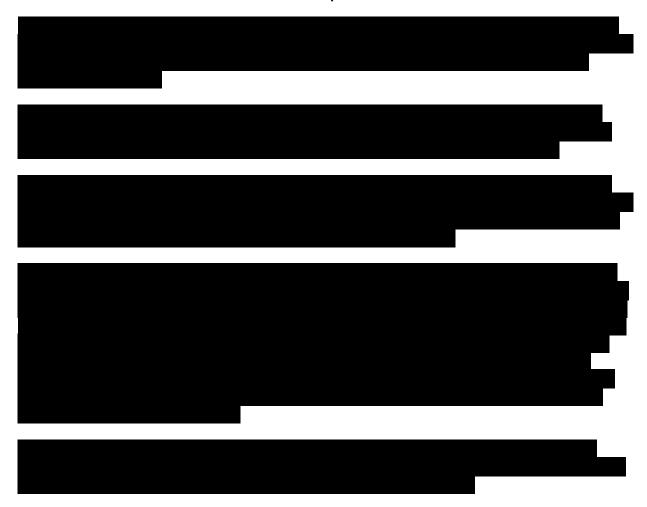
a. A discussion was held on the timing of awarding certifications committee members involved in new exam development, as a follow-up to the discussion on this issue held at the October 28, 2014, CC meeting. Mr. Witt introduced an email from Ms. Porter that compared language in the Certification Program Standards [Standards], BIPS Rules [Rules], and the EDC conflict of interest agreement, and stated that his understanding was that the intent of the rule change made in May 2012 by the Board for International Professional Standards [BIPS] was to apply to existing exams only. Prior to the last two years, not enough individuals holding certifications applied for EDC membership, and non-certified persons were allowed a path to obtain the (existing) certifications on which they performed work. Cindy Davis noted that language between the Standards and Rules conflicted.

Mr. Witt requested that Mr. Nielson present the EDCs' point of view on this rule as it applied to the Fire Alarm, Fire Sprinkler, CBO, and Fire Services EDCs. Mr. Nielson stated that all members of the noted four EDCs worked many hours and created entirely new content and exams for ICC; that the EDC members were judged subject matter experts by their appointing body, BIPS; and that obtaining the certifications through taking the examinations would simply be a test of memory of the exam content rather than a test of their knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Mr. Witt asked whether the Fire Sprinkler EDC received the Residential Fire Sprinkler Inspector/Plans Examiner certification upon its launch in 2011, and Mr. Nielson replied in the affirmative. Cash Olszowy asked when the EDCs were appointed; Ms. Porter stated that the CBO and Fire Services EDCs have existed for a number of years, but that the Fire Alarm and Fire Sprinkler EDCs were created in 2013.

Mr. Davis noted that he is not personally affected by the CC's decision, but was speaking on behalf of other EDC members who take vacation and other personal time to spend hours on exam creation, and that receiving the certification(s) should be a reward for committee service.

The Certification Committee entered into closed session at 2:20 pm.





Ms. Davis made a motion to reaffirm the decision of the October 28, 2014, CC meeting regarding individuals needing special consideration for employment, and to consider new language for the Rules at a near-future meeting to clarify certification requirements for EDC members. Ms. Hartsoe seconded the motion, with discussion following.



Ms. Davis clarified her motion to include only the Fire Alarm and Fire Sprinkler EDC members.

Motion. Second. Pass unanimous.

# STAFF ACTION: Draft letter for CC Chair to send to EDC chairs.

### 4. New Business

a.

i. Motion. Second. Pass unanimous.

- **5.** A discussion was held about the next in-person and teleconference meeting needs. Ms. Porter noted that a teleconference will need to be held toward the end of January to hear two appeals. The group stated that the CC could meet in-person in September just before the ICC Annual Conference, and perhaps in April at the Memphis code hearings. Ms. Porter will send tentative dates for the group's comments.
- 6. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

, Michelle Porter

Richard C. Witt CC Chair

Director—Certification and Testing