ALLIANCE FOR REGULATORY COORDINATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Partnering with Code Officials to Build Stronger, Safer Communities

MADISON – The Alliance for Regulatory Coordination joins the International Code Council in observing May as Building Safety Month. We encourage all Wisconsinites to be aware of the importance of building safety and to take appropriate steps to ensure that the places where we live, work, and play are resilient, safe and accommodating. We believe that all communities need building codes to protect their citizens from disasters like fires, weather-related events or collapse. And we commend code officials who work day in and day out to keep the public safe.

"Partnering with Code Officials to Build Stronger, Safer Communities" is the focus of week one of Building Safety Month. Whether you are going through a minor remodeling job or major construction, the code official wants your project to be a success. Building safety professionals play a major role in keeping the public safe. They can also help avoid potential problems that could cost you time and money.

Before you begin any work that involves construction, visit your local building department. They will explain the process, which may include getting a building permit, plan review and inspection. The process is designed to protect the home or building owner and the occupants. Code officials ensure that all buildings, including homes, businesses and places of public assembly are built to required building safety codes, which address structural stability, fire safety, exits, sanitation, electricity, energy efficiency and more. These building safety professionals are responsible for protecting public health, safety and welfare through effective code enforcement.

Today, most of the United States is covered by a network of modern building regulations ranging in coverage from fire and structural safety to health, security and conservation of energy. Public safety is not the only byproduct afforded by modern codes. Architects, engineers, contractors and others in the building community can take advantage of the latest technological advances accommodated by these codes with viable savings to the consumer.

The <u>International Code Council</u> is dedicated to developing model codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process to construct safe, sustainable, affordable and resilient structures. Most U.S. communities and many global markets choose the International Codes.

The <u>Alliance for Regulatory Coordination</u> is a consortium of 18 business, professional, trade and advocacy organizations involved in building design, construction and regulatory services in Wisconsin. The Alliance seeks regulatory services provided in the most efficient manner possible to effectively promote the health, safety and welfare of Wisconsin citizens and visitors.