

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Vermont Building and Life Safety Group Forming**

Interested parties from various aspects of the building industry have joined to discuss a new organization, the ICC Building Safety Association of Vermont, Inc. Designed to raise the awareness of life safety and construction quality throughout the state of Vermont, the association is sponsored by the International Codes Council (ICC).

Recently, a task group met in Barre to create the organizational structure. The participants had no difficulty focusing on the inclusive concept of the "Building Safety Professional," and are committed to implementing life safety practices from design stage through the building and use of the occupied space. The Chapter hopes to attract members from associations, companies, communities and academia.

The goals of the organization are to promote interaction between the members of the industry, provide educational and certification programs, support consistent code interpretation, and participate in local code development activities and in the ICC codes and standards development process.

Vermont currently has 48 individual members of ICC among its residents, but is the only state in the Union without an ICC Chapter. Chapter organizations offer many benefits to its members, including educational forums, greater political strength to address building safety initiatives, and opportunities to form relationships with professionals who have common interests and concerns. Vermont's ICC members are immediately eligible to join the Chapter.

This association is being forged by interested individuals and building officials as well as representatives from the State of Vermont Division of Fire Safety, American Institute of Architects, Efficiency Vermont, American Society of Civil Engineers, Structural Engineers of VT, ASHRAE, Home Builders & Remodelers of Vermont, commercial trade unions, Housing Vermont, and Vermont Association of Realtors.

The International Code Council, a membership association dedicated to building safety and fire prevention, develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings. Most U.S. jurisdictions choose the ICC's International Codes.

For more information about the Building Safety Association of Vermont, contact Rob Pickett at (802) 436-1325.

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