

# INSIDE



## TAID

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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## VOLUME 11, ISSUE 4

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear TAID Members,

Although the Texas Legislature meets every other year, the time between sessions is filled with election activity by incumbents and those seeking to become your State Senators and Representatives.

**What can TAID members can do to assist in campaigns in their home districts?** Now is the time for us to act as individual TAID members. Person to person contact is the way to become known. Offering to help over the next several months when the legislators are building their campaign funding is key to our becoming known as reliable and friendly.

**Monetary donations are always welcomed by the candidates, but if that is not possible, your physical presence is valued.** Even though the elections seem far away, the candidates are meeting possible donors in their offices and at small gatherings in private homes. As Texas Registered Interior Designers, we can introduce ourselves and offer to help make their offices "refreshed" by donating a few hours of our time to rearrange their awards, arranging furniture to make their office accessible by all visitors and re-hanging pictures.

**You can thank your legislator for voting for the addition of Registered to the Interior Design legislation.** You can expand your circle of contacts and inform the legislator of the real work Registered Interior Designers do to select and specify furnishings and finishes for restaurants, hotels, hospitals and other places used by the public.

### Other things you can do:

- Make campaign phone calls from the campaign offices of your legislator.
- Address envelopes for campaign mailings. This volunteer service can take 3 to 4 hours one evening, but is one of the most valued tasks.
- Attend campaign fundraisers. Some of the fundraisers have a low \$25 support/entrance contribution.
- At the request of the candidate we are supporting, we can schedule other supporters to pass out literature for our candidate at the polling place on election day.
- We can offer to be trained as pollwatchers to serve on election day. Let your legislator or candidate know that you are interested in serving in this function. The legislator cannot be at every polling place on election day and they need information about what may be happening at a polling place.
- We can be invited to be official observers at recounts conducted by the County Election Board if there are votes requiring a second look.

**What WE as TAID members gain from these activities:**  
The reputation of being dependable and willing to help to do necessary tasks.

Recognition of our names and faces by the Senators and Representatives when we visit their offices in Austin on Legislative Day. The legislators will make time to visit with us as their constituents.

Willingness by the Legislators to give us an appointment to listen to our position on issues affecting the Health, Safety and Welfare of Texans from the perspective of a Registered Interior Designer.

Many of these activities take just a few hours and have no to low cost. Even in a challenging economy, there are still ways to be active.

We can serve as resources for accurate information to influence important legislative decisions. With over 6000 bills presented biennially, those that get attention are the ones that protect Texans and do not cost the state of Texas any money. TBAE is already a self-supporting Board which contributes money to the State coffers.

### What WE as TAID members can do to inform ourselves, our co-workers and legislators:

House bill HB 1484 which passed the legislature and was signed by the Governor in May, ensured that only those interior designers who have registered with the state may use the term "Registered Interior Designer". Use this victory to your advantage.

- Be able to explain it to your clients and friends.
- Use Texas Registered Interior Designer (your number) after your name.

Have fun using this time between legislative sessions getting to know your legislators.

Julie Reynolds  
Texas Association for Interior Design, President

[www.supporttaid.org](http://www.supporttaid.org)

Visit our website for additional information

# Executive Director News

The board had a great summer meeting in San Antonio. Cathy Hendricks gave the board a great presentation on the legislative changes from this year's session.



Many thanks for the warm reception and great attendance at the CEU we held in El Paso on Sept. 10th.



Fran Timbrook, Sally Dinsmoor, Donna Vining, Maggie Alvidrez and Nicole Ferrini

Since 1991 when interior designer's became registered in the state of Texas, we were granted sealing privileges and that seal, (although it did change in format to match the other professionals seals effective 1/06) has always included the word "REGISTERED". During the last legislative session, with the passage of HB 1484, TBAE will only regulate the title REGISTERED INTERIOR DESIGNER. You have owned this term since 1991, now is the time to share it with everyone. You come in contact with people every day that do not understand what a registered interior designer does or what the term really means. Be proud of your title and take the time to explain it. When you registered, you did so to show that you are a professional. You have the education, experience, you passed an examination, you adhere to a code of ethics and you demonstrate your dedication to your profession by taking continuing education every year in order to stay up with an ever evolving profession. Along with all of this, the agency does a criminal background check on you every year to ensure your Registration means something to the public.

Have a great holiday season and we will talk next year,

Thanks,

*Donna Vining*

Donna Vining, FASID, IIDA, RID, CAPS



# Spotlight on our Board Members

## Denise Hostick, IIDA, RID

IIDA Representative, VP West

I am a Registered Interior Designer in the State of Texas and a proud member of both TAID and IIDA. I started my career in IIDA a few years ago as the first Director of the West Texas City Center formerly known as the Lubbock City Center. Prior to that, I served on several positions for ASID on both the City and Chapter Boards. Currently, I am in my second year as VP of Government and Regulatory Affairs-Texas on the IIDA Texas/Oklahoma Chapter Board. My position as VP GRA-Texas allows me to serve as the IIDA Representative to the TAID Board. I recently started an additional role on the TAID Board, as VP West. I look forward to reconnecting with old friends and meeting new ones in West Texas as we work together on our legislative efforts.



I graduated with a Bachelor of Interior Design from Texas Tech University in 1991. I have worked as a designer for Texas Tech for the past 19 years. As the Assistant Director of Interiors for the Facilities Planning and Construction Department, I have been responsible for both design and project management for numerous capitol construction projects in Lubbock, Amarillo and San Angelo. Some highlights of those projects include the Student Union, the Student Recreation Center and Leisure Pool, the Visitors Center, the English/Philosophy/Education Complex, two Medical Clinics, a Research Building, three Residence Halls, an addition to the Pharmacy School and most recently, the new Business School. Many of these projects have won National Design Awards.

Like many of you, I never pictured myself being involved in politics. However, having a Practice Act in Texas has been a passion of mine since TAID earned the Title Act for us in 1991. It is important to me both professionally and personally that only qualified professionals are designing in code regulated public spaces. I want to protect my family and yours when they go to school, work, and play or seek medical attention or seek shelter in a hotel. I want to know that they are safe and can navigate freely no matter their disability. The entire design team of architects, engineers and interior designers for every public building project should be educated, examined and qualified to take on that responsibility.

We have made great strides as a profession on the legislative front in Texas. We have so much more we can do. Designers are proud and passionate people. Together, we have a lot to look forward to.

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## Photos from Summer Board Meeting



Julie Reynolds, Harmony Canfield, Marilyn Roberts, Rosa Salazar, Denise Hostick, Grace Rose



Julie Reynolds presents Presidential Award to Marilyn Roberts

# NCIDQ Fact or Fiction

**The Myth:** The NCIDQ Examination is put together by a bunch of interior designers who don't know anything about testing.

**Fiction:** Credentialing and licensure exams must be valid, reliable and fair. NCIDQ follows the same standards for developing, administering and scoring the exam as virtually all other exams of similar gravitas. We follow the guidelines published in The Standards for Educational and Psychological Tests (published jointly by the American Psychological Association, the National Council on Measurement in Education and the American Educational Research Association). These Standards spell out policies that NCIDQ follows to ensure that we administer a valid, fair and reliable test.

## Validity

The first issue we must address is known as "validity." There are two types of validity - construct validity and face validity.

Construct validity means that tests must measure what they purport to measure. Therefore, the NCIDQ Examination must measure interior design knowledge, skills and abilities and not some other constructs, such as historical knowledge, math skills, drafting skills, etc.

This doesn't mean that we don't test these things; it means that we have to test the related skills that are unique to interior designers' knowledge. For example, in a question that requires doing math calculations, we don't test math skills common to most adults, but we test something unique to what an interior designer should be able to do, such as calculating yardage of a fabric. We have to use math skills to get at that knowledge, but the construct being tested is what is unique to interior design.

The second type of validity is known as face validity. This means that the test should look like what interior designers do in daily practice. In thinking about face validity in other professions' licensure exams, dentists take a multiple-choice exam and are tested on practical skills using real patients who need real dental work (root canals, teeth cleanings, etc.).

This type of exam offers the public some sense that the skills tested are similar to the skills needed in practice. In other words, on the face of it, it seems like dentists are tested on what they are expected to do. The same holds true for the NCIDQ Examination. We have a design practicum section of the exam because it looks like what interior designers do in practice.

To prove that a credentialing exam is valid, NCIDQ must conduct research on a regular basis. In 2008 we conducted a practice analysis research project. This project's goal was to learn what it is that interior designers do in practice every day and then create

a new test specification to match the knowledge, skills and abilities that interior designers use in practice.

NCIDQ has conducted similar research in the past. Our 2003 research project resulted in very minor changes to the exam that were implemented in 2004. Results from the 2008 practice analysis will be seen in the exam in 2010 and beyond. The end result of the practice analysis research is that the exam can be proven valid in that it tests those aspects of what an interior designer does in practice that affects the public health, safety and welfare.

The 2008 Practice Analysis Research Report is available on our Web site under the "Publications" heading.

## Reliability

In the science of testing, reliability refers to repeatability. NCIDQ uses statistical procedures to ensure that the exams we administer during a spring administration are no harder or easier than the exams we administer during a fall administration. For example, if a candidate takes Section I in April and then repeats that section in October of the same year, he or she should get the same score if he or she did not get any additional knowledge or experience in the subject.

Even though the test questions change, we use a statistical procedure to ensure that one test is no harder or easier than another test. (This is also an issue of fairness that will be addressed in our October issue.)

To ensure that candidates who demonstrate competence above a certain point pass the exams, we use scientific methods for establishing a passing point.

NCIDQ works with our testing consultant, ACT, Inc., to determine this passing point. The NCIDQ Examination is known as a "criterion-referenced examination," meaning that we use a criterion to set the passing point. The criterion we use is the level of ability that an interior designer can practice independently (without supervision) in a manner that will protect the public health, safety and welfare.

Whenever we change the exam content, as we will do in 2010, we have to re-establish this level of competence. Therefore, we will conduct a study in early 2010 to reset the passing point based on new test specifications (see the August issue for a discussion of this process). Once this level of ability is established for the April 2010 exams, we will statistically equate all future exams to it until we make another change to the test content.

## Fairness

In order for NCIDQ to offer a fair examination, we must adhere to a number of guidelines.

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## TWO REASONS



# BETTER HEALTH INSURANCE OPTIONS FOR TAID MEMBERS

**If You Currently Do Not Have or Do Not Offer  
Employee Health Insurance – Here Are Two Reasons to Start!  
Contact Our Employee Health Benefits Department  
Call Toll Free: (877)786-4468 • With 5 Offices to Serve You  
About The Two Specific Options That We Offer  
TAID Members:**



**Limited Income Medical Plan:** This plan is designed to provide coverage for the regular use of a medical plan up to a limited amount. These plans can be used in coordination with an individual high deductible plan to assist in medical needs up to the deductible amount.



**Preferred Provider Group Health Plan for TAID Members:** For groups interested in implementing a group plan, there are many options varying in deductibles, co pays, and maximum out of pockets for the participants. These plans can be customized to meet the needs of your employees within your location.

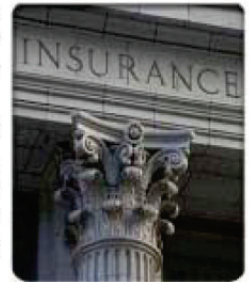
### About INA Professional Services Group



Interior Design

*We recognize your insurance needs, because we are business insurance designers. We are lawyers, consultants, and former underwriters working together to service the insurance needs of other professionals.*

*Let's face it; everybody wants reliable health insurance coverage, at affordable prices. TAID members can benefit significantly from this offer. In today's economy, people are cutting back on "wants" and focusing on "needs", but Health Insurance is not a "Want" it's a "Need" — A "Need", so you can keep yourself and your employees healthy — so you can keep your business healthy and growing — in good times, and tough times too.*



Insurance Design

In addition to this *Special Offer*, we can provide an All-Inclusive, Business Insurance Package, which includes: Group Health Insurance, General Liability Protection, Error & Omissions Coverage, Workers' Compensation, Business Interruption Insurance, Property & Casualty Coverages, and Intellectual Property Protection.

There is a deadline for making a decision, as enrollment in either plan has to take place 45-days prior to the effective date. Please contact Yvette Wohlers ([YvetteW@INTonline.com](mailto:YvetteW@INTonline.com)) or Dolores Thompson ([DoloresT@INTonline.com](mailto:DoloresT@INTonline.com)) for details and more information. You can also reach them at 1-866-745-5703. Please mention that you are a TAID member.

For Error & Omissions protection, Workers Compensation, Business Interruption, Property & Casualty, Intellectual Property, and all other insurance options, please contact Gregory S. Merrell, J.D. at [gregm@intonline.com](mailto:gregm@intonline.com) for more information.



Business Insurance Designers • Since 1949



# TBAE News

(TEXAS BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS)

## Renewal tips to make your life easier (and less expensive)

Most anyone would agree that some things simply make life easier. Your TV's remote control, for instance. Or the microwave oven in your kitchen. Here is a quick and easy list of tips to make your registration renewal simple.

- Renew before the end of your birth month. Your registration will expire on the last day of the month in which you were born. Several years ago TBAE made this change, so we hope everyone is aware of it. So remember: when your birthday rolls around, be thinking about your renewal.
- Renew early. Going online to renew your license is quick and simple—usually. Sometimes, though, people can run into a problem and need some help. So it's a great idea to go online two or three weeks before the end of your birth month to make sure you can get logged in, update your contact information, and generally ensure you've got all the information you need for a quick and easy renewal.
- Call us for help (before it becomes a crisis). What happens if you try to log in, but you can't remember your username or password (or both)? Simple—just call us at 512-305-9000 for help from a live person. The process is simple and straightforward, and we pride ourselves in being accessible any non-holiday weekday during business hours. In almost every case, you'll get transferred in moments to the right staffer—and if

you leave a voicemail, we'll definitely call back to help. So don't wait until the last minute; we can't help over the phone if the office is closed!

- Late fees aren't negotiable. TBAE will always try to work with people, and we try to match cooperation with helpfulness whenever we can. But when it comes to late renewal fees, our hands are tied. Since the fees are set by the Texas Legislature (not by our Board members), they're not negotiable. What



Chair Alfred Vidaurri, Charlie Schisser and Cathy Hendricks

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- We treat all candidates equally.
- We provide the same information to all candidates at the same time.
- We do not give individual assistance to any candidate.
- We tell candidates what test content they will be tested on.
- We tell candidates how their exams will be scored.
- We don't incorporate "tricks" into exam questions or design exercises.

One area where we often bump into unrealistic expectations from candidates is in the amount of assistance we can provide to them. Credentialing and licensure examinations are very different from educational tests.

In an educational test, the goal of the test is to measure what someone knows or can do and then use the result to help improve that person's learning in areas where he or she has shown a weakness.

The goal of the NCIDQ Examination is completely different.

The only goal of the test is to determine, on behalf of the public, who has or who does not have the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities to safely practice interior design in a manner that will protect the public health, safety and welfare. It is not a goal of the NCIDQ Examination to help candidates pass or improve their skills.

We often hear from candidates who would like us to give them this help and we cannot. As noted above, in order to treat all candidates fairly, we cannot offer assistance to any one candidate.

With the change to the exam content in 2010, we have now updated our Web site information to show the new test content for all three sections of the exam. The information on our Web site is one way we reach out to candidates to provide consistent exam information to everyone.

*\*\* Reprinted with permission from the National Council for Interior Design Qualification \*\**

# Continuing Education



## TAID's First Correspondence Course

Earn .3 CEPH today in your own home

### Rules and Regulations for Interior Designers in Texas

Course #7463

The materials necessary will be sent to you within two weeks. You will take the class online via your computer. When finished, mail or fax in your answers and we will send you a certificate within two weeks of receipt of your completed questionnaire.

TAID will have more correspondence CEPH courses in the fall.

Send your name, address,  
and check for \$65.00 to

**TAID**

11418 Hylander Drive  
Houston, TX 77070

[www.supporttaid.org](http://www.supporttaid.org)



#### *Remember...*

When you complete your classes with TAID,  
We track them for you; Your money stays in Texas; and  
Your money goes to support your profession, not individuals.

## FUTURE CEU DATES

### DALLAS

**Fri., November 20**

**Fri., February 5**

**Tues, March 12**

**Fri., Sept 10**

All classes will be held at the  
World Trade Center, Room 9065

Check our website for more details.

[www.supporttaid.org](http://www.supporttaid.org)

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE**



Postcard Artwork by Nicole Reed, AIA Student



## TAID ART SHOW & SALE

**APRIL 29, 2010**

5:00 PM TO 8:00 PM

SKYLINE ART SERVICES  
SHOWROOM

Admission tickets \$10 each  
Admission includes one drink  
Raffle and Door Prizes





# HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR DESIGN STAMP?

Especially for the Interior Design profession, exclusively from Texas Association for Interior Design.

## TBAE Stamp

Stamp # **101** Rubber Stamp \$25.00  
**102** Self-Inking \$35.00

*The Interior Design Rules & Regulations Handbook requires that the information on this stamp be provided to clients.*

**The Texas Board of Architectural Examiners**  
 333 Guadalupe, Suite 2-350 PO Box 12337  
 Austin, TX 78701-3942 Austin, TX 78711-2337  
 Telephone (512) 305-9000

has jurisdiction over complaints regarding the professional practices of persons registered as interior designers in Texas.

## Interior Designer Seal

Stamp # **201** Rubber Stamp \$28.00  
**202** Self-Inking \$38.50  
**203** Embosser \$42.00

\*\*\*Non-TAID members add \$5.00 to the above figures

## NEW Design mandated by the State EFFECTIVE January 1, 2006

*The Interior Design Rules & Regulations Handbook requires that the information on this stamp be provided to clients.*



\_\_\_\_\_  
Name to be on Seal

\_\_\_\_\_  
TBAE certificate number

## Drawing Stamp

Stamp # **301** Rubber Stamp \$20.00  
**302** Self-Inking \$35.00

ANY DRAWINGS OR SPECIFICATIONS  
ARE FOR DESIGN INTENT ONLY.  
THESE ARE NOT INTENDED FOR  
ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING PURPOSES.

## ORDER FORM

Bus. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Stamp #	Stamp	Cost	
<b>101</b>	Rubber Stamp	\$25.00	_____
<b>102</b>	Self-Inking	\$35.00	_____
<b>201</b>	Rubber Stamp	\$28.00	_____
<b>202</b>	Self-Inking	\$38.50	_____
<b>203</b>	Embosser	\$42.00	_____
<b>301</b>	Rubber Stamp	\$20.00	_____
<b>302</b>	Self-Inking	\$35.00	_____

Make all checks payable to **TAID**, and send check and this order form to:  
**TAID**, 11418 Hylander Drive  
Houston, Texas 77070  
For additional information, call **281-257-3523**

Sub Total \_\_\_\_\_  
Tax x 8.25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*Non-TAID member \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Shipping & Handling \$6.00 \$6.00

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

## Not a member of TAID?

Simply fill out the short form below and remit \$75.00 for annual dues to participate in this important organization representing Texas interior designers.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Phone & Fax # \_\_\_\_\_ Business Address, if different \_\_\_\_\_