PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear TAID Members,

FINE PRINT, RED FLAGS AND FORKS IN THE ROAD:
Recent big changes in Environmental Protection Agency lead paint regulations and multiple email offers to help interior designers increase business. One of the functions of TAID is to keep its members abreast of life changing events and trends. We all know that legislation in Texas affects us, but more than ever we are encountering offerings that result in a request for us to sign a legal contract. This issue focuses on the FINE PRINT, RED FLAGS AND FORKS IN THE ROAD. THE FINE PRINT. So many contractual offers. So little time to read them.

Offers to host your website for $3.50. Bottom line, they quickly try to sell you a business marketing plan to get you to spend $500. The fine print way down in the contract says that they can retain your URL or your domain name if you quit their service. Social networking sites. Some interior designers use social networking sites to increase their name recognition or presence on the internet. Be aware that at least one site asks you to agree that any postings made are governed by the laws of the country in which the site is located. Look for this kind of a statement near the end of the agreement.

Paying for leads. There are several companies offering to show your work on their websites several are accessible to the public looking for an interior designer. There is a charge for every lead. The leads are sold to several interior designers at the going rate range of $38 to $40 each. One such offering sells the leads in bundles of 10 at $400 and does not disclose how old the leads are or how many others the same leads are sold. One company sells the leads to 5 interior designers who pay an additional fee for the best billing on the website and it is up to the lead recipient to call the prospect immediately.

Be informed that one website requires the featured interior designer to post a photo of a room along with a listing of the product manufacturers for everything in the photo.

Be notified that this same site has a buying service in case the public wishes to buy the products shown in the room photo directly from the website.

Now for the unwritten fine print. Nothing is written to aid in determining if the furniture purchased meets fire code requirements, CAL 133 or CAL 117. Is furniture which satisfies residential requirements being installed in places of public accommodation? How should the buying and specifying process for public accommodation be defined to protect the public? Think about The Station Nightclub outfitted by the owners without fire behavior knowledge or training in specifying appropriate finishes for a place of public gathering.

The recent tragedy of the small plane purposely crashed into the Chelton Building in Austin was cause for trained, registered interior designers to immediately be concerned about toxic smoke not only from the burning fuel but also from noxious fumes from burning foam cushions of residential furniture brought into the building by tenants. The common practice of using residential furniture in an office could have been an additional cause of death of the building’s occupants. The IRS was not the only tenant in that building.

RED FLAGS: Drill past the Marketing Message that makes the offer sound like it is benefiting you.

Be informed before signing a contractual agreement. Go to the sidebar listings of associates endorsing or partnering with the web business that is marketing to you. Read to discover information that will not appear in the marketing email to you. The real intent often appears in the articles and postings of the associated businesses. One such site declares that expensive interior designers are unnecessary and that the website will sell to anyone. Read Blogs attached to these offers. See who is posting comments. Get enough information to verify that you will be making an informed investment of your money.

Legislative Watch: Texas House Ways and Means Committee discussion regarding sales tax for consultation services. Interior Designers are one of several types of businesses in Texas receiving perusal by the Representatives. Go to www.house.state.tx.us to follow the outcome. (Donna has more about this in her column on the following page.) You may write your Representative to inform him/her about the economic conditions in your area. Get verifiable statistics. Ernesto Miranda, Dallas interior designer and founder of a networking group for unemployed interior designers has gathered local statistics that are 4 times those announced on the nightly news. Please copy www.supportTAID.org if you send a letter so we know which Representatives have been contacted.

FORKS IN THE ROAD: The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and Lead Paint Abatement and Renovation rules effective April 22, 2010. Understand how the new lead dust rules apply to the type of work you do for clients. The maximum fines are about $30,000. Decide if these regulations will change your business.

Read the new lead paint rules at www.epa.gov. Any renovations greater than 6 square feet in the interior of a residence built before 1978 require lead paint testing, certified lead assessors and renovators. There is a situation in which a waiver can be signed. Please read this information carefully and determine what functions you perform for your clients in their homes, in daycare facilities or in schools. You can get a booklet with an overview and EPA websites at your local paint store. There are 3 booklets that outline the body of knowledge you need to know… and then you will need to decide how you will function under these new regulations.

Painters, electricians, carpenters, paperhangers, window replacement companies, plumbers, security companies, audio/video technicians and floorcovering installers are some of the trades who in the course of their work put holes in walls, ceilings and baseboards. An EPA certified renovator must be on site during the work and testing must be done as well as creating a temporary wall and egress between the rest of the home and the work area.

The fines are severe. If necessary, become certified or hire only certified people.

I hope this letter helps you spend your marketing dollars wisely and keeps you from having an EPA fine. Please send your comments to www.supportTAID.org. Our mission is to keep you informed about legislation at the Federal level as well as in the State of Texas.

Julie Reynolds
Texas Association For Interior Design, President

www.supportTAID.org

Visit our website for additional information
Hello everyone, what glorious weather we Texans are experiencing. I hope everyone is able to get outside and enjoy it, as we all know summer is just around the corner.

If you run into our board member, Amanda Kendall, please congratulate her on her new daughter, born Tuesday, April 27th.

Former board member, Diana Walker, Houston, has just shared with me that her daughter, Amanda Wall, has gone to work in the district offices for State Senator Jane Nelson.

On another note, in recognition of his consistent work and support of public health issues, State Rep. Eddie Lucio III has been named Legislator of the Year for Legislative Excellence by the Texas Public Health Association—an honor he proudly shares with his father, Sen. Eddie Lucio Jr., who was also selected by the Association’s Executive Board and Governing Council. The Texas Public Health Association (TPHA) is a non-profit, statewide association of public health professionals in Texas. TPHA was organized in 1923 and is an affiliate of the American Public Health Association. TPHA represents a broad array of health professionals and others who care about the health of their communities and works to improve the health and safety of Texas through leadership, education, training, collaboration, mentoring and advocacy.

Though the next session doesn’t begin until January of 2011, Legislators are still busy considering issues that will face the state during the 82nd Legislature. The Lt. Governor and the Speaker of the House assign each standing committee a series of charges to work on over the interim, in order to determine the direction and goals of legislation for next session, as well as consider the impact of new laws enacted in previous sessions.

Once again both houses are looking at sales tax exemptions. In order to assist the House committee on Ways and Means they asked all witnesses to address the following issues when presenting testimony.

1. Are you aware of any legislative history regarding the original purpose for exempting or excluding your industry from taxation? Often relevant background information is not part of the official legislative record. The committee would appreciate any information regarding the original purpose of any exemption.

2. What unique public policy purpose is served by maintaining the sales tax exclusion to your industry? Keep in mind that all businesses — those that collect sales taxes and those that don’t — create jobs. The committee would like to know what additional economic and social benefits are accrued to Texans by not collecting sales taxes on your service.

3. Is it inequitable to apply the sales tax to other goods and services, but not yours? All Texans benefit directly and indirectly from governmental services. To the greatest extent practicable, everyone should expect to pay his or her fair share of the cost of those services. Is it fair that your customers do not pay sales taxes on the services you provide, while consumers of other goods and services do pay sales taxes? If so, why?

4. What specific tax administrative issues or costs exist in collecting the sales tax and remitting it to the state? The ease of determining the value of a service and assessing, collecting and remitting sales varies by industry. Are there any administrative issues unique to your industry that could impede the imposition, collection, administration, and enforcement of the sales tax?

5. Does your industry use any other services as an input in the production process of your service? Many businesses use other goods and services that are instrumental to the ultimate service they sell. Taxing services used in developing the ultimate service could result in double taxation. Is your service used as either an input or does rely on another service as an input? Are your services provided in-house in certain circumstances by other businesses?

You will see in later pages of the newsletter, the results of the primary elections. Everyone will be rolling up their sleeves in late summer and early fall to begin their reelection campaigns. I hope that you will do your part in helping your Senator and/or Representative. If we can be of help, please let us know.

Donna Vining, FASID, IIDA, RID, CAPS
Spotlight on our Board Members

Stephanie Burritt, RID
VP Gulf Coast

I graduated from the University of Cincinnati School of Design Art Architecture and Planning with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Interior Design. It was a 5 year degree and one I was very proud to have earned. Little did I know that I would find myself years later fighting to protect that same professional degree that I had worked so hard in school to earn.

My journey with TAID has been a fantastic learning experience. Like many of my fellow Board members, I never pictured myself as a political activist. Other than making sure I vote and fulfill my obligation as an appreciative American citizen by taking advantage of a privilege that for many is only a dream, I did not picture myself in politics. Then I went to Austin.

I have supported TAID in many events in a variety of capacities with my primary goal being one of education. I quickly realized early in my involvement with TAID how important it was to raise the level of awareness about the significance of having a Title Act and ultimately a Practice Act amongst those within the profession.

But nothing made that goal of raising awareness ring more clearly than last February in Austin when I, along with many other interior designers, walked the halls in Austin speaking with our legislators about the importance of our mission. If TAID had a dollar for every time I heard, ‘Oh, I didn’t realize the magnitude of the impact you have on our spaces as an interior designer’, it would certainly take some of the pressure off our fundraising efforts! It is not a matter of ignorance, but rather the challenge of educating those who are in a political position to support our goals.

I would encourage each of you to reach out and get to know your local representative. I promise you they are not scary people. They truly view themselves as public servants and are there to listen. It is up to them to decide whether or not they support and believe what we tell them, but I do believe that once they are informed their decision to give us their support is much clearer.

As a Principal at Gensler, I have the opportunity to touch many project types, but my primary focus is corporate interiors. My clients expect me to be well versed in all aspects of design, but more importantly they also expect that the spaces I design for them are compliant with all the local codes and regulations. Being in Houston where a large percentage of clients tend to be from the energy sector, I cannot even begin to image what would happen if they thought safety was not at the forefront of each design concept.

The goal of raising the importance and level of awareness touches all of us from the single-person practices to the large global firms. On behalf of myself and the rest of the TAID Board, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of us should you have questions or need our advice on how to help. I look forward to seeing you in Austin!
## 2010 Primary Election Results

### State Senators

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<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Republican</th>
<th>Democrat</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District 2</td>
<td>Robert F. Deuell - I</td>
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<td>District 5</td>
<td>Steve Ogden - I</td>
<td>Carlos Uresti - I</td>
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<td>District 19</td>
<td>Dick Bowen</td>
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<td>District 22</td>
<td>Kip Averitt is vacating his seat and a special election will be held May 8 – 4 candidates have filed – Democrat Gayle R. Avant, and Republicans – Brian Birdwell, David Sibley and Darren Yancy</td>
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### State Representatives

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<th>District</th>
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<tr>
<td>District 1</td>
<td>George Lavender</td>
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<td>District 2</td>
<td>Dan Flynn – I</td>
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<td>District 3</td>
<td>Erwin Cain</td>
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<td>District 4</td>
<td>Lance Gooden</td>
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<td>District 7</td>
<td>David Simpson</td>
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<td>District 11</td>
<td>Chuck Hopson - I</td>
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<td>District 14</td>
<td>Fred Brown - I</td>
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<td>District 15</td>
<td>Rob Eissler - I</td>
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- Serbio Munoz Jr.
- Armando “Mando” Martinez - I
- J. M. Lozano
- Edmund Kuempel - I
- Patrick M. Rose - I
- Paul D. Workman
- Pat McGuinness
- Larry Gonzales
- Rob Orr – I
- Sid Miller – I
- Myra Crownover – I
- Burt Solomons - I
- Van Taylor
- Lanham Lyne
- Thomas (T.C.) Kincaid, Jr.
- Naomi R. Gonzalez
- Dee Margo
- Charles Perry
- John Frullo
- Jim Dandtroop
2010 Primary Election Results

State Representatives cont.

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<td>91</td>
<td>Kelly Hancock - I</td>
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<td>92</td>
<td>Todd Smith - I</td>
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<td>93</td>
<td>Barbara Nash</td>
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<td>96</td>
<td>Bill Zedler</td>
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<td>98</td>
<td>Vicki Truitt – I</td>
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<td>99</td>
<td>Charlie Geren – I</td>
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<td>Special election on May 8</td>
<td>Eric Johnson</td>
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<td>101</td>
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<td>Cindy Burkett</td>
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<td>Michael E. Holdman</td>
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<td>122</td>
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<td>127</td>
<td>Dan Huberty</td>
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<td>129</td>
<td>John E. Davis (I)</td>
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<tr>
<td>134</td>
<td>Sarah Davis</td>
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<td>146</td>
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<td>Borris L. Miles</td>
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<td>148</td>
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<td>Fernando Herrera</td>
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<tr>
<td>149</td>
<td>Jack O’Connor</td>
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</table>

I = Incumbent

Dates of Interest

**Tuesday, November 2, 2010**
General election for legislative and other offices is held

**Monday, November 8, 2010**
Prefiling of legislation for the 82nd Legislature begins

**Session Begins - Tuesday, January 11, 2011 (1st day)**
82nd Legislature convenes at noon

**Session Ends - Monday, May 30, 2011 (140th day)**
Last day of 82nd Regular Session; corrections only in house and senate

**Sunday, June 19, 2011 (20th day following final adjournment)**
Last day governor can sign or veto bills passed during the regular legislative session

**Monday, August 29, 2011 (91st day following final adjournment)**
Date that bills without specific effective dates (that could not be effective immediately) become law
TAID Art Show and Sale

Diane Alexander, Stephanie Burritt, Cindy McDowell and Shelby Papps in the background

Harmony Canfield, Carol Myers, Pat McLaughlin, Julie Reynolds, Louise Carter, Marilyn Roberts

Billye Lusk & Associates • Brochsteins, Inc.
Carl Moore Antiques • Designer’s Furniture Mfg.
Gensler • Gulf Coast Window Covering
Inventure Design • Knoll • KSM
L&D Upholstery, Inc. • LGI Oriental Rugs
Lighting, Inc. • Materials Marketing
Office Pavilion • The OFIS • Page Sutherland Page
Seminars by Design • Skyline Art Services
Specified Components • Teknion • Texan Floor Services

Thank you!

Tyler, ladies, Robin Black and Grace Rose

Mary Malik, Diana Walker, Cecilia Pacheco, Holly Pizzitola
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

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
Friday Sept 10
Friday Nov 19

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

Check our website for more details.
www.supporttaid.org

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

SAVE THE DATES!!

TAID LEGISLATIVE DAYS
Feb. 28th & March 1st, 2011

Join us for Dinner Monday evening; Walk the Capitol on Tuesday & visit Legislators;
Enjoy an evening reception honoring the 82nd Texas Legislators at the Driskill
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.

**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***

Name to be on Seal ____________________________________________

TBAE certificate number _______________________________________

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

**ORDER FORM**

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**Sub Total** ____________________________

**Tax x 8.25** ____________________________

***Non-TAID member $5.00 ____________________________

**Shipping & Handling $6.00** $6.00

**TOTAL** ____________________________

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

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 ____________________________