

INSIDE



TAID

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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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 Media 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 to 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 Echelon 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 deaths 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 benefitting 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. Cite 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

Executive Director News

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

Republican

Democrat

State Senators

District 2	Robert F. Deuell - I	
District 5	Steve Ogden - I	
District 19	Dick Bowen	Carlos Uresti - I
District 22	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	
District 29		Jose R. Rodriguez

State Representatives

District 1	George Lavender	
District 2	Dan Flynn – I	
District 3	Erwin Cain	
District 4	Lance Gooden	
District 7	David Simpson	
District 11	Chuck Hopson - I	
District 14	Fred Brown - I	
District 15	Rob Eissler - I	
District 20	Charles Schwertner	
District 33	Raul Torres	
District 36		Serbio Munoz Jr.
District 39		Armando “Mando” Martinez - I
District 43		J. M. Lozano
District 44	Edmund Kuempel - I	
District 45		Patrick M. Rose - I
District 47	Paul D. Workman	
District 50	Pat McGuinness	
District 52	Larry Gonzales	
District 58	Rob Orr – I	
District 59	Sid Miller – I	
District 64	Myra Crownover – I	
District 65	Burt Solomons - I	
District 66 - Special election on May 8	Van Taylor	
District 69	Lanham Lyne	
District 74	Thomas (T.C.) Kincaid, Jr.	
District 76		Naomi R. Gonzalez
District 78	Dee Margo	
District 83	Charles Perry	
District 84	John Frullo	
District 85	Jim Dandtroop	



2010 Primary Election Results

Republican

Democrat

State Representatives cont.

District 87	Four Price	
District 91	Kelly Hancock - I	
District 92	Todd Smith - I	
District 93	Barbara Nash	
District 96	Bill Zedler	
District 98	Vicki Truitt – I	
District 99	Charlie Geren – I	
District 100	Special election on May 8	
District 101	Eric Johnson	
District 102	Cindy Burkett	
District 102	Stefani Carter	
District 105		Loretta Haldenwang
District 119	Michael E. Holdman	
District 122	Lyle Larson	
District 127	Dan Huberty	
District 129	John E. Davis (I)	
District 134	Sarah Davis	
District 146		Borris L. Miles
District 148	Fernando Herrera	
District 149	Jack O'Connor	

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

THANK YOU!

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



Tyler, ladies, Robin Black and Grace Rose



Mary Malik, Diana Walker, Cecilia Pacheco, Holly Pizzitola



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



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.

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	
101	Rubber Stamp	\$25.00	_____
102	Self-Inking	\$35.00	_____
201	Rubber Stamp	\$28.00	_____
202	Self-Inking	\$38.50	_____
203	Embosser	\$42.00	_____
301	Rubber Stamp	\$20.00	_____
302	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 _____