FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
by Secretary, Bobby Jo Keel, CPT

I began what I initially thought was just a job, which unexpectedly transformed into a 24+ year career within the building department. It was August of 1999, and at 22, I was seeking a stable source of income. It was my grandmother who directed me towards government work, and from then on, I’ve been deeply entrenched in this field.

Throughout my tenure as the public face of the building division, I’ve been charting and navigating my career path with minimal guidance. I simply continued processing permits, adapting as our processes shifted with the introduction of digital plans and the rapid evolution of our industry. Despite the advancements, we’re still in search of the perfect plan review software. Over the years, I’ve gained knowledge in various areas, from plan review to inspections. However, excellent customer service skills are critical, given the diverse range of personalities encountered daily.

I took the initiative to pursue my ICC Permit Technician Certification independently, without acknowledgment or support from my department for several years. Currently, I’m exploring what future opportunities in plan review and potentially inspections might be available. Handling the front counter responsibilities can be demanding. Since my promotion to Permitting Manager, I’ve discovered that personally processing permits is far more rewarding than overseeing others as they do so.

Joining the PermitTechNation Chapter has proven invaluable both in advancing my career objectives and enhancing my day-to-day permit processing activities. Despite our shared aim of achieving certificates of Completion or Occupancy, the nuances in how we approach our work offer room for mutual learning and improvement. The insights gained from fellow professionals are truly invaluable. Notably, Florida is on track to establish its own PT chapter.

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May is BUILDING SAFETY MONTH, which is an international campaign celebrated in May to raise awareness about building safety.

For more than 43 years, Building Safety Month has reinforced the need for the adoption of modern, regularly-updated building codes, and helps individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures. For more information, visit: https://www.permittechnation.org/Building-Safety-Month
We need your help to design this year’s ICC Annual Conference Shirts.

We have a few theme ideas for the Annual Conference that will be held in Long Beach, CA, in October. We are looking for designs and tag lines based on the items Long Beach is famous for or if you have a better theme/tag line, show us! Please include our LOGO in the design.

Theme ideas for items famous in Long Beach:

- The Queen Mary
- Shoreline Village
- Aquarium of the Pacific
- Naples Canals
- Long Beach Waterfront
- Catalina Express

T-Shirts should be no more than 3-4 colors including the shirt color. Preferably the design should work on multiple shirt colors.

- Please include Long Beach, CA, and 2024 in the design.

Deadline for design submittal is **June 15, 2024**. Please submit all design ideas to [https://form.jotform.com/241076099514156](https://form.jotform.com/241076099514156)

The ICC ABM Planning Committee will review the designs, and the winner of each design chosen (T-Shirt & Pin) will receive a free PTN hosted education class of the winners choice. Winners will be notified via email in month.
Check out the PTN Podcasts with Host Christina Jackson. Always available on our [website](https://www.permittechnation.org) and shared to our Facebook & LinkedIn pages.

**PTN MONTHLY MEETING**

Please join us for PermitTechNation’s (PTN) monthly teleconference on the third Wednesday of each month at 12:00PM (EST), 11:00AM (CST), 10:00AM (MST) and 9:00AM (PST). (except December, no meeting and the month of the ICC Annual Conference.

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

[https://www.permittechnation.org/events?filter=upcoming](https://www.permittechnation.org/events?filter=upcoming)

Now is the time to get involved in helping PTN become the BEST chapter of ICC! Volunteers are always needed for the committees as well as helping to plan future events. Please see the Website for a “Call For Committees” form that list current committee descriptions.

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**International Code Council Annual Conference, Expo and Hearings.**

This year’s conference offers industry-leading educational sessions, networking events, insightful keynote speakers and opportunities to volunteer in the local community. In addition, the Code Council will celebrate its 30 year anniversary with a special exhibit commemorating the organization’s history. Immediately following the conference is the second Committee Acting Hearings for Group A of the 2027 International Codes.

Early bird discounts end on Monday, September 16. Register now to receive the discount and a conference polo.

For more information, visit the International Code Council conference website: [https://www.iccsafe.org/events/conference/welcome/](https://www.iccsafe.org/events/conference/welcome/)

**Permit Technician Career Path**

Introducing ICC’s latest tool to champion the Permit Technician career: ‘The Permit Technician Career Path’!

Do you know someone committed to upholding safety, integrity, and compliance with building codes in our communities? Do they possess a passion for guiding the public through the permit process for construction projects? If so, please pass this along! PTN urges you to share this invaluable resource when advocating for a rewarding career as a Permit Technician. Share it on your Chapter website, showcase it at High School job fairs, or recommend it to individuals dedicated to public service.

By pursuing a career as an ICC Certified Permit Technician, one can embark on a journey of boundless opportunities, including competitive salaries and diverse avenues for advancement. To delve deeper into becoming an ICC Certified Permit Technician, visit the link below:

[https://shop.iccsafe.org/permit-technician-career-path-free.html](https://shop.iccsafe.org/permit-technician-career-path-free.html)

Feel free to adjust according to your preferences and branding guidelines!
Building Safety Leadership Experience

The Building Safety Leadership Experience provides a unique opportunity for members to engage with Code Council members, leaders and stakeholders at the ICC Annual Conference and Expo each year. Participants attend a series of events throughout the conference, learning about Code Council governance, the Chapter program and our Membership Councils. Explore the many ways Code Council Membership can help you become more engaged in the industry, discover new opportunities, and advance your career.

Candidates must be:
- 25 years of age or older
- Current ICC members

Leadership Experience participants will receive complimentary registration to the Annual Conference and will be reimbursed for ground and air transportation, lodging and other miscellaneous travel costs. Applicants may submit up to three letters of support with their completed form. The application period closes June 14, 2024.

For more information, visit the link: https://www.iccsafe.org/building-safety-journal/bsj-hits/get-involved-in-the-code-councils-2024-building-safety-leadership-experience/

Interested, apply here: https://form.jotform.com/240704252692151

Get Involved in the Code Council’s 2024 Building Safety Leadership Experience

PermitTechNation - EDUCATION 2024

Code Specialist, presented by Frank Morris.
The webinar is designed to teach the codes and provide all the necessary tools to successfully pass the ICC Code Specialist module. By passing this exam, combined with your Permit Technician certification, you will become a Permit Specialist. Registration will open at the end of September.

CEUs: 1.2 Preferred Provider
COST: $250 non-member / $200 member
WHEN: Tues-Thursday, Nov 12-13-14

PermitTechNation Webinar Fees
Approved May 2020, Amended January 18, 2023
3-5 day $250 non-member / $200 member
2 day $200 non-member / $150 member
1 day $100 non-member / $75 member
4 hr. $75 non-member / $50 Member
2 hr. $50 non-member / $25 member

Registration for all webinars will be listed at PTNs Event page 30 days prior to the event date.

PTN Scholarships will be available for The Complete Permit Tech and Code Specialist to those who have been a PTN member for one year. Information and application will be available once registration opens.