



CALIFORNIA
BUILDING OFFICIALS

in Partnership with

DVC

BUILDING INSPECTION TECHNOLOGY VIRTUAL CAREER EXPO

Get ready to learn about the building safety industry, current and future job openings, and career opportunities. This FREE virtual event is sponsored by California Building Officials and Diablo Valley College, Workforce Development.



Permit Technician



Plans Examiner



Building Official



Building Inspector



Code Enforcement Officer

Event Program

WEDNESDAY
April 30, 2025

3:30-5:30PM

SPRING 2025
CALBO VIRTUAL CAREER EXPO
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30 - 3:30 - 5:30PM

CALBO: [Mike Brinkman](#), CALBO Vice President

College: [Beth Arman, Ph.D.](#), Senior Dean, Career and Community Partnership, Diablo Valley College

Keynote: [John Caprarelli](#), City Building Official, City of Santa Clarita

International Code Council (ICC): [Karyn Beebe](#), Government Relations Regional Manager

Wrap Up and Break Out Room Choice: [DVC - MC](#)

Room 1: Plan Review and Building Administration
Volunteers: Matthew Farrell and Alexandra Molina

Room 2: Women in Building Safety
Volunteers: Tamisha Mitchell and Ceci Muela

Room 3: Private Sector - Why Choice this Route?
Volunteers: Brian Gumpert and Nicholle Moore

Room 4: General Questions - Why Should I Want to Work in this Industry?
Volunteers: Gil Estrada and Amir Hamidzadeh

Room 5: Building Inspection and Code Enforcement
Volunteers: Mike Brinkman and Daniel Sanchez

Room 6: Using Drone Technology for Building Safety
Volunteers: Shane Hiday, Sara Kelly and Anayeli Rangel

Room 7: Permit Technicians - The Front Line
Volunteers: Crickett Brinkman and Carmen Pina

Room 8: DVC Room for Education Questions
Volunteers: Beth Arman and Bernie Zipay

Please review the room descriptions on pages 3-5.



SPRING 2025

CALBO VIRTUAL CAREER EXPO

ROOM DESCRIPTIONS

Room 1: Plan Review and Building Administration

Plan checkers are professionals who review and verify blueprints and construction documents for accuracy and compliance with building codes. They may also perform inspections of building sites and buildings to ensure construction follows the plans. They use various tools to check for errors and ensure eligibility requirements are met. They also produce construction documentation and create shop drawings. Their role often involves operating office equipment and performing tasks in a temporary capacity.

Building officials have the authority to enforce building codes within their jurisdiction. Usually working for government agencies, a building official is in charge of conducting building inspections to determine if the construction complies with the safety standards and regulations. They may also approve or deny permit applications, review requirements, and verify documents. Moreover, a building official also has managerial office duties such as supervising and leading staff to reach goals, setting daily objectives, establishing timelines, delegating responsibilities, and implementing policies and regulations.

Room 2: Women in Building Safety

There are unique career paths and expanding opportunities for women in inspections, permitting, engineering, leadership, and more. Join a conversation with women working in building safety as they share their personal journeys and highlight career insights for the next generation.

Room 3: Private Sector - Why Choice this Route?

Conventionally, local governments implement and enforce building codes through a building or development services department, staffed by government employees. However, as municipal staffing is struggling through the wave of retirements and construction volumes that are still on the rise, jurisdictions have found it difficult to maintain this enforcement structure while ensuring the same level of quality, timeliness, and customer service.

Local Government sometimes utilizes third-party code enforcement services to assist. These private sector companies help support Building Departments with Permit Technician services along with Plan Checking and Inspections. This is a great place to start a career as you may work for many different jurisdictions.



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ROOM DESCRIPTIONS

Room 4: General Questions - Why Should I Want to Work in this Industry?

For attendees who are not sure what a local City or County Building Department does and may want to discuss possible career choices available.

Room 5: Building Inspection and Code Enforcement

A building inspector is responsible for inspecting the safety and security of the building location, including its structural quality and construction documents. Building inspectors coordinate with landowners or institutions to verify code regulations compliance for various permit types. A building inspector must have excellent communication and analytical skills.

A building inspector's responsibilities include reviewing various plans in the field to ensure accuracy in product approval selection and fire ratings, investigating complaints regarding unauthorized or unsafe building use or construction, and conducting occupancy, building, and ordinance inspections for commercial and residential properties. They also consult with contractors, design professionals, developers, and homeowners relating to compliance with construction requirements. They perform field reviews of plans and specifications and oversee the inspection of new and existing structures to determine compliance within city codes.

Room 6: Using Drone Technology for Building Safety

Building departments are continually embracing new technologies to enhance efficiency and to better serve their communities. Explore how drone technology is revolutionizing building inspections—enabling staff to access hard-to-reach areas, monitor construction progress, and strengthen code compliance. This innovative tool is helping to reshape the future of building safety careers and creating new opportunities in the field.

Room 7: Permit Technicians - The Front Line

Permit technicians are the first point of contact for the public at municipal offices that distribute permits. They examine plans, blueprints, and other documents to verify accuracy according to the building code and completeness; explain requirements and provide information to permit applicants; and process permit applications. Permit technicians also assist building inspectors in their day-to-day duties and perform basic data entry tasks.



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ROOM DESCRIPTIONS

Room 7: Permit Technicians - The Front Line (cont.)

This career requires excellent written and verbal communication skills and data entry proficiency. Level II permit technicians coordinate with other relevant agencies regarding permit requirements, process building permit appeals, suspensions or revocations, and assist in engineering related functions to ensure that code requirements are being met.

Room 8: DVC Room for Education Questions

Do you have questions regarding what classes would be most suited for a Building Safety career choice? Room 8 has volunteers from DVC who can discuss and help you move forward.



SPRING 2025

VIRTUAL CAREER EXPO PROFESSIONALS

April 30 | 3:30pm - 5:00pm

**Mike Brinkman | VP Building Services - Central California |
CSG Consultants/City of Newman**

Mr. Brinkman is highly certified in multiple disciplines as a DSA Certified Access Specialist, Certified Building Official and Master Code Professional. He has demonstrated his dexterity in enforcing a full range of state codes as well as specifications and standards. Mr.

Brinkman is currently on the CALBO Executive Board as the Vice President.

Mr. Brinkman is responsible for all building operations for many municipal building departments—planning, directing, supervising and coordinating all building department activities while maintaining customer service levels and positive public relations. He is active as a manager, trainer and instructor for personnel working in residential and commercial construction, plan reading and code interpretation.



**Beth Arman | Sr. Dean, Career and Community Partnership |
Diablo Valley College (DVC)**

Beth M. Arman, Ph.D. has been the Senior Dean of Career and Community Partnership at DVC for more than 5 years. She helps DVC's Career Education programs connect with industry representatives who can provide curriculum input, in-kind resources, and internship/job opportunities.

She also writes and manages grants for instructional equipment and other resources. She serves on the Concord Chamber of Commerce board of directors, the Contra Costa County Adult Education Consortium steering committee, and the National Council for Workforce Education board of directors, including a term as its president in 2021-22.

Before DVC, she did similar work at community and technical colleges in other states. She created the Construction Center of Excellence in Washington State and created a Construction Pre-Apprenticeship program in Maryland that was a finalist for a Bellwether Award. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, a master's degree from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.



John Caprarelli, P.E., CASp | City Building Official | City of Santa Clarita | KEYNOTE SPEAKER

John is a Professional Civil Engineer, Building Official, and Certified Access Specialist with 23 years in the construction industry. He began his career as a structural designer at John A. Martin & Associates and joined the City of Santa Clarita in 2006, becoming City Building Official in 2016. Inspired by his grandmother's disability, John became a CASp in 2014 and has since guided numerous jurisdictions and professionals in accessibility compliance. An active CALBO member, John was named Educator of the Year by the CALBO Training Institute in 2022. He lives in the Santa Clarita Valley with his wife and two children, and enjoys hiking and mountain biking with his family.



Karyn Beebe, P.E., LEED AP | Engineer | ICC

Karyn Beebe, is a California licensed professional engineer and a LEED Accredited Professional with forensic investigation expertise. Prior to ICC, she worked for APA - the Engineered Wood Association, where she worked on strategic partnership development and product support across the Western U.S. Also a past President of ICC's San Diego Chapter and active member of the Structural Engineers Association of California as a Past Chair of the State and San Diego Sustainable Design Committees and member of the Seismology Light Frame Subcommittee. As the Government Relations Regional Manager for ICC responsible for California, Nevada, Guam, American Samoa, and Mariana Islands, she works in collaboration with chapters, members, and stakeholders to support the adoption and effective use of the International Code Council's codes, standards, products, and services.



Anayeli Rangel | Sr. Code Enforcement Officer | County of Riverside

Expertise in interpreting and enforcing a variety of ordinances, municipal codes, and state regulations. With several years of experience in public service, code enforcement, field work and special teams.





Sara Kelley | Code Enforcement | County of Riverside

Expertise in interpreting and enforcing a variety of ordinances, municipal codes, and state regulations. With several years of experience in public service, code enforcement, field work and special teams.

Shane Hidey | Code Enforcement Supervisor & Drone Pilot | County of Riverside

Expertise in interpreting and enforcing a variety of ordinances, municipal codes, and state regulations. With several years of experience in public service, code enforcement, field work and special teams.



Alejandra (Álex) Molina | Code Enforcement Manager | 4LEAF Inc.

Specializing in developing and streamlining substandard housing programs, vacant property enforcement, and sidewalk vending solutions, with experience working with municipalities. She focuses on improving enforcement strategies and community compliance. Actively involved in the industry, and hosts "Mic'd Up with Álex Molina," a rapid-fire interview series featuring planning and enforcement professionals.



Crickett Brinkman | Regional Operations Director | CSG Consultants

Focused on the planning, directing and coordinating building services in a building department or through the plan review process; with a primary objective to improving the customer service experience. She also focuses on ensuring and improving performance, productivity and efficiency of local office operations.



Bruce St John | Chief Building Official | City of Atascadero

Currently the Chief Building Official for the City of Atascadero and with the city for over 11 years. Before relocating to the Central Coast, he worked for the County of Kern. With almost 20 years of experience in the Building Safety Industry, he was also a Journeyman Electrician before making the move to the Public Sector. Attended and completed the CALBO Building Official Leadership Academy as well as being a past president of the Central Coast Chapter of the ICC.



Matthew Farrell | Chief Building Official | City of Newark

20 years of experience in code enforcement, starting with being a Permit Technician, Inspector, Plan Review, Senior Inspector and now a Building Official. A trainer for CalOES SAP assessment program, former local ICC Peninsula Past President and CALBO professional engagement committee member.



Gil Estrada | Regional Manager | True North Compliance Services

A retired Building Official spanning 36 years, who now works for a Building & Safety Consultancy. Beginning his career in 1987, he started his Building & Safety career as an Inspector I with the County of San Bernardino. With time and continuing experience, training, and education, he was promoted up to the Building Official position.



Daniel Sanchez | Building Inspector | City of Cudahy

Experience as a building inspector for 8 years and experience in the construction industry for 22 years.



Brian Gumpert | Deputy Building Official | Willdan

31 years in the construction industry including 11 as Building Official, 10 as Inspector and 10 as plumber. Holding 2 Associate Degrees in Construction technology and Civil engineering.





Amir Hamidzadeh | President | Company/Development Solution

Mr. Hamidzadeh brings with him over 38 years of experience in the construction field. He has worked for several governmental agencies including County of San Luis Obispo, City of Simi Valley, City of Palm Desert and City of Agoura Hills. During his 30 years' employment with the public sector he was able to experience working for three different departments of Planning, Public Works and Building and Safety. He has also worked with several private architectural and engineering firms and for the last 28 years, he has had his own consulting firm.

He is a California Licensed Engineer and has several Certifications including, Certified Building Official, Certified Access Specialist, Certified Energy Analyst, Certified Plans Examiner and multiple others. Involved with California ICC Chapters, he has been President of the local chapters 3 times. Well-rounded with much knowledge and experience and well respected among his peers.

Ceci Muela | President | Monarch Consulting Services

Cecilia Muela is President of Monarch Consulting Services, bringing over 24 years in the building industry and 16 years in Code Enforcement to her work as a leader, mentor, and educator. Previously the Director of Code Enforcement at a private firm and Assistant Chief Building Official for the City of Santa Rosa, she's known for her commitment to community safety and effective compliance.



A national trainer for the International Code Council (ICC), Cecilia leads webinars and trainings on property maintenance, enforcement practices, and leadership. She serves on multiple ICC committees, including those focused on diversity and code development, and is a recognized expert witness and speaker on housing inspections, officer safety, and related issues. Cecilia has held leadership roles with the California Association of Code Enforcement Officers and the ICC's Emerging Leaders Membership Council. As founder of Women Leaders in Code Enforcement, she continues to champion mentorship and professional development across the industry.



Tamisha Mitchell | Technical/Permit Coordinator | Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Since 2017, she has worked in multiple jurisdictions as a Community Development Technician/Development Services Technician and has learned the different approaches that each jurisdiction uses to provide services. She understands the importance of communication, customer service, plan check, and inspections between each department to make the process as seamless as possible.

**Nicholle Moore | Project Labor Agreement Administrator
| City of Long Beach**

Nicholle is the Project Labor Agreement Administrator in the Department of Economic Development for the City of Long Beach. Previously, she served as an Associate Planner for the City of La Habra Heights, overseeing Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement. She holds a Master of Public Administration from CSU Long Beach, a B.S. in Criminal Justice from CSU Fullerton, and an A.S. in Construction Technology and Building Codes from Coastline College. Nicholle is a certified Code Enforcement Officer and Permit Technician. She currently serves as vice-chair of CALBO's Outreach and Communications Committee, supporting career development for future code officials.



Geoff Simmons | Chief Building Official | City of Pleasant Hill

Geoff became Chief Building Official for the City of Pleasant Hill starting July 2020. Prior to that he has spent the last 13 years working in local jurisdictions as an Inspector, Plan Checker, Inspection Supervisor and Permit Center Manager. Before his time in local government he was a contractor for 15 years and a Journeyman Electrician for a number of years.

