



## State Board of Examiners of Plumbing, Heating & Fire Sprinkler Contractors

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### Debunking Board Myths

**Myth #1:** *But I thought there was a GRACE period.*

**Answer:** Year after year Board staff receive phone calls and letters from licensees who thought there was a Board Rule stating licensees had a grace period for renewing their license. So, let's set the record straight. There is **NO** grace period for license renewal. ALL licenses expire on the last day of December in each year following their issuance or renewal, according to G.S. 87.22. Basically, if you do not renew your license by the last day of December your license will be expired and you will not have a valid license to do work. So, as soon as when you receive your license renewal notice from the Board, fill it out, include license fee, and mail it back to the Board to keep your license from expiring.

**Myth #2:** *I'd like to place my license on hold or shelf it.*

**Answer:** The Board does not have the ability by Law or otherwise to place a license on the shelf or hold till a licensee decides to use it. According to Board Rule 21NCAC.50.0409, An expired license may be reinstated within three years of the date of expiration upon written request and upon payment of the current license fee, the license fee for the unpaid prior years, the processing fee imposed by G.S. 87.22 and evidence of continuing education for each prior year as required by Rule .1401 herein. After a license has been expired 3 years it will be retired and the only way to reinstate the license is to take and pass the Board's exam for the license type being sought.

### Limited Fire Sprinkler Inspection Technicians Deadline Approaching

**NCAC 21.50.0306 (d):** After July 1, 2004, applicants for initial licensure in the Limited Fire Sprinkler Inspection Technician classification must submit evidence of Level II certification in "Inspection and Testing of Water-based Protection Systems" by NICET in lieu of examination. License without examination shall be issued beginning July 1, 2003, and ending July 1, 2004, to applicants who meet the experience requirement in Rule .0306. **Where certification based on NICET Level II certification was not required at the time of initial licensure, such certification must be obtained by December 31, 2005. After December 31, 2005, current NICET Level II certification is required as a condition of license renewal.**

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#### Harrison Completes Term

Mr. Joe L. Harrison, Jr. has completed his term with the State Board of Examiners. Mr. Harrison was appointed by former Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. in 1998 and served seven years on the Board.

During his tenure Mr. Harrison held the offices of Secretary/Treasurer in 2001, Vice-Chairman in 2002, and Chairman from 2003—2005. During his seven years, the Board instituted the Continuing Education and Disci-

plinary Education Programs. Harrison was instrumental in establishing our new Limited Fire Sprinkler licenses.

Mr. Harrison's knowledge and experience in the Fire Sprinkler industry were of great value to the Board. The Board expresses its gratitude to Mr. Harrison for his dedicated and distinguished service.