



## Friday Facts

September 5, 2008

### In This Issue

[Amendment 5 Off Ballot](#)

[Hometown Democracy Nixed](#)

[Disaster Assistance Program](#)

### AIA Florida News

#### Amendment 5 Tossed off November Ballot

Just hours after hearing 20-minute arguments from both sides, the Florida Supreme Court unanimously ruled to toss the controversial Amendment 5 off the November ballot-



upholding Circuit Court Judge John Cooper's initial ruling.

Amendment 5 seeks to eliminate the required local effort (RLE), which would create a \$9-\$11 billion budgetary hole that ultimately would force the Legislature to fill it with, among other things, a tax on services.

"AIA Florida was an active partner in the Coalition to Protect Florida's Economy," said the Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Florida) EVP Vicki Long, CAE. "That partnership eventually led to this court case and the demise of the proposed constitutional amendment. We've fought four times and won four times, and we are pleased that the Supreme Court agreed with our position."

"What fantastic news," said AIA Florida President Don Yoshino, FAIA. "Congratulations to staff and the Coalition for their hard work and continuous updates for the membership."

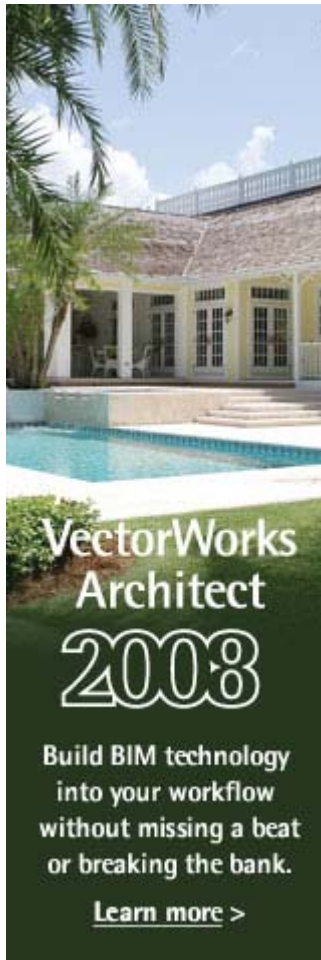
[CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the ballot language. [CLICK HERE](#) to watch the court proceedings on the AIA Florida web site.

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**District Court Rules to Keep Hometown Democracy off '08 Ballot**



Last Friday, U.S. District Judge Stephen Mickle ruled to keep the Hometown Democracy issue off the November 2008 ballot. This constitutional amendment proposed that citizens should vote on hundreds of technical land-use amendments every year.

According to a recent article in the *Orlando Sentinel*, Mickle wrote that the lawsuit was dismissed in part because it was filed only against Secretary of State Kurt Browning, the state's top election official. It did not include Florida's 67 county supervisors of elections who are responsible for verifying the signatures.

The article also stated that Mickle ruled that there is no federal constitutional right to place a proposal on the ballot and rejected arguments that Hometown Democracy's due process and equal protection rights were violated.

In order to get this amendment on the ballot, at least 611,009 signatures were needed by Feb. 1. After failing to meet the deadline and to secure the required signatures, Hometown Democracy, the non-profit organization supporting the amendment, filed a lawsuit in a Miami federal district court. The June lawsuit argued that the state mishandled the citizens' initiative petition process and asked the federal court to put their contested ballot initiative before voters in November.

Hometown Democracy can still have the amendment placed on the November 2010 ballot if it is able to acquire the necessary number of signatures, which is 8 percent of the total number of Florida voters who cast ballots in the upcoming presidential election. Initiative campaigns - like Hometown Democracy - must reach that 8 percent threshold in at least half of Florida's 25 congressional districts.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more. [CLICK HERE](#) to read the referenced article in its entirety.

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## Quick Links

- [AIA Florida Website](#)
- [Contract Documents](#)
- [Classified Ads](#)
- [Check Your CE Transcript](#)

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## Did You Know...

That AIA Florida offers the latest edition of the Florida Commentaries & Reference Books online. Visit [www.aiafla.org](http://www.aiafla.org) to order.

## AIA Working For You

AIA Florida is offering a

## AIA Florida Receives Attention from National

In the latest issue of the American Institute of Architects' (AIA) bi-weekly e-newsletter, the *Angle*, AIA Florida's political action efforts were recognized.

Both the recent Florida Supreme Court decision to remove Amendment 5 from the November ballot and the Florida Architects' Political Action's (FAPAC) annual "Night at the Ballpark" event were highlighted in the Component Spotlight section.

Additionally, AIA Florida Regional Director, Mickey Jacob, AIA, was mentioned for his role in the "Man on the Street"

15% discount on 1997 Contract Documents. Visit [www.aiafla.org](http://www.aiafla.org) to order today!

## Quote of the Week

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*"Architecture starts when you carefully put two bricks together. There it begins."*

-Ludwig Mies van der Rohe

Have a favorite quote?  
Send them to  
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[www.aiafla.org](http://www.aiafla.org)

:: 850-222-7590

video, which is a part of AIA National's DesignVote08 efforts.

DesignVote08 is a new AIA initiative that uses the Internet to send a message to the 2008 candidates for Congress. Jacob, who serves as chair of DesignVote, conducted an interview-style video where voters were asked questions about how the country can save energy and reduce carbon emissions.

To read the articles and to view the video, [CLICK HERE](#).

### FIU Student Receives FFA Bronze Medal

Recently, Henry Alexander, FAIA, chair of the Foundation for Florida Architecture (FFA), in conjunction with Florida International University (FIU), presented the Bronze Medal Award to Francisco Waltersdorfer for his outstanding academic distinction in the study of architecture.

Waltersdorfer is a graduating senior with both the highest overall grade point average of his class and the highest design studio grade point average who is making a name for himself in the student architecture world. He has received national recognition for his submission in the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture's (ACSA) national student design competition; his master's project was one of three chosen for a scholarship that recognizes the best in masters/thesis work each year; and two of his photographs were donated to the Foundation's 2008 Silent Auction, which was held during the Annual Convention in Palm Beach. One of his photographs was purchased.

Every year, FFA recognizes one student from each of the six Florida universities with architecture programs. To be eligible for consideration, candidates are required to be graduating seniors with a professional degree or graduate degree in architecture and must be a member of their school's chapter of the American Institute of Architects Students (AIAS).

They must also submit a letter of recommendation from a faculty member that includes: a description of any awards, scholarships and other academic recognitions, and the letter must attest to the student's scholastic achievements. For more information on the Foundation and the Bronze Medal Award, please [CLICK HERE](#).

### Disaster Assistance Training Available for Members

Natural disasters such as Tropical Storm Fay; pending storms Hanna, Ike and Josephine; and



the storms of the 2004 and 2005 hurricane season are the reasons why AIA Florida has developed a disaster assistance/mitigation program for architects.

On Sept. 13 (weather permitting), the Association will offer the state's first Safety Assessment Program (SAP) Training; a six hour post-disaster assessment certification course that will allow architects to become certified Post Disaster Safety Assessors. As an assessor, architects can assist local law enforcement after a disaster strikes.

Additional details include:

- **Criteria for attendance:** The California program, FEMA and Homeland Security training that will be used requires that the evaluator (student) be a licensed architect or engineer. Interns cannot receive the certification.
- **Dining:** Food will not be provided but there is a break for lunch.
- **Location:** The offices of HHCP Architecture at 222 West Maitland Blvd. Maitland, FL 32751

To date, nearly all of the 25 available seats for the free training are taken with representation from every component except the Treasure Coast. The goal is to have at least one or two members in each chapter certified and ready to help others. Members interested in taking the course should contact AIA Florida Vice President, Michael Lingerfelt, AIA, at [mlingerfelt@mcg-fl.com](mailto:mlingerfelt@mcg-fl.com) for more information. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the agenda.

#### **1% Update: Still Moving Toward the Goal**

The latest update for the 1% Program shows that more and more AIA Florida members are getting involved. To date we have **nearly 5500 hours pledged from 43 firms and architects!**



Thank you to all who have made pledges. We still need more help and commitment to reach our goal of 40,000 hours pledged from the Florida/Caribbean region and possibly 8,000 from emerging professionals. To register your firm or yourself, visit [www.theonepercent.org](http://www.theonepercent.org) to get started.

#### **Association Offers Discount on Select Contract Docs**

Although AIA recently released new contract documents, the 1997 versions can still be used until May 2009. This week, AIA Florida announced that they are giving an additional 15 percent discount on the 1997 documents that will be phased out.



Remember that all AIA Florida members receive 30 percent off all documents year round.

Comprised of more than 80 forms and contracts that define relationships and terms involved in design and construction projects, contract documents are commonly referred to as "the industry standard." The American Institute of Architects (AIA) has provided these documents for over 115 years allowing AIA to work with owners, contractors, attorneys, architects, engineers and others to create and maintain the highest quality of contracts and forms.

[CLICK HERE](#) to order today!

### **BOAID Proposes Rule Amendment**

The Board of Architecture and Interior Design (BOAID) recently proposed an amendment for the "Grounds for Disciplinary Proceedings" rule (#61G1-12.001). The amendment proposes to remove language concerning the name of an architectural firm containing the name of an unlicensed professional engineer or non-registered architect.

To read the proposed amendment, [CLICK HERE](#).

### **Grant Opportunity Available**

The Division of Historical Resources recently announced that it is soliciting applications for Historic Preservation grants-in-aid assistance for historic preservation projects. Applications will be accepted starting Oct. 1 until the deadline Dec. 15 at 11:59 p.m.

Applications must be submitted online at [www.flheritage.com/grants](http://www.flheritage.com/grants) or delivered to the Bureau of Historic Preservation office by 5 p.m. on Dec. 15. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

## **Continuing Education**

### **Hot Topics this Month**

In approximately three weeks, the wildly popular Hot Topics will begin. Hot Topics is a three-part, day-long seminar



pertaining to the Florida Building Code that will offer a total of 6.5 LU hours and 6.5 HSW hours. [Register Today!](#)

The state requires a minimum of two hours of an advanced FBC course every biennium. These seminars will include five hours of advanced FBC courses.

Hot Topics will be held Sept. 24, 25 and 26 in Ft. Lauderdale, Orlando and Pensacola, respectively. The cost to attend is \$275 for members and this excellent price covers the entire day, which includes the three courses listed below. The topics are:

- **Significant Differences in the New 2007 Florida Building Codes- Advanced Course.** This course is worth 3 LU Hours (3 HSW).
- **Selection of Windows and Doors in Compliance with Current Building Codes.** This course is worth 1.5 LU Hours (1.5 HSW).
- **Advanced FBC Accessibility Compliance Course: The Good, the Bad, the Ugly - Or Why Did I Do That?** This course is worth 2 LU Hours (2 HSW).

Registration for Ft. Lauderdale will close Sept. 22, for Orlando on Sept. 23 and for Pensacola on Sept. 24. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information and to register today!

### **EP Conference Provides Opportunities for Young Professionals**

The Annual Emerging Professionals Conference, which is for students, interns, associates, architects and other design professionals who have been licensed 10 years or less, provides great networking opportunities and continuing education (CE) courses. This mini-convention is designed to give younger architects the professional development and unique experiences that will enable them to succeed, and support them in embarking on new challenges.

Registration for the 4th Annual EP Conference is now available. The cost to attend is \$150 for AIA Florida members, \$200 for non-members. Prices increase by \$25 for members and \$50 for non-members for onsite registrations. Registrations will be accepted in the AIA Florida office until Oct. 10.

This year's conference will be held Oct. 17-18 in Miami Lakes at the Shula's Hotel & Golf Club. For more information and to register, please [CLICK HERE](#).

## **Component Happenings**

### **AIA Southwest**

*2008 Design Conference and Awards Celebration*

Saturday, Sept. 6

Bonita Bay Clubhouse in Bonita Springs

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

### **AIA Ft. Lauderdale**

*The Built Environment and Health Seminar*

Thursday, Sept. 18. Admission is free.

Exact time and location to be determined.

1 LU HSW Hour.

A social hour will be held at 6:00 p.m. and the lecture begins at 7:00 p.m.

Hollywood Performing Arts Center

E-mail [aiaflc@gate.net](mailto:aiaflc@gate.net) for more information.

*A.R.E. Study Group*

Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. at the AIA Ft. Lauderdale Office in downtown Ft. Lauderdale.

Food, beverages and some materials are provided.

Registration is \$10 for AIA members. For more information, e-mail [aiaftlassoc@gmail.com](mailto:aiaftlassoc@gmail.com).

**AIA Orlando**

*Annual Meeting & Lecture by Jonathan Segal, FAIA - "Architect as a Developer"*

Wednesday, Sept. 24 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

The free event will be held at the Orlando Museum of Art (2416 North Mills Avenue).

Please RSVP to [rsvp@aiaorlando.com](mailto:rsvp@aiaorlando.com) by Friday, Sept. 19.

**AIA Palm Beach**

*License Renewal Seminars*

Friday, Oct. 17, 2008

Airport Hilton in West Palm Beach

Have your component's event listed here. Email them to Monica McDonald at [mmcdonald@aiafla.org](mailto:mmcdonald@aiafla.org).

[For more events, visit our calendar.](#)



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