

SAFE Interior Design Coalition
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAFE INTERIOR DESIGN COALITION ADVANCES DEVELOPMENT OF INTERIOR DESIGN REGISTRY

Interior Design bill now law – SAFE Interior Design Coalition commemorates occasion and begins collaboration with Indiana Professional Licensing Agency

Indianapolis, IN – July 21, 2009- On July 1, 2009 the recently passed “Interior Design” bill (Senate Bill 337) officially went into law, it was also the date the Indiana’s Interior Design Coalition held its legislation celebration to commemorate the occasion. The event recognized how far the industry has come and the key individuals who made reaching this legislative milestone possible.

More than 120 Interior Designers, Allied Industry Professionals and Legislators attended the celebrations. Attendees included Indiana Senator Greg Taylor, Indiana State Representative Jerry Torr and SAFE lobbyist Brian Burdick from Barnes and Thornburg. SAFE Interior Design president Jill Mendoza comments on these recent industry changes, “These are exciting times to be an interior designer. This new law substantiates the technical expertise of our profession, and my hope is that SAFE continues to blaze the trail in elevating our industry’s standards.”

SAFE Interior Design is beginning its efforts to finalize the registration process for the approximately 1,200 interior designers in the state of Indiana. The next step in the process of setting up the registry is currently being coordinated by the SAFE leadership. Representatives for SAFE will be meeting with the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (PLA) this summer to discuss details of the online presence of the registry. The registry is anticipated to be completed and online by December 2009. Designers and individuals who are interested in staying abreast of the registry progress are encouraged to join the SAFE Interior Design Coalition.

In the past, the interior design profession has had a lack of standardization; now, with this legislation in place, it establishes the basis for what is and what is not included under this vocation’s umbrella. The new legislation provides for the voluntary registration of interior designers who meet certain education, experience and examination qualifications to ensure their expertise in all areas of interior design, including adhering to building, fire and municipal codes; enforcing accessibility, environmental and sustainability guidelines as well as selecting and coordinating aesthetics.

Qualified designers, once registered, will be able to use the term “registered interior designer” (RID) after their name. Although this registry is voluntary, it will serve as a platform for consumers and allied industry professionals to evaluate and choose the individuals whose work adheres to national life, health and safety rules.

About the SAFE Interior Design Coalition: The Indiana Interior Design Coalition is the collective voice of Indiana interior designers established to protect public health and safety through the adoption of nationally recognized interior design standards. These standards enable the public to identify qualified interior designers and ensure SAFE (Slip resistant, Accessible, Fire Codes, Ergonomics) environments. More information on the organization and the Interior Design Registry can be found at www.safeinteriordesign.org.

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