



STATE OF FLORIDA

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Kevin Guthrie
Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Florida Floodplain Managers and Building Officials
FROM: Conn Cole, Florida NFIP State Coordinator
DATE: November 11, 2021
RE: Certification of Elevation Data

From time to time, the State Floodplain Management Office is asked which professionals licensed in Florida are authorized to certify elevation data. In addition, most communities require submission of the FEMA/NFIP Elevation Certificate to satisfy the Florida Building Code requirements related to foundation inspections and final inspections (see FBC, Building, Sec. 110.3).

By email dated November 2, 2021 (attached), the Executive Director of the Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers advises that “[o]nly Surveyors and Mappers licensed by the Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers with licenses in good standing may certify elevation data in Florida according to 472.0366 [Florida Statutes] and verified by the board at the August 2, 2021 meeting.”

The FEMA/NFIP Elevation Certificate clarifies that only professionals “authorized by law to certify elevation information” may sign and seal Section D of the Elevation Certificate. Therefore, the fact that the Elevation Certificate lists “land surveyor, engineer, or architect” does not, by itself, authorize all such licensed professionals to certify surveyed elevation data.

This memorandum and other guidance prepared by the State Floodplain Management Office is available online:

www.floridadisaster.org/dem/mitigation/floodplain/community-resources
(Guidance, Ordinance Amendments, FBC Amendments, and Sample Forms)

CHC/

Attachment: November 2, 2021 Email from Executive Director of the Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers

Rebecca C. Quinn

From: Compton, Liz <Patricia.Compton@fdacs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 02, 2021 10:55 AM
To: Conn Cole; Mckibben, Amanda
Cc: Kristabel Moore; Rebecca C. Quinn (rcquinn@earthlink.net)
Subject: RE: Elevation Data Certification

Dear Mr. Cole,

That is correct. Only Surveyors and Mappers licensed by the Florida Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers with licenses in good standing may certify elevation data in Florida pursuant to 472.0366 and verified by the board at the August 2, 2021 meeting.

Sincerely,

Liz Compton, CPM
Executive Director
Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Liz.compton@FDACS.gov
850.410.3674

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From: Conn Cole <Conn.Cole@em.myflorida.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:45 AM
To: Compton, Liz <Patricia.Compton@fdacs.gov>; Mckibben, Amanda <Amanda.McKibben@fdacs.gov>
Cc: Kristabel Moore <Kristabel.Moore@em.myflorida.com>; Rebecca C. Quinn (rcquinn@earthlink.net) <rcquinn@earthlink.net>
Subject: [External] Elevation Data Certification

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Liz and Ms. McKibben,

Thank you for your quick response and assistance in clearing up the confusion on this topic. Would you please reply to confirm that only Professional Surveyors and Mappers licensed by the Florida Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers may certify elevation data in Florida?

Best regards,
Conn

Conn H. Cole, MBA/PA, CFM

Florida NFIP State Coordinator | State Floodplain Manager
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