

Housing Code Enforcement
Wofford

*Earl - this is for
information. It is a
copy of letter from the
Building Officials Conference of America
to Joe Behrens. It should help our
cause.*

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BUILDING
DEPARTMENT

November 25, 1964

Mr. Joe C. Behrens, Chief
Conservation and Rehabilitation Branch
Urban Renewal Division
Housing and Home Finance Agency
645 Peachtree-Seventh Building
Atlanta, Georgia - 30323

Dear Mr. Behrens:

Some time ago at the request of Mr. William R. Wofford, the Building Official of the City of Atlanta, you reviewed the draft of the BOCA Basic Housing Code and submitted some comments. Under separate cover, at Mr. Wofford's request, we have sent to you three complimentary copies of this code as it was finally published. We are enclosing a copy of our Publication and Price List for your information in the event you have occasion to refer to this and the BOCA codes in the areas which you serve.

We very much appreciate your taking the time to comment on the early draft of this code and must apologize for not earlier communicating with you regarding this. In the volume of work involved it was impossible for us to communicate our appreciation to everyone. Please forgive this oversight.

Your comments were carefully reviewed by the Committee and you may find that some of them were incorporated in the code. Others may not have been used since in the overall concept of the Code the committee may have felt it undesirable to use them at this time. We anticipate modifications of the code as experience indicates necessary and this may lead to the adoption of some of the things previously suggested but not accepted by the Committee.

The BOCA Basic Housing Code is prepared to be used in conjunction with the BOCA Basic Building Code. Together they provide all the necessary authorities for the administration of regulations governing both old and new buildings. They are based on the policy that all activities dealing with the buildings in a community should come under the direct supervision of the building official. Housing authorities or similar local public agencies, planning boards and other

branches of local government concerned with buildings and their use should have the full cooperation of the building department in determining the physical condition of the buildings and in such other matters as may be necessary. Violation notices and correction orders regarding buildings should be issued by one agency only -- the building department--although the fire prevention official may properly issue notices and orders regarding fire hazards resulting from the processes of handling of flammable materials over which he has jurisdiction, and the health official may issue orders regarding sanitation - improper use of sanitary facilities or unsanitary practices - which are under his jurisdiction. We believe that these assumptions quite well take care of all necessary conditions and that they are sound and practical.

Under this arrangement appeals from administrative orders are provided within proper limitations through provisions of the building code. Such appeals would apply equally to orders issued in connection with corrections under the Housing Code as to those issued under the Building Code.

We would welcome any further comments you may have in connection with this and the results of your experience or the experience of communities with which you may come in contact in its use.

Sincerely yours,

peb/f

Paul E. Baseler
Executive Director