

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs



PRESS RELEASE

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DCRA Earns High Rating from Insurance Advisory Firm

ISO rates DCRA in top 20% of communities for code development and enforcement

Washington, D.C –The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) announced today that it has earned one of the highest ratings available on [ISO's](#) Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule ([BCEGS](#)). The District's score places it in the top 20% of building departments in the more than 20,000 communities surveyed.

ISO's BCEGS program assesses the quality of a community's building code and how well it is enforced. DCRA garnered high marks for a very strong, modern construction code, staff training and certifications, and efficient use of its enforcement and review staff.

"To earn a place amongst the top building departments in the country means that we've not only adopted a model code but that we're also doing a good job of enforcing it," said DCRA Director Melinda Bolling. "This score represents a win for DCRA and for District residents and businesses."

The District's score is especially impressive, given its high volume of work. In Fiscal Year 2015, DCRA issued 51,309 permits.

ISO is a leading source of information about property/casualty insurance risk; it serves insurers, reinsurers, agents and brokers, insurance regulators, risk managers, and other participants in the property/casualty insurance marketplace.

BCEGS helps communities by identifying strengths and areas for improvement in code adoption and enforcement. The result can be better, more catastrophe-resistant buildings in surveyed jurisdictions. Improvements in this area can lead to lower insurance rates in communities with high ratings.

"The concept is simple: municipalities with well-enforced, up-to-date codes should demonstrate better loss experience, and insurance rates can reflect that," said Dale K. Thomure, Manager – Community Mitigation with ISO.

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