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#### Contact Us:

#### Washington Certification Services

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Issue 5 - Summer 2014

*BATalk* - is an electronic newsletter sharing important certification program information with Washington's Backflow Assembly Testers (BAT). For more information about the topics in this issue, just click on the link in each article.

#### IMPORTANT UPDATE

#### *DOH Enforcement and Compliance*

The Waterworks Operator Certification Program has seen an increase in complaints filed since revision to [WAC 246-292](#) became final in January. The complaints range from a utility or business about a BAT, to a BAT about a Cross Connection Control Specialist (CCS).

#### **WHO should report fraudulent testing activities?**

Anyone suspecting a BAT of inappropriate or fraudulent testing should report it to DOH. [WAC 246-290-490](#) requires water purveyors to ensure the inspection and testing of backflow assemblies that protect the public water system. **Water purveyors have a responsibility** to take appropriate action if they suspect a BAT of fraudulent testing.

### HOW can a complaint be filed?

Use the DOH [Complaint Form #331-418](#) or contact Deni Gray, Program Manager at 1-800-525-2536, extension 3, or email [DWOpCert@doh.wa.gov](mailto:DWOpCert@doh.wa.gov) if you have questions or need additional information.

### WHAT action will DOH take in response to a complaint?

Allegations are taken seriously and complaints filed will be investigated. All involved parties as well as the Department's regional offices and local health will work together to seek a resolution to the complaint. Fraudulent testing is considered a serious threat to public drinking water and the revised rule provides the [authority to seek revocation or suspension](#) of an operator's certification.

## YOUR PROFESSIONAL GROWTH CLOCK IS TICKING



Half of the time most BATs have to pass the professional growth practical exam is already over. Still, out of 1025 BATs in the reporting period ending December 31, 2015, only 158 have met the requirement so far. If you are one of the 15 percent who have already passed your exam, congratulations!

**If you are one of the 85 percent who hasn't, the clock is ticking!**

Why wait until the last minute? Remember, you can pass the exam and meet the requirement **any time during your reporting period!** So **apply now** and relax until your next reporting period.

## NEW REQUIRED CONTENT ON TEST REPORTS

The revised Waterworks Operator Certification rule has identified content that must now be included on field test reports submitted by certified BATs. Remember, some water purveyors may require testers to document additional specific information such as line pressure, detector readings, or whether water was restored. Have



you adjusted your test report forms to make sure they meet the new criteria in **WAC 246-292-036?**

## APPLICATION ERRORS DELAY ENROLLMENT

**BAT certification** and **professional growth** exam applications and payments must be received at WCS by the application deadline date. To avoid any delays in enrollment make sure to include:

- **NEW** - the date of high school graduation or GED®
- An original signature, not a photocopy
- Payment for the correct amount by check or money order only
- An exam ID number, date and location
- Home address, phone number and email

If you submit an incomplete or incorrect application or payment it may be returned, delaying your enrollment or causing you to miss an application deadline.

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