

## Six Steps to Safer Digging

Anyone that has performed excavation or demolition work knows that before anything can happen, the proper steps must be taken to ensure a safe digging process. It is the law under Chapter 556 of Florida statutes that anyone excavating or doing demolition work must notify Sunshine 811 prior to beginning any work. Sunshine 811 is a not for profit corporation which began with the 1993 adoption of the "Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act". The goal of the act and Sunshine 811 is to promote and facilitate excavation safety and under-



John Segovia presents Sunshine 811's Six Steps to Safer Digging

ground facility damage prevention. John Segovia, Damage Prevention Liaison at Sunshine 811, provided CASF members with the Six Steps to Safer Digging at the Safety Forum on October 25.

### Step 1: Prepare Before calling Sunshine 811

Before Calling 811, you must be able to explain where you need locate marks. The dig site address is not specific enough for accurate and timely locates.

Premark (with white lines) when areas are difficult to find or hard to explain. You also need to make sure that the locator will be able to access your dig site. Be prepared to include any access information in the remarks of your notification ticket.

### Step 2: Get a notification Ticket

There are three ways to create a locate ticket. A customer service representative can create a ticket for you when you dial 811. On the Sunshine 811 website, you can create a Single Address Ticket (for homeowners or contractors working on a home) or you

## Member News

**Moss & Associates** was presented with the best project award in the residential/hospitality category by ENR Southeast for its construction of Opal Sands Resort on Clearwater Beach. Moss & Associates completed the beachfront project in February 2016 after 27 months of construction.

John Bowden, vice president of Moss & Associates, accepted the award on behalf of the Moss team at the 16<sup>th</sup> annual award ceremony, which was held at the Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate.

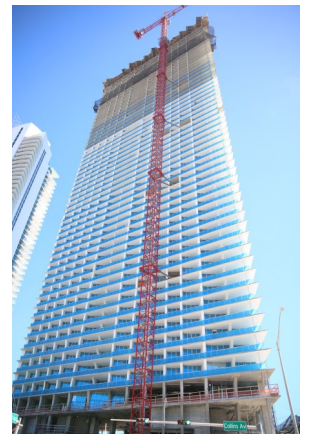
Opal Sands Resort is a 15-story, 460,000-square-foot hotel with 230 rooms, 39 of which are suites, located on the last available beachfront site of the City of Clearwater Beach's development area.

**Suffolk Construction** and Fortune International Group have topped off Jade Signature in Sunny Isles Beach. Standing 57 stories high, Jade Signature is the largest residential tower in Sunny Isles Beach and is on track for completion in late 2017. The building features a three-story underground parking garage, 192 units and three expansive floors of common spaces for all ages.

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Opal Sands Resort



Jade Signature

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Each month Construction FOCUS features a CASF member company, selected by drawing a business card from among those attending the monthly networking breakfast. The next breakfast, sponsored by HITT Contracting, will be held on Thursday, December 15, 7:30 a.m. at the Courtyard Marriott on Cypress Creek.

## Offering Solutions that Save Lives

BDA PRO is a communications solutions company that focuses on certifying compliance with local fire codes associated with Public Safety Radio compatibility for First Responders. It was founded in 2015 by Moni Melman, President; Constance Josanu, Managing Director; Conrad Clarke, Vice President and CTO; and Paula Prinsen, Director. The founders of BDA PRO recognized the need for a business focused on Mission Critical and Public

Safety Communications Solutions. If needed, BDA PRO designs, provides, installs, and maintains in-building Bidirectional Amplifiers (BDAs) and Distributed Antenna Systems (DAS).

BDA PRO employs a talented staff that is committed to quality standards.



Collectively, they have over a century of relevant communications design and implementation experience. By using their uncompromising expertise, BDA PRO

is able to save customers time and money. Because lives are at stake, BDA PRO is committed to providing a myriad of services to a variety of clients. BDA PRO provides six services which are necessary for the construction industry:

1. Preconstruction Predictive RF (Radio Frequency) Survey.
2. Post Construction Detailed RF Survey.
3. System Design.
4. System Provision and Implementation.
5. FCC Licensing and Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) Coordination.
6. System Maintenance and Repair.

BDA PRO has implemented its systems and services at 321 Ocean, Rita Gardens Doral and Le Parc Miami.

BDA PRO recently joined CASF in 2016, they are already finding many advantages in their membership. Ron Diego, Communications Consultant for BDA PRO says, "CASF provides us with access to General Contractors who really need our services and don't realize that there is a problem until a fire inspection is failed and the C.O. is held up." They have also found a great advantage in being able to put a face to all of the companies that they are looking to do business with.

BDA Pro, LLC is located at 3950 NW 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Coral Springs. For more information about BDA Pro and the services they offer you may visit their website at [www.bdapro.com](http://www.bdapro.com) or you may contact them by phone at (954) 323-1112.

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*Construction Focus is the official publication of the Construction Association of South Florida. Article suggestions and submissions for publication consideration should be forwarded to the Executive Vice President.*

# 58th Annual Craftsmanship Awards Banquet

Thursday, November 10, 2016



**Congratulations to all 51 winners of the 58th Annual Craftsmanship Awards!**



**Overall Craftsmanship in a Commercial Project**  
Cosmo International Fragrances  
Miller Construction Company

**Overall Craftsmanship in a Residential Project**  
Palm Beach Residence  
Marker Construction Group



**Baker Concrete Construction**

**Premier Stoneworks**

**East Coast Metal Structures**



**KCL Plumbing**

**State-Line Products**



## Six Steps to Safer Digging (Continued)

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can create an Internet Ticket Entry Ticket (for larger excavation areas). The Internet Ticket Entry Tickets (ITEs) require a web based training to learn the mapping process used by Customer Service Representatives.

### Step 3: Wait for Paint

After a ticket is created you must wait two full business days. You must wait ten full business days if your dig site is underwater. Weekends and holidays are not included in wait time. That time gives the utilities the time to respond to the locate response. Roughly half of locate requests result in locate marks being placed on the ground. Even when marks are put on the ground, the locator may have additional information to give the excavator. Often a utility responds with a code that lets the excavator know that the utilities were not marked and give a reason why. The responses

from the locator(s) are called Positive Response. If all the utilities provide Positive Response the excavator can start digging before the two business days.

### Step 4: Verify Utility Response

Utility responses are verified the



same way your ticket was created. A customer service representative will be able to assist you over the phone or you can access the response on the Sunshine 811 website. Verify the positive response codes before the end of two full business days. If a code says unmarked or has special instructions, do what is required. The locator could be waiting on clarification of the marking instructions, access to the property, white lining, etc.

### Step 5: Protect the Marks

Locate mark must stay visible where you are digging. If the marks are faded or not visible, request another ticket. Do not place spoil piles or building materials over marks. Do not drive machinery over marks. Also, sweep paved areas often so painted marks remain visible.

### Step 6: Dig Safely

Utilities have a tolerance zone that runs 24-inches from the utility's outside edges. Before using mechanized digging equipment in a tolerance zone, you must make sure that someone observes the dig to help the person on the equipment if something doesn't look right. The best thing to do is find the utility before digging either with hand-dug test holes or vacuum excavation.

For more information about the "Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act" visit [www.Sunshine811.com](http://www.Sunshine811.com).