

## ***Broward County Local Amendments to the Florida Fire Prevention Code***

### **F-1 — Scope:**

This code shall apply to new and existing buildings, equipment, and installations.

### **F-2 — Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals:**

**F-2.1** The Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals shall maintain a staff position to coordinate the enforcement of the Florida Fire Code and all regional and local amendments thereto. This person shall be known as the Chief Fire Prevention Code Compliance Officer and shall be certified as Fire Marshal/Fire Code Official.

**F-2.2** The Fire Code Compliance Officer shall have the authority to make inspections in the discipline and shall be responsible to see that the Fire Code is being uniformly enforced by all building and fire departments in all cities in the county (Broward) and unincorporated areas.

### **F-3 — Bureau of Fire Prevention:**

**F-3.1** A Fire Prevention Bureau shall be established within the fire department, under the direction of the Fire Chief, which shall consist of such fire department personnel as may be assigned thereto, by the Fire Chief, in accordance with the requirements prescribed herein. The function of this bureau shall be to assist the Fire Chief in the administration and enforcement of the Fire Protection Provisions of this Chapter- and the fire protection provisions of the Florida Building Code.

**F-3.2** Under the Fire Chief's direction, the fire department shall enforce all local ordinances of the jurisdiction pertinent to the prevention of fires, suppression or extinguishing of fires, storage, use and handling of explosive, flammable, combustible, toxic, corrosive and other hazardous gaseous, and solid and liquid materials. These inspections include, but are not limited to:

**F-3.2.1** The inspection of equipment and maintenance of automatic, manual and other fire alarm systems and fire extinguishing equipment;

**F-3.2.2** The maintenance and regulation of fire escapes;

**F-3.2.3** The maintenance of fire protection and the elimination of fire hazards on land and in buildings, structures and other property, including those under construction;

**F-3.2.4** The means and adequacy of each exit in the event of fire or similar emergency, from factories, schools, hotels, lodging houses, asylums, hospitals, churches, halls, theaters, amphitheatres and all other places in which people work, live or congregate from time to time for any purpose; and

**F-3.2.5** The investigation of the origin, cause, and circumstances of fires.

**F-3.3** No enforcing agency may issue any permit for construction, erection, alteration, repair, or demolition until the building official, in conjunction with the appropriate fire safety inspector, has reviewed the plans and/or specifications for such proposal and both officials have found the plans and/or specifications to be in compliance with the Florida Fire Prevention Code and the applicable fire safety standards as determined by the local authority in accordance with the Florida Fire Prevention Code and Chapter 633, Florida Statutes. In the event that agreement cannot be reached between the Building and Fire Officials, the dispute shall be referred to the Fire Code Committee for review and recommendation to the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals

**F-3.4** Industrial construction on sites where design, construction, and fire safety are supervised by appropriate design and inspection professionals and which contain adequate in-house fire departments, is exempt; subject to local government option, from review of plans and/or specifications and inspections, providing owners certify that applicable codes and standards have been met and supply appropriate approved drawings to the building department. The enforcing agency shall issue a permit to construct, erect, alter, repair, or demolish any building when the plans and/or specifications for such proposal comply with the provisions of the Florida Fire Prevention Code and Chapter 633, F.S.

**F-3.5** It shall be the duty of the Fire Chief of the Fire Department to inspect or cause to be inspected by the officers or members of the Fire Prevention Bureau, as often as may be necessary, but not less than annually, during normal business hours, for the establishment in question, all buildings and premises, including common or public areas of condominium buildings, except the interior of private residential dwelling units, (unless invited therein by the owner or occupant thereof), as well as all public aisles, corridors, halls, rooms, storage areas, or other nonresidential areas of such buildings, for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected, any condition liable to cause fire or any violation of the provisions or intent of the Florida Fire

Prevention Code, and to otherwise enforce any violation of the Fire Code. Whenever the Fire Chief of the Fire Department determines that a violation exists, the person responsible for maintaining the building or area where such violation exists, shall be given reasonable written notice of such violation, and if the violation continues, a presumption of a violation of the Fire Code, shall be created against the person responsible for maintaining the building or area where such violation exists. Rejections shall include specific reference to the Code Section upon which rejection is based in writing.

**F-3.6 Right of Entry:** Upon presentation of proper credentials, the Fire Chief, or any Fire Inspector may enter, at any reasonable time, any building, structure or premises for the purpose of making any inspection or investigation, which under the provisions of this Code with the exception to private residential dwelling units.

**F-3.7 Stop-Work Orders:** If the Fire Chief finds a hazardous condition, which presents immediate danger to life, he/she shall be authorized to order the hazard removed or remedied immediately, and shall be empowered to order the closing of the building or place where such danger to life violation exists, until such time as same has been corrected. Any failure of immediate compliance shall empower the Fire Chief finding such hazardous condition creating immediate danger to life, to close such building or cause same to be closed and the people herein evacuated and barred from reentering until such time as such immediate danger to life has been corrected. The Fire Chief is given the authority to order any gas company, power company, or other utility company, to disconnect its service to any building or buildings containing gas or power installations, where such installations, in the opinion of the Fire Chief, creates an immediate danger to life, and to otherwise close or evacuate such building and to bar reentry thereto, until such installation is repaired or replaced and such hazard to life ceases to exist. Rejections shall include specific reference to the Code Section upon which rejection is based in writing.

**F-3.8** The Fire Chief upon the complaint of any person or whenever he/she shall deem it necessary, shall inspect any buildings and premises within their jurisdiction.

**F-3.9** Approval of Fire Department accessibility and all tests of fire alarm detection and suppression systems, smoke evacuation systems and life safety systems shall be conducted prior to final structural inspection and issuance of Certificate of Occupancy.

**F-3.10 Orders To Eliminate Dangerous Or Hazardous Conditions:** Whenever the Fire Chief shall find in any building or upon any premises, dangerous or hazardous conditions or materials, including, but not

limited to violations of the requirements encompassed in Chapter 633, Florida Statutes, or the following Paragraphs, he/she shall order such violations and dangerous conditions or materials removed or remedied.

**F-3.10.1** Dangerous or unlawful amounts of combustible or explosive or otherwise hazardous materials.

**F-3.10.2** Hazardous conditions arising from defective or improperly installed equipment for handling or using combustible or explosive or otherwise hazardous materials.

**F-3.10.3** Dangerous accumulation of rubbish, wastepaper, boxes, shavings, or other flammable materials.

**F-3.10.4** Accumulations of dust or waste material in air conditioning or ventilation systems or of grease in kitchen or other exhaust ducts.

**F-3.10.5** Obstructions to, on, or under fire escapes, stairs, passageways, or doors, liable to interfere with the operations of the fire department or egress of occupants; locked exits shall constitute an unsafe condition. Exception: unless permitted by this Code.

**F-3.10.6** Obstruction to windows. Where windows are required to provide the second means of escape from a room or area, the following are prohibited.

**F-3.10.6.1** Bars that cannot be opened from the inside.

**F-3.10.6.2** Other obstructions such as security grills.

**Exception:** Only one (1) window is required to meet the above where two (2) windows are in the same room or area.

**F-3.11** Any building or other structure which, for want of repairs, lack of **adequate** exit facilities, automatic or other fire alarm apparatus or fire extinguishing equipment, or by reason of age or dilapidated condition, or from any other cause, create a hazardous condition.

**F-3.12** Any building or structure vacated or unoccupied shall be properly secured to prevent entry by unauthorized persons.

**F-3.13** The improper storage, transporting or handling of all classes of flammable or combustible liquids or otherwise hazardous substances any place within the enforcing jurisdiction.

**F-4** Personnel assigned to the bureau as the Fire Code Official, Fire Plans Examiner, and/or Fire Inspector shall be certified by the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals and meet the following qualifications:

**F-5 — Appointment and Duties of a Fire Plans Examiner:**

**F-4.1 —Fire Marshal or Fire Code Official:** There shall be appointed by the Fire Chief a person qualified to serve as Fire Marshal or Fire Code Official. To be eligible for appointment as a Fire Marshal/Fire Code Official, such person shall be certified by the Board of Rules and Appeals and shall meet one or more of the following qualifications:

**F-4.1.1** A Florida Registered Professional Engineer and/or a Degree in Fire Science and/or a Degree in Fire Prevention and shall have been certified as County Fire Inspector for three (3) years.

**F-4.1.2** A County Certified Fire Plans Examiner with at least five (5) years of experience which shall have been within the jurisdiction of this Code.

**F-4.1.3** Ten (10) years experience as a Fire Inspector, five (5) years of which shall have been within the jurisdiction of this Code and shall be a Broward County and State of Florida Certified Fire Inspector.

**F-4.1.4** Have been fulfilling the duties of a Fire Marshal/Fire Code Official with five years continuous service as such.

**F-4.2 Powers And Duties Of A Fire Marshal Or Fire Code Official:** The Fire Chief may designate a member of the fire department to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the Chief. He/she may also be known as Fire Marshal/Fire Code Official. The Fire Marshal/Fire Code Official shall be the principal enforcing officer of the Fire Codes with the responsibility for the administration and enforcement of the Florida Fire Prevention Code and it shall be his/her duty and responsibility to coordinate the work of all subordinate Fire Plans Examiners and Fire Inspectors. The Fire Marshal/Fire Code Official may delegate authority to subordinate employees to enforce the provisions of the Fire Codes. In the event that the Fire Marshal/Fire Code Official is not available to perform his/her duties, the Fire Chief may appoint an interim Fire Marshal/Fire Code Official provided such person is qualified in this Fire Code. The name of any interim Fire Marshal/Fire Code Official will be recorded by the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals, but he/she will not be issued a certification card as a Fire Marshal/Fire Code Official. The Fire Marshal/Fire Code Official shall be subject to the powers vested by the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals in this Code. If there is one Fire Plans Examiner or Fire Inspector hired by an inspection authority, that Plans Examiner or Inspector shall be a Fire Marshal / Fire Code Official. It shall be his/her duty and responsibility to coordinate the work of all subordinate Fire Plans Examiners and Fire Inspectors.

**F-5.1** There shall be appointed by the Fire Chief a person qualified to serve as Fire Plans Examiner.

**F-5.2** Certification of Fire Plans Examiner: To be eligible for appointment as Fire Plans Examiner, such person shall be certified by the Board of Rules and Appeals and shall meet one or more of the following qualifications:

**F-5.2.1** A Florida Registered Professional Engineer and/or a Degree in Fire Science, and/or a Degree in Fire Prevention and having practiced for a minimum of three (3) years.

**F-5.2.2** Five (5) years of experience as a Fire Inspector, and shall be a Broward County and State of Florida Certified Fire Inspector.

**F-5.2.3** Ten (10) years of experience as a firefighter, three (3) years of which shall have been in the jurisdiction of this Code and shall be a Broward County and State of Florida Certified Fire Inspector.

**F-5.2.4** Have been fulfilling the duties of a Fire Plans Examiner with five years continuous service as such.

**F-5.3 Powers and Duties of the Fire Plans Examiner:** Such employee shall have the duties and powers as delegated by the Fire Chief except that the Fire Chief may not delegate authority to subordinates to interpret provisions of this Fire Code. The Fire Plans Examiner shall be responsible for duties as assigned by the Fire Chief. A Fire Plans Examiner, if properly qualified, may be certified and assigned duties in more than one category. Prior to the issuance of any permit for construction, erection, alterations, repair, or demolition, the Fire Plans Examiner shall review all plans and/or specifications in conjunction with the Building Department. One and two family detached residential dwelling units shall not be subject to plan review by the Fire Plans Examiner as described in this section or inspection by the Fire Plans Examiner as described in F.S. 633.081. When approvals by other agencies having authority may logically be required to be affixed to the plans and/or specifications before approval by the Fire Plans Examiner, such approval shall be affixed to the plans and/or specifications before examination by the Fire Plans Examiner. If the application or plans and/or specifications do not conform to the requirements of all pertinent laws or regulations, the Fire Plans Examiner shall reject such application in writing, stating the reasons therefore and citing the relevant code section(s) of the Florida Fire Prevention Code. Plans and/or specifications that are rejected, as stated herein above, shall be returned for correction. Pen notations on mechanically reproduced

plans and/or specifications may be accepted for only minor corrections. If the applications, plans and/or specifications, upon examination, are found to comply with the requirements of this Fire Code, the plans and/or specifications shall be signed and marked approved. Fire Department acceptance of fire and life safety features in buildings after performance objectives are met is required, prior to certificate of occupancy being issued

**F-6 — Certification of Fire Inspectors:**

**F-6.1** The Fire Chief of each governmental jurisdiction shall designate certain fire prevention personnel to be certified Fire Inspectors. The Fire Chief shall delegate powers and duties to the Fire Inspectors, certified by the Board of Rules and Appeals as they pertain to fire and life safety items in this Code.

**F-6.2** Application for certification shall be on a form containing such pertinent information as is considered relevant to the Board of Rules and Appeals. . Each application shall be accompanied by a check in the amount appropriate for each discipline according to The Board of Rules and Appeals Fee Schedule for Certification payable to "Broward County Commissioners."

**F-6.3** To be certified a Fire Inspector shall meet the following criteria:

**F-6.3.1** Be a certified Firefighter as defined by the Florida Firefighters Standards Council.

**F-6.3.2** Pass a written competency examination approved by the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals, to be given in May and November of each year, or the test may be given when requested by at least six (6) applicants.

**F-6.4** Personnel assigned to the bureau as Fire Inspectors must be State of Florida Certified Firefighters, State of Florida Certified Fire Inspectors. For certification and recertification refer to Florida State Statute 633. At the Fire Chief's discretion, a person may be given up to eighteen (18) months to become a State of Florida Certified Firefighter, from the date of hire.

**F-6.5 Powers and Duties of the Fire Inspector:** Such employee shall have the duties and powers as delegated by the Fire Chief except that the Fire Chief may not delegate authority to subordinates to interpret provisions of this Fire Code. A Fire Inspector, if properly qualified, may be certified and assigned duties in more than one category. Under the Fire Chief's direction, the Fire Inspector shall enforce all local ordinances of the jurisdiction pertinent to the prevention of fires, suppression or extinguishing of

fires, storage, use and handling of explosive, flammable, combustible, toxic, corrosive and other hazardous gaseous, solid and liquid materials. The inspection of equipment and maintenance of automatic, manual and other fire alarm systems and fire extinguishing equipment. The maintenance and regulation of fire escapes. The maintenance of fire protection and the elimination of fire hazards on land and in buildings, structures and other property, including those under construction. The means and adequacy of each exit in the event of fire or similar emergency, from factories, schools, hotels, lodging houses, asylums, hospitals, churches, halls, theaters, amphitheaters and all other places in which people work, live or congregate from time to time for any purpose. The investigation of the origin, cause, and circumstances of fire. If defects, omissions or violations exist on any other part of the system relating to work for which approval is requested, the issuance of the Approval shall be withheld until corrections have been made to the defective portion of the system, and the same are made to comply with this Fire Code. The Fire Inspector shall serve notice to the Fire Contractor/ representative or owner/ representative in writing, stating the reasons therefore and citing the relevant code section(s).

**F-7— Recertification:**

To be recertified all Fire Marshal/Fire Code Officials, Fire Plans Examiners, Fire Inspectors or a combination thereof who are presently certified by the Board of Rules and Appeals, shall meet the following criteria:

**F-7.1** Be presently employed by a governmental fire entity within Broward County.

**F-7.2** Broward County Certification is valid for a period of three (3) years. Recertification shall have the same anniversary date as provided in Florida Statutes 633.081, with the completion of 55 contact hours in continuing education every three (3) consecutive years on Fire Protection and Fire Safety, sponsored and/or approved by the Board of Rules and Appeals.

**F-7.3** Personnel assigned to the bureau as Fire Inspectors must be State of Florida Certified Firefighters, and State of Florida Certified Fire Inspectors. For certification and recertification refer to Florida State Statute 633.

**F-7.4** If certification is not renewed and allowed to lapse, application for recertification must be accompanied with proof that 18.33 contact hours per year in continuing education has been met, and shall be on a form containing such pertinent information as is considered relevant to the Board of Rules and Appeals.

**F-8 — Fire Code Committee:**

**F-8.1** In order to determine the suitability of alternate materials and type of construction, to provide for reasonable interpretations of the provisions of this Fire Code and to assist in the control of the life/safety in buildings and structures, there is hereby created a Fire Code Committee, to make recommendations to the Local Board of Rules and Appeals.

**F-8.2** Membership: The Fire Code Committee shall consist of:

- (1) One Mechanical Engineer, Florida P.E.
- (2) One Architect, Florida Registered
- (3) One Fire Sprinkler Contractor
- (4) One Representative of Persons with disabilities
- (5) One Master Electrician
- (6) Four fire Service (Florida Certified Fire Inspectors
- (7) One Fire Service Member of the Board of Rules and Appeals
- (8) One Contractor, Certified to Install Fire Alarms
- (9) One General Contractor
- (10) One Electrical Engineer, Florida P.E.
- (11) One Mechanical Contractor
- (12) One Consumer Advocate
- (13) One Structural Engineer
- (14) One Chief Plumbing Inspector

**F-8.3** Membership, such as membership of the Fire Code Committee, will be for one year (with members being able to succeed themselves through reappointment by the Board of Rules and appeals Chairperson). The Chairperson of the Board of Rules and Appeals will select all members, including the Chairperson of the Fire Code Committee. The Chairperson of the Fire Code Committee shall be a Fire Service member of the Board of Rules and Appeals.

**F-9 — Appeals from the Decisions of the Fire Chief and/or Building Official:**

**F-9.1** The Fire Code Committee shall review all appeals from the decisions of the Fire Chief and/or Building Official wherein such decision is on matters regulated by this Florida Fire Prevention Code. Appeals can be submitted by any person who has reason to believe they have been treated unfairly by the enforcement of the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

**F-9.2** Procedures for Appeals: The Fire Code Committee shall review the appeal prior to hearing by the Board of Rules and Appeals and shall make recommendations to the Board of Rules and Appeals for resolution of the appeal. The Board of Rules and Appeals shall then hear the appeal and make a final ruling.

**F-10 — Procedures in County Court/Code Enforcement Board:**

When charges are filed based upon a violation under this code, such charges, prepared under the direction of the city, state, or county attorney, shall be heard by a county judge or Code Enforcement Board, within the time prescribed under county court procedures or Code Enforcement Board. Such conditions shall constitute an immediate danger to life.

**F-11 — Authority:**

**F-11.1** The Fire Chief shall investigate the origin, cause, and circumstances of every fire occurring within their enforcing jurisdiction. Such investigation shall begin immediately upon the occurrence of a fire, and the Fire Chief shall be immediately notified of the facts. The Fire Chief shall take charge immediately of the physical evidence and shall notify the proper authorities designated by law to pursue the investigation of such matters. The Fire Chief shall further cooperate with the authorities in the collection of evidence and in the prosecution of the case.

**F-12 — Compliance with Violation Notices:**

**F-12.1** A building, structure, occupancy, premises, or vehicle shall not be used when in violation of this code.

**F-12.2** Compliance with Orders and Notices:

**F-12.2.1** Unlawful Continuance of Fire/Life Safety Hazard: Any person or persons operating or maintaining any occupancy, premises or vehicle subject to this Code who shall permit any fire and/or life safety hazard to exist on premises or property under their control, and who shall fail to take immediate action to abate such hazards, when ordered or notified to do so by the Fire Chief or designee, shall be guilty of a second degree misdemeanor. Criminal enforcement of this Code shall remain with local law enforcement departments and officials charged with enforcement of the criminal laws of the State.

**F-13 Removal or Destruction of Signs or Tags:**

**F-13.1** It shall be unlawful to remove or tamper with any seal, warning tag, or lock placed on an article, appliance, vehicle, meter, tank, or building by the building and zoning department or the fire department, without first obtaining permission to do so by the authority having jurisdiction.

**F-13.2** It shall be unlawful for any person to tamper with or change the position of any utility valve, switch, wiring, piping, meter, or connection, or alter any utility service in any way, unless properly authorized to do so.

supported structure having a floor area less than 2,000 square feet and also one in each additional 2,000 square feet or fraction thereof.

**F-15.4.2** At least one 40-B:C type fire extinguisher shall be provided for each power generator or transformer and at locations where flammable or combustible liquids are used, stored or dispensed.

**F-15.5 - Storage Of Flammable Or Combustible Liquids:**

Flammable or combustible liquid shall not be stored in a tent or air-supported structure nor less than 50 feet from any tent or air-supported structure used for public assembly.

**F-15.6** Housekeeping: Hay, straw, trash and other flammable material shall not be stored less than 35 feet from any tent or air-supported structure, except as authorized by the authority having jurisdiction.

**F-15.7 Seating Arrangements:**

**F-15.7.1** Bonding of chairs. All loose seats, folding chairs or similar seating facilities that are not fixed to the floor shall be bonded together in groups of not less than six. Exceptions:

- (1) When not more than 500 such seats, chairs or facilities are provided, bonding thereof may be deleted.
- (2) The bonding of chairs shall not be required when tables are provided, as when the occupancy is used for dining or similar purposes.

**F-15.7.2** Securing of chairs, folding and telescoping seat seating, reviewing stands, grandstands, and bleachers shall be in accordance with NFPA 102, 1995 Edition.

**F-16 — Awnings and Canopies:**

**F-16.1** Awnings, canopies, and similar products whether attached or detached from a building shall have a flame spread rating of 25 or less.

**F-17 — Vehicular Access:**

**F-17.1** Fire access roads shall be surfaced with solid pavement, grass turf reinforced by concrete grids, or by similar type surfaces approved by the authority having jurisdiction, designed to accommodate fire apparatus weighing a minimum of 32 tons.

**F-17.2** Buildings having ramps and/or elevated roadways shall have posted weight limit signs showing maximum load capacity.

**F-14 — Standby Fire Watch:**

Whenever in the opinion of the Fire Chief it is essential for public safety in any place of public assembly or any other place where people congregate, due to the number of persons, or the nature of the performance, exhibition, display, contest or activity, the Fire Chief may require the owner, agent or lessee to employ one or more certified Fire Inspectors or Firefighters, as required and approved by the Fire Chief, to be on duty at such place. Said Fire Inspectors/Firefighters shall be subject to the Fire Chief's and/or his designee's orders at all times, when so employed, and remain on duty during the times such places are open to the public, or when such activity is being conducted. Before each performance or the start of such activity, said Fire Inspector/Firefighter shall inspect all required fire/life safety equipment, to insure that such equipment is in proper working order, and shall keep diligent watch for any emergency that should arise. Should any emergency arise, the Fire Inspector/Firefighter shall take whatever action necessary to protect the occupants and public from injury or any life threatening condition.

**F-15 — Tents And Air-Supported Structures**

**F-15.1** Places Of Assembly: For the purpose of this Section, a place of assembly shall include any circus, sideshow, carnival, tent show, theater, skating rink, dance hall or any other exhibition, production, engagement or offering, or other place of assembly in or under which 50 or more persons may gather for any purpose.

**F-15.2** Parking of Vehicles: Automotive equipment that is not necessary to the operation of the tent show performance shall not be parked within 20 feet of the tent or air-supported structure. No other automotive equipment or internal combustion engines shall be located within 50 feet of the tent except upon a public street.

**F-15.3 Smoking And Open Flame:**

**F-15.3.1** Approved "NO SMOKING" signs shall be conspicuously posted.

**F-15.3.2** An approved receptacle for the disposal of lighted smoking materials shall be provided at all entrances to tents and air-supported structures.

**F-15.4** Fire Extinguishers and other Fire-Protection Equipment: Fire extinguishers and other fire protection equipment shall be provided in every tent or air-supported structure as follows:

**F-15.4.1** A minimum of one 4A-10B:C type extinguisher shall be provided in every tent or air

**F-18 — Vehicles on Display:**

**F-18.1** When a vehicles is on display inside an occupancy other than a mall or place of assembly, the fuel tanks shall be removed.

**F-18.2** When a vehicle is on display inside a mall or place of assembly, all fuel tank openings shall be locked and sealed in an approved manner to prevent the escape of vapors; fuel tanks shall not contain in excess of one-half their capacity or contain in excess of 38 L (10 gal) of fuel, whichever is less. At least one battery cable shall be removed from the batteries used to start the vehicle engine, and the disconnected battery cable shall then be taped.

**F-18.3** These requirements shall not apply to automotive showrooms.

**F-19 — Storage of Readily Combustible Materials:**

**F-19.1** Storage of combustibles in buildings shall be orderly and shall not be within two feet (2') of the ceiling.

**F-19.2** Storage in the open shall not be more than twenty feet (20') in height, shall be so located with respect to adjacent buildings as not to constitute a hazard, and shall be compact and orderly.

**F-20 — High Pile Combustible Stock: This Section shall apply to the storage of high-pile combustible stock.**

**F-20.1** High-Piled Storage is combustible materials in closely packed piles more than 15 feet in height or combustible materials on pallets or in racks more than 12 feet in height. For certain special-hazard commodities such as rubber tires, plastics, some flammable liquids, idle pallets, etc., the critical pile height may be as low as 6 feet.

**F-20.2 — Classification of Contents:** Commodity classification shall be as defined and in accordance with NFPA 13.

**F-20.3 — Automatic Fire-Sprinkler Systems:**

**F-20.3.1** An approved automatic fire-sprinkler system shall be required throughout the building when the area used for high-piled combustible storage exceeds 12,000 square feet, inclusive of aisles.

**F-20.4 — Roof Vents, Venting Ratios and Draft Stops:**

**F-20.4.1** Roof vents and draft stops shall be installed when the area used for high piled combustible stock exceeds 2,500 square feet, inclusive of aisles.

**F-20.5** Roof vents and draft stops are not required when the area is protected by an approved automatic fire sprinkler system.

**F-20.5.1** The design and installation of roof vents and draft stops shall be as specified in this Code except as herein provided.

**F-20.5.2** Vents shall be installed in the roof, except that perimeter venting in the exterior walls by the use of automatic opening windows will be permitted to vent roof areas within 75 feet of an exterior wall. The top of such windows shall be located within one (1) foot of the roof or ceiling level and the windows shall be not less than 30 inches nor more than 60 inches in depth. Roof areas more than 75 feet from an exterior wall shall be provided with roof vents. Venting shall be provided in accordance with the following table.

Hazard Classification	Vent Area to Floor Area	Maximum Spacing Between Vent Centers
Classes I, II, III	1:100	120 Feet
Class IV	1:50	100 Feet
Special Hazard Commodities	1:30	75 Feet

**F-20.5.3** The minimum dimension of any roof vent shall be not less than four (4) feet.

**F-20.5.4** Vents shall consist of automatic roof vents or automatic opening windows equipped with a fusible link designed to release at 165 degrees F.

**F-20.5.5** Draft stops shall be provided to aid the operation of roof vents.

**F-20.5.6** Draft stops shall be at least six (6) feet in height and shall be of approved materials. For Classes I, II, and III commodities, draft stops shall divide the under roof area into sections not to exceed 10,000 square feet. For Class IV and Special Hazard Commodities, draft stops shall divide the under roof area into sections not to exceed 6000 square feet.

**F-20.5.7** Aisles of not less than 44 inches in width shall be established to provide access to exits and fire department access doors.

**F-20.5.8** Access door to building shall be provided. There shall be at least one access door not less than three (3) feet in width and not less than 6 feet 8 inches

in height in 100 lineal feet or major fraction thereof of the exterior wall which faces the access roadways required by this Code. Metal roll-up doors are not acceptable for such purposes unless approved by the Fire Code Official.

of fifty (50) PSI, a residual pressure of forty-two (42) PSI and a flow of 1,300 GPM.

**F-21 — Initial Acceptance Test Criteria for Mechanical Smoke Control Systems:**

Test Criteria for Mechanical Smoke Control Systems shall be stated on the mechanical plans.

**F-21.1** The following shall receive notice from the Mechanical Contractor so that they may witness the system's performance test:

**F-21.1.1** Fire Service.

**F-21.1.2** Building Department (Mechanical) having jurisdiction.

**F-21.1.3** All smoke control systems shall be retested for operation annually by a test and balance contractor. The smoke control system shall be retested without smoke, adjusted and balanced by a company holding a current certification from a recognized testing and balancing agency or comparable certification approved by the local authority having jurisdiction. The testing and balancing report shall be submitted to the Fire Department having jurisdiction.

**F-22 — Automatic Sprinklers Required:**

F-22.1 --- Fire flow testing of the Water Supply for Automatic Fire Protection Systems (AFPS) and Automatic Standpipe Systems (ASS) using water as an extinguishing agent for new buildings and structures and existing buildings and structures where the AFPS and ASS are altered by more than seventy-five (75) percent of their value shall be as follows:

- a) Fire flow test of the water supply for AFPS and ASS shall be in accordance with NFPA 291, Recommended Practice for Fire Flow Testing and Marking of Hydrants, Florida Administrative Code (FAC) 69A-60.005(2).
- b) Design for AFPS and/or ASS shall be calculated using a maximum of fifty (50) pounds per square inch (PSI) as the static pressure to allow for drought conditions.

EXAMPLE: If the results of a Fire Flow Test has a static pressure of eighty (80) PSI, a residual pressure of seventy-two (72) PSI and a flow of 1,300 gallons per minute (GPM), the design water supply for an AFPS and/or ASS would be a static pressure

- c) Design for AFPS and/or ASS at or below a static pressure of 55.56 PSI shall be calculated using a ten (10) percent reduction in the static pressure from the fire flow test to allow for drought conditions.

EXAMPLE: If the results of a Fire Flow Test has a static pressure of fifty-three (53) PSI, a residual pressure of forty-five (45) PSI and a flow of 925 GPM, the design water supply for an AFPS and/or ASS would be a static pressure of 47.70 PSI, a residual pressure of 39.70 PSI and a flow of 925 GPM.

- d) Design for AFPS and/or ASS for the residual pressure shall be equal to the difference between the static and residual pressures as obtained from the fire flow test to allow for drought conditions.

EXAMPLE: If the result of a Fire Flow Test has a static pressure of eighty-five (85) PSI, a residual pressure of seventy-seven (77) PSI the difference in the static and residual pressures would be eight (8) PSI which would be utilized for the drought condition water supply design criteria. If the result of a Fire Flow Test has a static pressure of forty (40) PSI, and a residual pressure of thirty (30) PSI, the difference in the static and residual pressures would be ten (10) PSI which would be utilized for the drought condition water supply design criteria.

- e) Design of the water flow for the AFPS and/or ASS shall be the same as that obtained from the fire flow test.
- f) The residual pressure at the required water flow at the connection to the water main for an AFPS and/or ASS shall not be less than 20 PSI.
- g) The static pressure at the water main shall be determined by a recorded method for a minimum twenty-four (24) hour period.
- h) Fire flow test data shall not be more than one (1) year prior to the plans, hydraulic calculations and submittals for the AFPS and/or ASS being submitted to the Authority(ies) Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for their review and acceptance. The results of the fire flow test shall be provided to the AHJ at the time of the submittal of the plans, hydraulic calculations and submittals for the water based AFPS and/or ASS.

**F-22.2** The following occupancies shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with NFPA 13.

**F-22.12.1 — Storage:**

In storage occupancies (other than parking garages and high-piled combustible storage) used for the storage of combustible goods or merchandise and exceeding 20,000 square feet per floor.

**F-22. 2.2 — High-piled Combustible Storage:**

An approved automatic fire-sprinkler system shall be required throughout the building when the area used for high-piled combustible storage exceeds 12,000 square feet, inclusive of aisles. See High-piled combustible storage for other requirements.

**F-22. 2.3 — Boat Storage:**

In boat storage facilities with four or more boats, regardless of square footage. When boats are stored on inside or outside multilevel racks for in and out operation, automatic sprinkler protections shall be provided for the entire building or structure and each boat in accordance with the Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems, NFPA13.

**F-22. 2.4 — Industrial Occupancies:**

Industrial occupancies exceeding 15,000 square feet per floor.

**F-22. 2.4.5 — Garages:**

In repair garages over one story in height, or located below another occupancy, or exceeding 10,000 square feet per floor.

**F-22. 3** Fire sprinklers. Protection against physical damage. In concealed locations where piping, other than cast-iron or galvanized steel, is installed through holes or notches in studs, joists, rafters or similar members less than 1.5 inches (38mm) from the nearest edge of the member, the pipe shall be protected by shield plates. Protective shield plates shall be a minimum of 0.062-inch-thick (1.6mm) steel, shall cover the area of the pipe where the member is notched or bored, and shall extend a minimum of 2 inches (51 mm) above sole plates and below top plates.

**F-22. 4** Where automatic fire sprinkler systems are installed, the location of the fire department connection shall be approved by the fire department having jurisdiction.

**F-23 — Manual Wet Standpipe:**

**F-23.1** Required standpipes shall be manual wet. The water connection to the manual wet standpipe shall be from a domestic water system through a minimum 1 inch water connection with an approved manufactured check valve backflow prevention device.

**F-24 — Corridors:**

Where exterior corridors or exterior balconies serving as a required means of egress are enclosed on both sides and above, and the length of the enclosure along the long axis is twenty-five (25) feet or more, fire-resistivity of walls and the protection of openings therein shall be required as if such corridors or balconies were enclosed interior corridors.

**F-25 — Portable Fire Extinguishers:** Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed and maintained at each floor level in multi-family occupancies in accordance with NFPA 10.

**F-26 — Private Boat Docking:**

**F-26.1** Any facility for in-water docking of four (4) or more boats which are over 16 feet in length (see Notes) at a residential waterfront property, including but not limited to, condominium(s), hotel(s), motel(s), multifamily residence(s), duplex(es) and single family residence(s) or at non-residential waterfront properties having temporary or permanent dockage, such as but not limited to, restaurant(s), lounges(s) and similar type occupancies.

**Notes: Boat Size Classifications:**

- Class A - Any motorboat less than 16 feet in length.
- Class 1 - Any motorboat 16 feet or over and less than 28 feet in length.
- Class 2 - Any motorboat 28 feet or over and less than 40 feet in length.
- Class 3 - Any motorboat 40 feet or over and not more than 65 feet in length.

The length shall be measured from end to end over the deck excluding sheer.

**F-26.2** The expression "length shall be measured from end to end over the deck excluding sheer" means a straight line measurement of the overall length from the foremost part of the vessel to the aftermost part of the vessel, measured parallel to the centerline. Bow sprit, bumpkins, rudders, outboard motor brackets, and similar fitting or attachments, are not to be included in the measurement. Length shall be stated in feet and inches.

**F-26.3** Private boat docking facilities shall have sufficient 1½" fire hose connected to a 2½" valve with a 2½" x 1½" reducer to reach all portions of the dock facilities. Supply shall be a minimum of 2½" underground fire line and shall have a minimum capability of delivering 40 gallons of water per minute at 25 pounds per square inch pressure through a combination fog nozzle, designed and sealed by a Florida Engineer.

**F-26.4** Where such docking facilities are inaccessible to Fire Department equipment, or exceed 150 feet from Fire Department vehicular access, a 2½" Fire Department Siamese connection shall be provided.

Location of Siamese shall be approved by the Fire Department.

**F-27 — Flammable and Combustible Liquids**

**F-27.1 — Underground Storage and Dispensing of Flammable/Combustible Liquids:**

Underground tanks used to store flammable liquids shall bear an Underwriters' label or equivalent testing agency. Any tank to be installed, having a storage capacity in excess of four thousand (4,000) gallons, but not more than twelve thousand (12,000) gallons, shall be jointly approved in writing by the Fire Chief, Building Official, and the director of building and zoning, after an appropriate review has been conducted. Such review includes, but is not limited to, an analysis of the proposed installation, location, distance separations, types of occupancies in the vicinity, tank corrosion protection and construction, and applicable zoning restrictions. For purpose of this Sub-section, a "location" is a parcel of land with a minimum of seventeen thousand five hundred (17,500) square feet, with a minimum street or waterway frontage of one hundred seventy five (175) feet. The maximum storage capacity in any one location shall not exceed an aggregate total of sixty thousand (60,000) gallons, with a maximum of forty-eight thousand (48,000) gallons of flammable liquids. When flammable liquids are stored in more than one location, tanks shall not be interconnected between locations. Airports may exceed the maximum storage capacity provided no single tank exceeds 25,000 gallons with a maximum capacity of 100,000 gallons per location.

**Exception:** Broward County Office of Transportation's Transit Operations and municipal, county and special districts having underground bulk fuel storage facilities shall comply with the provisions of NFPA 30. Aggregate Limitations of Flammable and Combustible Liquids as per F-27.1 shall not apply. Permit shall be reviewed for compliance by the local Fire Department having Jurisdiction.

**F-27.1.1** Underground tanks out of service for a period of one year shall be removed. Underground tanks may be abandoned in place only if approved by the Fire Department having jurisdiction.

**F-27.2 — Storage and Use on Site of Combustible Liquids Used for Fixed Equipment Shall Be Under the Following Requirements:**

**F-27.2.1** Aboveground installation of single-wall tanks shall comply with NFPA 30 and the following additional requirements:

**F-27.2.1.1** Above ground tanks having a capacity in gallons greater than 10,000 must be approved by the Fire Code Committee and the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals.

**Exception:** Municipal, County and Special Districts installing aboveground fuel storage tanks for fixed equipment for providing governmental services. Permit shall be reviewed for compliance by the local Fire Department Having Jurisdiction.

**F-27.2.1.2** Tanks shall be surrounded with an embankment or impervious dike not less than four feet high and capable of holding not less than one and one half times the capacity of the tank surrounded. Embankments or dikes shall be continuous, with no opening for piping or roadways.

**F-27.2.2** All aboveground storage tanks shall be identified by a suitable sign which will state type of fuel and capacity of the tank.

**F-27.2.3** Tanks used for stationary combustion engines and gas turbines shall comply with NFPA 37, 2002 Edition, Standard for the Installation and Use of Stationary Combustion Engines and Gas Turbines.

**F-27.2.4** Distance separation between aboveground storage tanks and property lines and buildings shall be as specified in table F-27.2.4 below:

**Table F-27.2.4**

Capacity in Gallons	To line of adjoining unprotected building or property which may be built upon	To line of adjoining protected buildings	To line of existing frame buildings
1,000	12 feet	8 feet	20 feet
2,000	20 feet	15 feet	40 feet
3,000	20 feet	15 feet	40 feet
10,000	30 feet	20 feet	50 feet

installation of collision barrier posts, even if the clearance guidelines can be achieved.

**F-27.3 — Aboveground Storage for Dispensing of Flammable and Combustible Liquids from UL listed 142 (double wall), 2085 or Equivalent Tanks:**

**F-27.3.1** Aboveground storage of flammable and combustible liquids shall be approved by the Fire Chief and Building Official after an appropriate review has been conducted. Such review includes, but is not limited to, an analysis of the proposed installation, location, distance separations, types of occupancies in the vicinity, tank corrosion protection and construction, and applicable zoning restrictions. For purpose of this Sub-section, a "location" is a parcel of land with a minimum of seventeen thousand five hundred (17,500) square feet, with a minimum street or waterway frontage of one hundred seventy five (175) feet. The maximum storage capacity in any one location shall not exceed an aggregate total of 12,000 gallons. Aboveground storage of flammable and combustible liquids shall comply with the following regulations:

**Exception:** Municipal, county and special districts having aboveground fuel storage facilities shall comply with the provisions of NFPA 30. Aggregate Limitations of Flammable and Combustible Liquids as per F-27.3.1 shall not apply. Permit shall be reviewed for compliance by the local Fire Department having Jurisdiction.

**F-27.3.1.1** The provisions in this Section shall not supersede any zoning standard that might regulate or eliminate the use of aboveground storage tanks.

**F-27.3.1.2** Aboveground Tanks containing flammable and combustible liquids shall be in approved fire resistive tank enclosure assemblies.

**F-27.3.1.2.1** A fire resistive tank enclosure assembly storing flammable liquids shall consist of a tank bearing an Underwriters' label 142, 2085 or an equivalent testing criteria by an approved testing agency. A single tank or combination of tanks shall not exceed 12,000 gallons at one site.

**F-27.3.1.3** The tank assembly shall be installed upon a minimum four-inch (4") slab, meeting requirements of the manufacturer's specifications. Each tank assembly shall be anchored to withstand uplifting by flooding or storm surges, including when the tank is empty.

**F-27.3.1.4** Area around tank assembly shall be maintained free of combustible waste, debris and all types of storage. Any tank assembly exposed to vehicular traffic shall have collision barrier posts installed on all corners and sides so exposed and shall not be spaced more than four feet (4') apart, center to center. Fire Code Official may require the

**F-27.3.1.5** Dispensing devices are allowed to be installed on top of the tank enclosure assembly. Any such device dispensing Class 1 liquids shall have installed on the fill hose, a UL listed emergency breakaway device designed not to lose liquid from either side of the breakaway point. All product piping attached to the tank enclosure assembly shall be double walled, contain a sheer valve or equivalent, and shall be installed by an authorized pollutant storage system specialty contractor. External piping leading away from the tank shall have a valve located within six inches (6") to the shell of the tank. Approved antisiphon devices shall be installed at each connection of piping to a tank when such piping extends below the level of the top of such tanks both internally and externally. All underground pipe work must be uncovered until inspected by building and fire departments, and other regulatory agencies.

**Exception:** Factory installed piping does not have to be installed by an authorized pollutant storage system specialty contractor.

**F-27.3.1.6** Aboveground tank assemblies temporarily out-of-service for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days shall immediately have the fill, gauge openings and pump suction capped and secured against tampering. The vent lines shall be left open. Aboveground tank assemblies out-of-service for a period exceeding ninety (90) days, shall be removed. The property owner or agent shall notify the Fire Department of any tanks out-of-service greater than 90 days.

**F-27.4** Only Approved Pumps Shall Be Used; Gravity Flow Pumps Are Prohibited. Fuel shall be drawn from aboveground storage tanks by pumps bearing the label of Approved Testing Laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratory, Inc. The use of pressure systems or gravity flow type pump systems is prohibited.

**F-28.5 — Dispensing Areas**

**F-28.5.1** Dispensing areas shall be provided with a vehicular driveway constructed of reinforced concrete. It shall be sloped to allow any accidental discharge from the dispensing of fluid to flow away from the dispenser or any building, and shall be subject to the approval of the Fire Code Official. This driveway shall be a minimum of twelve feet (12') wide and twenty feet (20') long, minimum. In every case, this driveway must be large enough that the fuel hose, when fully extended, does not reach the far edge of the driveway.

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**F-28.5.2** A fire extinguisher with a minimum classification 4A-60BC shall be provided and so located that it will be not more than one hundred feet (100') from any pump, dispenser, or fill-pipe opening.

**F-29 — Flammable Liquid Storage at Port Everglades and the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport:**

**F-29.1** Aboveground storage of flammable liquids shall be permitted at Port Everglades and the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport ("Airport"). All tank locations at the Airport must be approved by the Broward County Fire Code Official, or his or her designee, prior to the issuance of a permit to erect or install a tank.

**F-29.2** All flammable liquid storage tanks at Port Everglades must be constructed, installed and maintained in accordance with the Port Everglades Authority Security Regulations.

**F-30 — Liquefied Petroleum Gases**

**F-30.1 Scope:** This Section shall apply to the storage, handling and transportation of liquefied petroleum gas and the installation of all equipment pertinent to systems for such uses in addition to the requirements stated in NFPA-58, Storage and Handling of Liquefied Petroleum Gases.

**F-30.2 Definition:** Distributing Plant: A facility, the primary purpose of which is the distribution of gas, and which receives LP-Gas in tank car, truck transport or truck lots, distributing this gas to the end use by portable container (packaged) delivery, by tank truck or through gas piping. Such plants have bulk storage (2,000 gallons water capacity or more) and usually have container filing and truck loading facilities on the premises. Bulk plants are considered as being in this category. Normally no person other than plant management or plant employees have access to these facilities. Additionally, definitions contained in NFPA 58 shall apply.

**F-30.3 Permits:** In addition to the permit requirements stated in NFPA 1, 2003~~6~~ Edition, Section 1.12, the following shall apply:

**F-30.3.1** A permit is not required for portable cylinders 20 lbs, or less for portable equipment.

**F-30.4** Location of Containers and Limits:

**F-30.4.1** All new liquefied petroleum gas storage installation and handling shall be in accordance with NFPA-58, the laws of the State of Florida, and all applicable rules, regulations, and ordinances of the jurisdictional areas.

**F-30.4.2** Within the limits established by law restricting the storage of liquefied petroleum gas for the protection of heavily populated or congested commercial areas, the aggregate capacity of any one installation shall not exceed 2,000 gallons water capacity, except that in particular installations this capacity limit may be altered at the discretion of the Fire Code Board after consideration of special features such as topographical conditions, nature of occupancy and proximity to buildings, capacity of proposed tanks, degree of private fire protection to be provided and facilities of the local fire department. The storage of liquefied petroleum gas shall conform to the provisions of the local zoning ordinance.

**F-30.4.3** Where a distributing point is allowed, there shall be in attendance a qualified person to make the transfer of liquefied petroleum gas. This person shall have been trained by a licensed gas company, and be in possession of documents certifying such training. The owner of the distributing point shall be licensed by the LP Division of the State of Florida.

**F-30.4.4** All plans for installations at distributing points shall be submitted to the authorities having jurisdiction for permits and approval. In addition, plans for locations at distributing points for fixed (stationary) installations of

- (1) 2,000 gallons individual water capacity, or
- (2) with the aggregate water capacity exceeding 4,000 gallons, or
- (3) any installation, regardless of size, which will be used for resale to the public, shall be submitted the State of Florida LP Division for approval and proper licensing, and be approved before the installation is started. Other safety precautions shall be adhered to as designated by the Fire Code Official/Fire Marshal.

**F-30.4.5** An LP Gas storage tank shall not be installed on the same island used for gasoline or diesel fuel dispensing. A minimum distance of 25 feet shall be maintained between the LP gas storage tank and the flammable liquid dispensing devices.

**F-30.4.6** A distributing plant, as defined in F-28.1 shall be prohibited unless approved by the Fire Code Official/Fire Marshal of the jurisdiction.

**F-30.4.7** Multiple container installations with a total storage water capacity of more than 180,000 gallons (150,000 gallons LP-gas capacity) shall be subdivided into groups containing not more than 180,000 gallons in each group. Such groups shall be separated by a distance of not less than 50 feet, unless the tanks are

- (1) buried or mounted in an approved manner, or
- (2) protected with approved insulation on such areas that may be subject to impingement of ignited gas from pipelines or other leakage, or

- (3) protected by fire-walls of approved construction, or
- (4) protected by an approved system for application of water, or
- (5) protected by other approved means, where one of these forms of protection is provided, the separation shall not be less than 25 feet between such container groups.

**F-30.4.8** The storage and transportation of liquefied petroleum gas and the installation of all pertinent equipment shall be installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA-58, and subject to the approval of the Fire Chief. These orders shall apply to all persons and places within the jurisdiction except as herein provided.

**F-30.5 Parking and Garaging:** Vehicles containing cylinders of liquefied petroleum gases 20 lbs or greater in size are prohibited in public parking garages, this includes LP gas delivery vehicles. Vehicles that are powered by LP gas and meet NFPA 54 for fuel systems are permitted.

**F-30.6 Prohibited Use of Liquefied Petroleum Gas:**

**F-30.6.1** Liquefied petroleum gas shall not be used for the purpose of operating any device or equipment unless such equipment or device is approved for use with a liquefied petroleum gas.

**F-30.6.2** Liquefied petroleum gas shall not be released to the atmosphere except through an approved liquid level gauge or other approved device.

**F-30.7 Dispensing and Overfilling:**

**F-30.7.1** The dispensing of liquefied petroleum gases shall be performed by a qualified attendant.

(b) It shall be illegal for any person, firm, corporation, association, club or organization to operate a self-service liquefied petroleum gas dispensing operation which is open to the public.

**F-30.7.2** A person shall not fill or maintain a liquefied petroleum gas container with liquefied petroleum gas in excess of the fixed outage gauge installed by the manufacturer or the weight stamped on the tank.

**F-30.8 Safety Devices:**

**F-30.8.1** A person shall not tamper with or make ineffective the safety devices of any liquefied petroleum gas container.

**F-30.9 Abandonment of Liquefied Petroleum Gas Equipment:**

**F-30.9.1** Whenever the use of liquefied petroleum gas equipment has been discontinued, it shall be abandoned in an approved manner within a period of 30 days.

**F-30.9.2** The following procedures may be used when approved by the Fire Chief.

**F-30.9.2.1** Removal of all liquefied petroleum equipment.

**F-30.9.2.2** Burn-off content of container.

**F-30.9.3** All service openings shall be capped or plugged after contents have been removed from container.

**F-30.9.4** All LP tanks, abandoned or out of service in excess of ninety (90) days, shall be removed and properly disposed of.

**F-30.10** Protecting containers from Vehicles: LP gas containers located in or adjacent to areas such as alleys, driveways, loading docks or parking lots where they may be damaged by vehicles, shall be protected from damage.

**F-30.11 Hydrogen Fuel for Emergency Power Systems**

Hydrogen stationary fuel cell power systems shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 853,2003.ed, except that NFPA 50A as referenced in the (Gaseous Hydrogen Storage) subdivision 6.4.1 of NFPA 853 shall be replaced by NFPA 55 (Storage, Use and Handling of Compressed Gases Cryogenic Fluids in Portable or Stationary Containers, Cylinders and Tanks) for installation.

**F-31 — Fireworks and Sparkler/Novelty Items:**

**F-31.1** General Requirements.

**F-31.1.1** The manufacturing of fireworks, sparklers and pyrotechnic materials is prohibited.

**F-31.1.2** The storage of fireworks and pyrotechnic materials is prohibited except as permitted in paragraph NFPA 1, 2003 Edition Section 65-11.

**F-31.1.3** Except as hereafter provided, it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, co-partnership or corporation to store, to offer for sale, expose to store, expose for sale, sell at retail, or use or explode any fireworks and/or pyrotechnic materials.

**F-31.1.4** Approved sparklers per F. S. 791.013 and any wholesaler registered in accordance with f. S. 791.015 as of July 1, 1996, who has obtained all applicable governmental licenses and permits to operate from a permanent structure within Broward

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County as of July 1, 1996, are exempt from this subsection.

**F-31.1.5** Wholesale exemption sales of fireworks pursuant to F. S. 791.04 shall be prohibited at temporary or seasonal sales sites, and sales sites located in tents, canopies and stands.

**F-31.1.6** Permit Requirements and Operator Qualifications:

**F-31.1.6.1.** Application for permit to operate a display of fireworks or use of pyrotechnics before a proximate audience shall be made in writing on forms provided by the Authority Having Jurisdiction to the Fire Chief or Designee at least 15 days in advance of the date of the display. Except as specifically modified within this Code, outdoor display of fireworks shall be as specified in NFPA 1123. See Section F-31.2 for additional requirements for Outdoor Display of Fireworks on Private Residential Property. See Section F-31.3 for additional requirements for Offshore and Barge Fireworks Displays. Except as specifically modified within this Code, use of pyrotechnics before a proximate audience shall be as specified in NFPA 1126.

**F-31.1.6.1.1** Before any permit for a pyrotechnic display shall be issued, the person or organization making application shall furnish proof of financial responsibility to satisfy claims for damages to property or personal injuries arising out of any act or omission on the part of such person or any agent or employee thereof, in such amount, character, and form as the Fire Chief or designee determines to be necessary for the protection of the public.

**F-31.1.6.1.1.1** A copy of the certificate of insurance naming the permitting agency as additional insured is required.

**F-31.1.6.1.1.2** Minimum required amount of certificates of insurance for permit issuance is as follows: \$1,000,000 for bodily injury, and \$50,000 for property damage, per occurrence.

**F-31.1.6.2** Permit application shall be set forth and contain the following:

**F-31.1.6.2.1** The name, address and telephone number of the organization sponsoring the display, the supplier of the fireworks, the operator (pyrotechnician) and all assistants.

**F-31.1.6.2.2** Application shall be signed by the sponsoring organization representative, the operator (pyrotechnician) and approved by the Chief of Police in accordance with F.S. 791-02(1).

**F-31.1.6.2.3** References for the most recent three firework displays supervised and discharged by the designated operator shall be required for review by the Authority Having Jurisdiction. Said referenced displays shall be similar in size and complexity and will provide contact persons and telephone numbers.

**F-31.1.6.2.4** The date and time of day at which the display is to be held and the duration time for said display. Permits shall be issued for displays between the hours of 11:00 pm and 7:30 am.

**F-31.1.6.2.4.1** Time restrictions stated above may not be applicable on January 1, July 4, and December 31, or any other date where specific permission to operate a display of fireworks is granted by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

**F-31.1.6.2.5** The exact location address for the display, event or production.

**F-31.1.6.2.6** A copy of a location site plan with dimensions indicating the exact location planned for the display site and all grounds and facilities at which the event will be held. This plan shall include the location of all structures, audience viewing areas, roads, trees and utilities.

**F-31.1.6.2.7** Operator and assistant qualifications shall comply with the provisions of NFPA 1123 and NFPA 1126.

**F-31.1.6.2.7.1** The operator shall be responsible for ensuring that a sufficient number of assistants are available on site for the safe storage and conduct of the fireworks display.

**F-31.1.6.2.7.2** Operators must be at least 21 years of age and all assistants must be at least 18 years of age. A copy of a valid driver's license or other valid picture I.D. acceptable to the Authority Having Jurisdiction must be provided for all operators and assistants.

**F-31.1.6.2.8** The type and number of fireworks to be discharged.

**F-31.1.6.2.8.1** Aerial displays: Size and number of each type of burst (single, multiple, etc.)

**F-31.1.6.2.8.1.1** All aerial shells greater than five inches in diameter shall be fired using electrical ignition.

**F-31.1.6.2.8.1.2** All electrically fired displays shall provide a solid barrier located at least 100 feet from the mortar location from which all operators (pyrotechnicians) shall control the display with the exception of displays on barges.

**F-31.1.6.2.8.2** Fixed displays: Size, type and description of displays.

**F-31.1.6.2.8.3** The manner and place of storage of fireworks prior to display. The date, time and travel route from the point the fireworks enter Broward County.

**F-31.1.6.2.9** Standby Firewatch Requirements:

**F-31.1.6.2.9.1** The Fire Chief or designee shall require one or more standby firewatch personnel employed by the Fire Department, to be on-duty for each display or performance. When deemed necessary the Fire Chief or designee, additional fire rescue apparatus may be required for the display or performance. The expense of such personnel services and apparatus shall be borne by the permit holder, and shall be paid prior to issuance of the permit.

**F-31.1.6.2.9.2** The standby firewatch personnel shall be on duty from the time of display set up, during the display, and until termination of the display and removal of all fireworks, debris, pyrotechnical materials and devices from the site.

**F-31.1.6.2.9.3** In the case of indoor displays or performances, standby firewatch personnel shall be maintained until total restoration of normal function of the fire safety systems has been verified.

**F-31.1.6.2.9.4** At a minimum, at least one of the assigned standby firewatch personnel shall be a Broward County Certified Fire Inspector.

**F-31.2** Additional Requirements for Outdoor Display of Fireworks on Private Residential Property:

**F-31.2.1** Written approval from the property owners located adjacent the proposed display site property is required prior to approval of a permit for outdoor fireworks display.

**F-31.2.2** The display site shall have at least a 100 foot per inch radius of internal mortar diameter of the largest shell to be fired.

**F-31.2.3** Minimum distance separation shall be no less than 300 feet from the nearest dwelling, building, or structure. This includes canopies, chickee huts, or similar structures, bulk storage areas, public highways, railroads or other means of travel.

**F-31.2.4** Not within 1,000 feet of a school, theater, church, hospital, nursing home, assisted living facility, livestock/animal storage site, or similar structures or institutions.

**F-31.2.5** No less than 50 foot radius from the nearest aboveground utility, telephone or telegraph line, tree, or other overhead obstruction.

**F-31.2.6** The audience shall be restricted behind an approved barrier, location no less than 200 feet from the outside of the required display site distance separations.

**F-31.2.7** All aerial shells, regardless of size, shall be fired using approved electrical ignition.

**F-31.3** Offshore and Barge Fireworks Displays:

**F-31.3.1** Firework displays shall only be permitted on approved barges. Barge means a non-self-propelled vessel and shall meet the requirements of NFPA 1123 for construction and sizing requirements of the discharge site.

**F-31.3.2** A valid copy of a current U.S. Coast Guard permit of operation shall be provided for each barge display, if required by the U.S. Coast Guard.

**F-31.3.3** At least two chase boats shall be provided to maintain a clear separation distance of at least 1,000 feet radius around the barge from other vessels, structures and the beach. Chase boats shall also provide transportation of fire rescue personnel when required.

**F-31.3.4** Two-way compatible communication shall be provided for use by fire rescue and law enforcement personnel, chase boats and barge crew.

**F-31.3.5** Ladder access shall be provided to allow immediate access for inspection and emergency response.

**F-31.3.5.1** Stabilization shall be provided to secure the barge and prevent rotation from wind, water current and firing angle.

**F-31.3.5.2** Inspection of the barge by the Fire Department shall occur at least one to two hours prior to the scheduled departure for sea.

**F-31.4** Safety Precautions for Outdoor fireworks

**F-31.4.1** If in the opinion of the Fire Chief or designee, any unsafe or hazardous condition exists, the fireworks display shall be postponed until such time as said conditions are corrected.

**F-31.4.2** If high winds, precipitation or other adverse weather conditions prevail, such that in the opinion of the Fire Chief or designee a significant hazard exists, the fireworks display shall be postponed until weather conditions improve to an acceptable level to allow discharge.

**F-31.4.2.1** No discharge of a fireworks display shall be permitted to take place when the wind velocity is 17 knots (20 mph) or greater.

**F-31.4.3** No smoking shall be allowed within 50 feet of any area where fireworks or other pyrotechnic materials are present.

**F-31.4.4** No operators, assistants or other personnel shall use or handle any fireworks, pyrotechnic materials or pyrotechnic devices and equipment while under the influence of any intoxicating beverages, narcotics, controlled substances, or prescription or non-prescription drugs which can impair judgment, mobility or stability.

**F-31.4.5** Immediately upon delivery to the display site, all fireworks shall be properly secured and shall not be left unattended at any time. When deemed necessary, the Fire Chief or designee may require the operator or employ special security measures to ensure the proper security of the stored fireworks.

**F-31.4.6** A minimum of two, two and one-half gallon pressurized water fire extinguishers shall be available in the discharge area. Additional extinguishers or equipment may be required if conditions warrant. In addition, adequate water supply for fire protection shall be available at the discharge site.

**F-31.5** Requirements for the Sale, Display, Merchandising, Storage and Handling of Approved Sparklers and Novelty Items within buildings, Structures, Canopies and Outdoor Sites.

**F-31.5.1** No person shall be in possession of a lighted cigarette, cigar, or pipe, or any open flame, within 50 feet of any sales, display, merchandising, storage, or handling area. Proper receptacles for disposal of smoking materials shall be provided at all entrances to such areas (i.e. water filled or sand filled buckets).

**F-31.5.2** A minimum of two approved two and one-half gallon pressurized water fire extinguishers shall be available within the sales, display, and handling areas; additional fire extinguishers or fire protection equipment may be required by the authority having jurisdiction.

**F-31.5.3** Precautions shall be taken to protect against fire or spread of fire in all sites located within fields or lots with ground cover such as brush, grass or other overgrowth of vegetation.

**F-31.5.4** Durable and readily visible signs to read "Caution Sparklers—No Smoking" shall be posted on the exterior of each entrance way into and throughout all sparkler sales, storage, and handling areas within the interior of any building, structure, canopy, or outdoor site. These signs shall be readily visible in all directions.

**F-31.5.5** The use, ignition or discharge of any approved sparklers or novelty items is prohibited within buildings or structures where sparklers or novelty items are offered for sale, displayed, or stored, and within 100 feet of any outdoor sales storage or handling sites.

**F-31.5.6** Buildings or structures used in whole or in part for sales (retail or wholesale), display, merchandising, handling, or storage of sparklers and/or novelty items shall be fully protected throughout with an automatic sprinklers system in accordance with NFPA 13, the edition in Section 4A-60.005, Florida Administrative Code.

**F-31.5.7** No storage of sparklers or novelty items shall be permitted in vehicles.

*Exception: Transportation purposes only, to and from the site or at a permitted site, if approved by the authority having jurisdiction.*

**F-31.5.8** Sales, display and merchandising shall be conducted in an approved and safe manner in order to control handling by the general public.

**F-31.5.9** Amounts of sparklers and related novelty items displayed within the sales area shall not exceed those amounts approved by the Fire Chief or designee. Note: Where the primary business of the occupancy is not sale of sparklers, the sale areas of sparklers or novelty items shall not exceed two percent of the net floor space of the building or structure.

**F-31.5.10** Storage of approved sparklers and novelty items shall comply with the following:

**F-31.5.10.1** Sparklers shall not be stored or kept in any area:

**F-31.5.10.1.1** In which paints, oils, or varnishes are manufactured or kept for use or sale, unless the paints, oils or varnishes are in unbroken (sealed) containers.

**F-31.5.10.1.2** In which resin, turpentine gasoline or flammable substances which may generate vapors are used, stored, or offered for sale unless the resin, turpentine, gasoline, or substance is in unbroken (sealed) containers.

**F-31.5.10.1.3** In which there is not at least one 2A10BC fire extinguisher available in the area used for storage.

**F-31.5.10.2** Storage of sparklers shall be in an approved manner, remote from the public, and separated from all other merchandise by at least one hour fire protection and an approved automatic sprinkler system.

*Exception: Canopies and approved steel storage vaults or containers when used outdoors.*

**F-31.5.10.3** Approved storage facilities shall be labeled with an approved Explosion placard complying with the Department of Transportation (DOT) Standard.

**F-31.5.11** Outdoor sites for sale, storage, and/or handling of approved sparklers shall comply with the following distance requirements: The minimum distance between a storage site and any building or structure shall be 50 feet.

#### **F-31.6** Separation.

**F-31.6.1** The minimum distance required between a site and any fuel storage/dispensing area or device shall be 50 feet.

**F-31.6.2** Storage areas shall be separated from sales and handling areas by a minimum of 25 feet.

**F-31.6.3** Any building or structure used as storage facilities for sparklers and novelty items in conjunction with outdoor sites shall comply with the one hour protection separation and automatic sprinkler system requirements as required for storage areas within building and structures.

*Exception: Canopies and approved steel storage vaults or containers.*

**F-31.6.4** When a canopy can be used in conjunction with an outdoor site operation, the following shall apply:

**F-31.6.4.1** No sides of any kind are permitted on the canopy at any time. Provide copy of Building Permit for canopy.

**F-31.6.4.2** The canopy must comply with the flame-retardant requirement. Proper flame retardant certificate required.

**F-31.6.4.3** Proper exit and exit access shall be maintained at all times within the interior of the canopy. No obstruction to egress from any portion of the canopy is permitted.

**F-31.6.4.4** Provide and maintain a minimum of one 2A40BC dry chemical fire extinguisher, with properly updated service tag for each 2,500 sq. ft. of canopy area. Not less than one fire extinguisher for each canopy.

**F-31.6.5** If the site is to operated after daylight hours, the site shall be properly illuminated. If electricity powered and/or electrical equipment is used, the following shall apply:

**F-31.6.5.1** All electrical equipment and associated wiring shall comply with NFPA 70, the edition as adopted in Section 4A60.005, Florida Administrative Code. Provide copy of permit for electrical service and equipment.

**F-31.6.5.2** If fuel powered generator is to be used to supply power for the site, the following shall apply:

**F-31.6.5.2.1** Generator shall be kept a minimum distance of twenty feet (20') from sales, storage, or handling area.

**F-31.6.5.2.2** Precautions against fire or fire spread shall be taken when generator sites are located within fields or grassed lots.

**F-31.6.5.2.3** Only an approved metal five gallon safety container shall be used to store fuel for the generator. Fuel containers shall be properly stored with a maximum of ten gallons per site.

**F-31.6.5.2.4** Approved fuel containers shall not be stored in sales, storage, handling areas or vehicles.

**F-31.6.5.3** Durable sign to read "NO SMOKING" shall be posted at the generator site.

**F-31.7** The requirements for the use of pyrotechnics before a proximate audience shall be in accordance with the standards as set forth in the Florida Fire Prevention Code. In addition, the following local amendments shall apply:

**F-31.7.1** A permit application for the use of pyrotechnics before a proximate audience shall be submitted in writing to the local fire code official at least 15 business days prior to the display.

Effective Date: January 1, 2005

Amended Effective: January 1, 2009

**F-31.7.2** The local fire code official, at their discretion, shall require standby fire watch personnel employed by the fire department of jurisdiction, to be on duty for each display or performance. When deemed necessary by the local fire code official, additional fire and rescue apparatus may be required for the display or performance. Any and all expense(s) of standby personnel services and apparatus shall be borne by the permit holder.

**F-31.7.2.1** Standby fire watch personnel shall be on duty from the time of display setup, during the display, and until termination of the display and removal of all pyrotechnic materials, debris, and devices from the site.

**F-31.7.2.2** In the case of indoor displays or performances, standby fire watch personnel shall be maintained until total restoration of normal functioning of the fire safety systems has been verified.

**F-31.7.2.3** At a minimum, at least one of the assigned standby fire watch personnel shall be a Broward County Certified Fire Inspector.

**F-31.7.3** Any indoor use of pyrotechnics shall not be permitted in buildings or any portion thereof unless protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system.

**F-31.7.3.1** Indoor use of pyrotechnics shall be prohibited in temporary structures such as tents, canopies,

**F-31.8** Rooftop Pyrotechnics: In addition to the aforementioned code requirements, the following shall apply to rooftop pyrotechnic displays:

**F-31.8.1** Only NFPA 1126 approved pyrotechnics shall be permitted for all rooftop displays.

**F-31.8.1.1** If a rooftop display is being proposed, the pyrotechnician shall identify a debris fallout area on the submitted plan.

**F-31.8.1.2** The pyrotechnician shall provide the local Fire Code Official with an approved, written notice from the FAA acknowledging receipt of the time frame of the display, the pyrotechnic material used, and approval from the FAA representative to proceed with the event.

**F-31.8.1.3** Such an approved written notice shall be a part of the permit application submitted at least 15 working days prior to the event.

**F-31.8.1.4** Failure to provide approved, written notice from the FAA to the local Fire Code Official

shall be cause for denial to display rooftop pyrotechnics.

**F-31.8.1.5** At the discretion of the local Fire Code Official, the pyrotechnician may be required to post all, or part of the following:

**F-31.8.1.5.1** Additional insurance policy in the amount of one million dollars indemnifying the local jurisdiction.

**F-31.8.1.5.2** Post a refundable clean-up bond with the local jurisdiction holding the pyrotechnician responsible for post-event clean up from pyrotechnic debris fallout.

**F-31.8.1.5.3** If the pyrotechnician is not directly responsible for post event clean up of debris, the pyrotechnician shall furnish written proof from the party responsible for post event clean up of pyrotechnic debris.

**F-31.8.1.6** The pyrotechnician shall be held responsible for the clean up of any NFPA 1126 pyrotechnic material fallout on any structure, vehicles, and/or part thereof in the fallout area unless otherwise advised in writing, to the fire code official, as to the contracted party responsible for such cleanup.

### **F-32 — Fire Department Notification in Existing Apartment Buildings Under 75 Feet in Height**

~~**F-32.1** Fire Department Notification in accordance with section 9.6.4 of NFPA 101 of the Florida Fire Prevention Code, as referenced by section 31.3.4.3.5 of NFPA 101 of the Florida Fire Prevention Code shall not be required when approved signs are provided at each manual fire alarm box stating "Local Alarm Only In Case of Fire Call 911", and an exterior fire alarm horn/strobe device is provided in an approved location on the exterior portion of the building to assist arriving emergency units. The Authority Having Jurisdiction shall approve sign location, size, and colors. Signs shall be located and of such size, distinctive color, and design that it is readily visible and shall provide contrast with decorations, interior finish, or other signs.~~