

# **SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT**

911 North County Highway 393, Santa Rosa Beach, Florida 32459

*"Prompt, Competent, Caring Response in Time of Need"*



Ryan H. Crawford  
Fire Chief / Administrator

## **Ordinance # 2025-01**

### **Florida Fire Prevention Code Amendment Adoption**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE SOUTH WALTON FIRE DISTRICT AMENDING ORDINANCE #2015-01 CREATING THE ADOPTION OF THE FLORIDA FIRE PREVENTION CODE, ENFORCEMENT, FREQUENCY OF INSPECTIONS, COMMERCIAL OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE INSPECTION, OPERATING PROCEDURES, APPEALS, AND NON-CONFORMING USES BASED ON CHANGES TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA FIRE PREVENTION CODE AND PROVIDING FOR (1) SEVERABILITY, (2) REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES, AND (3) AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida has adopted the Florida Fire Prevention Code consisting of as described in Florida Administrative Code (FAC) 69A-60.002(3)(a), and referenced publications in FAC 69A-60.005; and,

**WHEREAS**, Florida Statute 633.208 requires the South Walton Fire District to enforce the Florida Fire Prevention Code as promulgated in Florida Administrative Code Chapter 69A-60; and,

**WHEREAS**, Florida Statute 633.216 which grants authority to the South Walton Fire District to conduct fire safety inspections of buildings and equipment; and to set fees for inspections; and,

**WHEREAS**, the South Walton Fire District needs to adopt the Florida Fire Prevention Code that was adopted by the State of Florida; and,

**WHEREAS**, the South Walton Fire District desires to add new sections concerning fire inspections conducted by the District; and,

**WHEREAS**, the District recognizes that voluntary compliance is a priority as opposed to enforcement and that all District officials will work toward this goal; and,

**WHEREAS**, the District also recognizes that they will work locally to resolve possible conflicts in the interest of furthering development and safety.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the South Walton Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners of Walton County, Florida as follows:

Page 1 of 3

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## **SECTION 1. – Fire Codes**

### **A. Adoption**

There is hereby adopted by reference by the District for the purpose of prescribing regulations governing conditions hazardous to life and property from fire, explosion, other dangerous conditions, or natural disaster within the boundaries of the District certain codes known as Florida Fire Prevention Code consisting of as described in FAC 69A-60.002(3)(a), and referenced publications in FAC 69A-60.005.

### **B. Enforcement; penalty for violation of Ordinance.**

- 1) The South Walton Fire District shall enforce the provisions of the Florida Fire Prevention Code.
- 2) Any person(s) violating the provisions of the Florida Fire Prevention Code, or this article, shall be subject to the penalties provided by Florida Statute Chapter 633, and/or Local Ordinances.

## **SECTION 2 – Fire Life/Safety Inspection Certifications**

It shall be the duty of the South Walton Fire District to conduct periodic fire safety inspections of commercial buildings, structures, premises, processes, vehicles, equipment, and/or operations for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any condition liable to cause fire or any violation of the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

## **SECTION 3 – Commercial Occupational Fire Life/Safety Inspection Certifications**

It shall be the duty of the South Walton Fire District to conduct a fire safety inspection prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Completion by the Walton County Building Official to any new business. Any violation(s) to the Florida Fire Prevention Code shall be corrected before a Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Completion is issued.

## **SECTION 4 – Operating Procedures**

It shall be the duty of the South Walton Fire District Fire Marshal to prepare an operating procedure designed to fulfill the provisions and requirements of the Florida Fire Prevention Code consisting of as described in FAC 69A-60.002(3)(a) and referenced publications in FAC 69A-60.005.

## **SECTION 5 – Appeals**

When it is claimed that the provisions of the code do not apply or that the true intent and meaning of the code have been misconstrued or wrongly interpreted, the owner of the business, or his representative, may appeal the decision in writing within thirty (30) days to the Special Magistrate through the South Walton Fire District.

## SECTION 6 – Non-conforming Structures or Uses

The adoption of the Florida Fire Prevention Code shall not operate to find or imply that existing buildings and uses including grandfathered, planning and zoning, or prior code allowances are non-conforming with respect to the Walton County Land Development Code.

## SEVERABILITY

The various parts, sections and clauses of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section, or clause is adjudged to be unconstitutional or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

## CHANGES IN STATUTES

Changes to Florida or Federal Statutes or Laws that affect the District and or this Ordinance will automatically be incorporated in the appropriate place within this Ordinance without further action or approval by the Board of Fire Commissioners.

## CONFLICTING ORDINANCES

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

## JUDICIAL CONSTRUCTION

If any provision of this section is held to be unconstitutional, preempted by federal or state law, or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of the section shall not be invalidated.

**ADOPTED** by the South Walton Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners at a regular monthly meeting of the South Walton Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners of Walton County, Florida held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2025.



Maurice Gilbert, SWFD Board Chairman

10/13/2025  
Date

ATTEST:



David Bailey, SWFD Secretary/Treasurer