

**RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE**  
Rules and Regulations Promulgated by the Board of Appeal and Review

RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 1  
DECLARATION OF POLICY

It is the policy of the State of Rhode Island to simplify, clarify and modernize the law governing fires and fire prevention, and to specify reasonable minimum requirements for fire safety. It is the statutory directive and policy of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review to adopt rules and regulations to safeguard life and property from the hazards of fire and explosives in accordance with safe practice as embodied in widely recognized standards of good practice for fire prevention and fire protection.

RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 2  
CONSOLIDATION OF STATE FIRE SAFETY CODE

The Fire Safety Code sections 1 to 15, as adopted herein, along with the provisions of R.I.G.L. chapters 23-28.1 et seq. shall be known as the state Fire Safety Code.

### RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 3

The provisions of the state Fire Safety Code sections 1 to 15 are adopted pursuant to R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-3 in an effort to supplement, clarify, and modernize the minimum requirements for fire safety in new and existing buildings and facilities as outlined in R.I.G.L. chapters 23-28.1 et seq.

RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 4  
DEFINITIONS (RESERVED)

RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 5  
FIRE SAFETY CODE BOARD OF APPEAL & REVIEW

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review is an agency within the Public Safety Division of the Executive Department. The Governor appoints all eleven (11) members with the advice and consent of the Senate. Of the members of the Board of Appeal and Review, one shall be a representative of the permanent fire chiefs, one shall be a representative of the building inspectors, one shall represent industry, one shall be a licensed professional engineer, one shall be a representative of the fire protection industry, one shall represent labor, one shall be a licensed architect, one shall be a representative of the volunteer fire chiefs, and three (3) shall be representatives of the public. The Governor also designates a chairman for a two (2) year term

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction for administration and, with the exception of RIGL chapter 23-28.4, the State Fire Marshal is the sole authority having jurisdiction for enforcement of the Fire Safety Code. The Director of Labor has exclusive jurisdiction for the enforcement of RIGL chapter 23-28.4. Accordingly, the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction to grant variances, waivers, modifications and amendments from, or to review and accept any proposed fire safety equivalencies and alternatives to, the strict adherence to the provisions of the Fire Safety Code and all referenced standards therein as previously enacted and/or adopted, herein and hereafter amended.

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review is also the authority having initial jurisdiction to hear all appeals from any action taken by the State Fire Marshal's Office in its capacity as the authority having jurisdiction for the strict enforcement of the provisions of the Fire Safety Code and all referenced standards therein as previously enacted and/or adopted, herein and hereafter amended. Finally, the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review has initial jurisdiction to hear all appeals from any action taken by the Director of Labor in the enforcement of chapter 23-28.4 of the State Fire Code.

RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 6  
ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS OF THE FIRE SAFETY CODE  
BOARD OF APPEAL & REVIEW

I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

6-1-1

Any building owner may consult with the authority having enforcement jurisdiction for advice and assistance in complying with the provisions of the state Fire Safety Code. In cases of practical difficulty, the authority having enforcement jurisdiction shall refer all requests for variations, waivers, modifications and amendments from particular provisions of the state Fire Safety Code to the Board of Appeal and Review.

6-1-2

All requests for proposed fire safety equivalencies and alternatives to strict compliance with the state Fire Safety Code shall likewise be referred to the Board of Appeal and Review.

6-1-3

Any person aggrieved by an initial interpretation of any provision of the state Fire Safety Code, by the authority having enforcement jurisdiction of that code provision, may petition Board of Appeal and Review for review of the initial interpretation.

6-1-4

The Board of Appeal and Review shall provide for reasonable interpretation of the provisions of the Fire Safety Code, and rule on appeals from decisions of the authority having enforcement jurisdiction.

6-1-5

All appeals shall be commenced by the filing of an appeal application form available at the offices of the Board of Appeal and Review and the State Fire Marshal.

6-1-6

The authority having enforcement jurisdiction shall assist the applicant by providing all code cites and documentation necessary to complete the application form.

6-1-7

When applicable, the authority having enforcement jurisdiction shall certify the total square footage of a subject facility on the application form.

6-1-8

To be considered a completed application, the application form shall be completely filled out and signed by the owner or an authorized representative. The application shall further be accompanied by a filing fee and written inspection report, plan review report, interpretation or other related documentation generated by the authority having enforcement jurisdiction.

6-1-9

Filing fees for applications involving specific existing or proposed buildings shall be set in accordance with the schedule outlined in RIGL 23-28.3-5(b) (1) & (2). Filing fees for all other appeals shall be set in accordance with the provisions of RIGL 23-28.3-5(b) (3).

6-1-10

The requirement of a written inspection report, plan review report or other related documentation may be waived by the executive director and/or the chairman, upon consultation with the authority having enforcement jurisdiction, when, in the opinion of the executive director and/or the chairman, compliance with this requirement would impose a hardship on the applicant and/or the authority having enforcement jurisdiction.

6-1-11

Any person, other than an attorney at law, who signs an application form as an authorized representative, shall provide the Board of Appeal and Review with a letter of authorization signed by the owner of the subject facility.

## II. HEARINGS AND COURT APPEALS

6-2-1

The Board of Appeal and Review shall make a good faith effort to schedule all hearings within thirty (30) days of the receipt of a completed application sent to the Board by registered mail.

6-2-2

Completed applications shall be scheduled, as far as practicable, in the order they were received by the Board of Appeal and Review. Multiple hearings from the same jurisdiction may be consolidated on a single hearing date in an effort to promote the efficient use of state and municipal resources.

6-2-3

For good cause shown, a completed application may be scheduled for an expedited hearing by the executive director, with the approval of the chairman, upon the request of the applicant and/or the authority having enforcement jurisdiction and/or a court of competent jurisdiction.

6-2-4

For the purposes of section 6-2-3, examples of good cause would be hearings which may directly or indirectly result in the issuance or denial of a building permit, a certificate of occupancy, a license, major finding, and hearings which, if delayed, would significantly interfere with a set construction schedule or a real estate closing.

6-2-5

The chairman may delegate a subcommittee of the Board of Appeal and Review to conduct a hearing and take testimony from the petitioner.

#### 6-2-6

A subcommittee shall consist of one or more Board of Appeal and Review members accompanied by the executive director and/or the legal counsel.

#### 6-2-7

A subcommittee meeting may be administrative or onsite in nature. An administrative subcommittee meeting may involve the scheduling of cases, drafting of rules and regulations and/or the day-to-day administration of the office. An onsite subcommittee meeting involves a physical tour of the subject facility with notice to both the applicant and the authority having enforcement jurisdiction. The notes of the executive director and/or the legal counsel shall serve as the record of the subcommittee meeting.

#### 6-2-8

When appropriate for an administrative subcommittee, and in each case where an onsite subcommittee is assigned, the subcommittee shall make recommendations to the Board of Appeal & Review as to their findings within ten (10) days.

#### 6-2-9

If the applicant is aggrieved by the subcommittee's recommendations, as accepted, modified and/or rejected by the decision rendered by the Board of Appeal & Review, the applicant shall have the right to petition the Board of Appeal & Review, within thirty (30) days of the mailing date of the rendered decision. The applicant shall thereupon be scheduled for hearing before the full Board of Appeal & Review.

#### 6-2-10

All full Board of Appeal & Review hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of RIGL 42-35-9 of the Administrative Procedures Act.

#### 6-2-11

Anytime after the Board hearing, but before a final decision is mailed, the Board of Appeal & Review may reopen a case at the request of either the applicant or the authority having enforcement jurisdiction, for purpose of taking additional previously unavailable testimony and/or evidence and uphold, modify and/or reverse its original decision.

#### 6-2-12

Anytime after the final decision is mailed, the Board may, at the request of either the applicant or the authority having enforcement jurisdiction, and upon review of the record of the case, correct any administrative, clerical or other mistakes in the written decision to accurately reflect the record of the case. The resulting decision shall be entitled "amended decision".

#### 6-2-13

Any building owner aggrieved by any decision, modified decision or amended decision of the Board of Appeal & Review may, within thirty (30) days after the mailing date of the decision, modified decision or amended decision, commence an action in the Sixth Division of the District Court against the State Fire Marshal for review of the decision.

6-2-14

The findings of the Board of Appeal & Review shall be conclusive unless clearly erroneous.

6-2-15

A party aggrieved by a final order of the court may seek review thereof in the Supreme Court by petition for certiorari in accordance with the procedures contained in RIGL 42-35-16.

6-2-16

Commencement of a court appeal of the Board of Appeal & Review's decision does not operate as an automatic stay of the decision. [RIGL 42-35-15(c)]

6-2-17

The decisions of the Board of Appeal & Review covering specific facilities shall be considered comprehensive, integrated plans of fire safety for the subject facilities under the current use of occupancy. Accordingly, every variance granted is conditioned upon the applicant's timely and continued compliance with all of the directives of the Board of Appeal & Review. Every variance is further conditioned upon the continued use or occupancy of the subject facility under the occupancy classification reviewed by the Board in rendering its decision.

6-2-18

Failure of the applicant to initially comply with the full decision of the Board of Appeal & Review within the stated time frame shall void all variances granted in the decision.

6-2-19

In the event of complete, timely and continued compliance with the full decision of the Board of Appeal & Review, all variances shall be deemed vested in the facility as long as the facility remains within the occupancy classification reviewed by the Board of Appeal & Review, or the General Assembly adopts new standards covering all existing occupancies.

6-2-20

In the event the use or occupancy classification of the subject facility is changed, as outlined in RIGL 23-28-1-6, all variances granted under the original use or occupancy are void and the facility shall be reviewed under the state Fire Safety Code provisions covering the newly created use or occupancy.

### III RULES AND REGULATIONS

6-3-1

The State Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review shall have the power to promulgate, amend, and repeal rules and regulations to safeguard life and property from hazards of fire and explosives, consistent with the standards outlined in RIGL 23-28.3-3 and 42-35-1 through 8.

6-3-2

There shall be established a standing subcommittee of the Board to review all proposed rules and regulations, amendments and repealers to the state Fire Safety Code.

6-3-3

The standing Rules and Regulations Subcommittee shall be chaired by the vice chairman of the Board of Appeal & Review.

6-3-4

The chairman and executive director shall be permanent members of the Rules and Regulations Subcommittee along with any additional board members appointed by the chairman.

6-3-5

The Rules and Regulations Subcommittee shall report its findings, recommendations and proposed rules to the Board of Appeal & Review.

#### IV. CODE INTERPRETATIONS BY THE BOARD

6-4-1

The Board of Appeal & Review, at the request of any party, shall provide interpretations of both the statutory provisions and the rules and regulations which comprise the state Fire Safety Code.

6-4-2

Any party requesting an interpretation shall outline the specific request, along with all supporting documentation, in a letter addressed to the chairman of the Board of Appeal & Review.

6-4-3

The chairman, upon consultation with the executive director, shall produce a draft interpretation to be presented to the full Board of Appeal & Review.

6-4-4

The full Board may adopt, amend, or reject the proposed interpretation. The final interpretation, agreed upon by the full Board, shall be issued and numbered under a separate filing system for Board Interpretations.

6-4-5

There shall be no filing fee charged for Board Interpretations.

#### V. ABATEMENT

6-5-1

The fire marshal, or his or her designee within the division, or a nonsalaried deputy state fire marshal in accordance with guidelines established by the fire marshal, has the authority to summarily abate any condition which presents immediate danger to life, which conditions shall include improper management or use of flammable and combustible materials, liquids and gasses, pyrotechnics, fireworks or explosives, malfunctioning automatic sprinklers, fire alarms and emergency lighting, malfunctioning heating and electrical systems, and blocked or inadequate exits or means of egress, and such other conditions as may be established by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review. A failure to abate a condition that presents a clear and immediate danger to life shall be grounds for the person issuing the order to abate, to require

that the premises be vacated, which action shall be either authorized by the fire marshal or a designee of the fire marshal who has been given advanced written authority by the fire marshal to approve such actions.

#### 6-5-2

Upon the request of a building owner, or other party in interest, any abatement action, taken under the provisions of section 6-5-1 above, shall be subject to review by the Board of Appeal & Review on an expedited basis at the next scheduled hearing or considered on an emergency basis by the chairman or his or her designee, with appeal to the full Board.

#### 6-5-3

The chairman, on an emergency basis, or the full board, on an expedited basis, may uphold, modify or vacate any order issued pursuant to section 6-5-1. Any such action by the chairman may be appealed to the full board. Any such action by the board may be appealed to the district court.

## RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 7

### RHODE ISLAND UNIFORM FIRE CODE OF THE RHODE ISLAND FIRE CODE

The Uniform Fire Code of the National Fire Protection Association, Inc., Standard 1 (NFPA 1), 2003 edition, with appendices, except those portions specifically reserved, deleted, altered, added to, or otherwise amended as outlined in section 7 herein, and including all of the specific amendments to Standard 1, as outlined in section 7 herein, is hereby adopted by reference as the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code. Copies of NFPA 1, 2003 edition, are available from the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy Massachusetts 02269-9101. The National Fire Protection Association's telephone number is 1-800-344-3555.

Copies of the reservations, deletions, alterations, additions and other amendments to this code, also known as the Rhode Island Fire Code Section 7, will be initially made available at the offices of the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and on the Fire Board's website at [www.fsc.state.ri.us](http://www.fsc.state.ri.us). Copies shall subsequently be available from LexisNexis/Matthew Bender & Co., 1275 Broadway, Albany, N.Y. 12204-2694. The LexisNexis telephone number is 1-800-562-1197.

The State Fire Marshal is the sole authority having jurisdiction for the strict enforcement of the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code. The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction for administration of the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code. Accordingly, the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction to grant variances, waivers, modifications and amendments from, or to review and accept any proposed fire safety equivalencies and alternatives to, the strict adherence to the provisions of the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code and all referenced standards therein.

For the purposes of uniform administration, all exceptions listed in the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code and its referenced standards, allowing for a discretionary waiver by the authority having jurisdiction, shall be referred directly to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review as outlined in Fire Safety Code section 6-1-1 et seq. The only official formal and binding interpretations of the provisions of the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code and its referenced standards are those approved and published by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review pursuant to the procedures outlined in Fire Safety Code Section 6-1-3 et seq.

All new buildings and structures, for which a building permit is issued on or after February 20, 2004, shall be subject to the provisions of the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code addressing the new occupancy.

All existing buildings and structures, and those buildings and structures for which a building permit was issued prior to February 20, 2004, shall be subject to the provisions of the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code addressing the existing occupancy.

Any existing building or structure, subject to the provisions of the Rehabilitation Building and Fire Code for existing Buildings and Structures, shall also comply with the existing occupancy provisions of the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code addressing the current or proposed occupancy.

All other fire safety requirements, along with the regulation of hazards and processes, listed in the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code, shall become effective on January 1, 2004.

All existing fire protection systems, such as sprinklers, fire alarms, emergency lighting and exit signs, installed in existing buildings, shall continue to be properly maintained.

The effective date of the occupancy sections of the “*Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code*” shall be February 20, 2004. The effective date of the remaining sections of the “*Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code*”, regulating all other hazards and processes, shall be January 1, 2004.

The provisions of NFPA 1, 2003 edition, as amended and referenced below, and incorporated herein as the “*Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code*” shall be *Code*”, shall be preceded by the acronym “RIUFC”. All of the remaining provisions of NFPA 101, 2003 edition, adopted as the “*Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code*”, but not specifically addressed below, shall likewise be identified by the acronym “RIUFC” preceding it. (Accordingly, “Chapter 1” below would be identified as “RIUFC 1”. Likewise, “Section 1.1.2” below would be identified as “RIUFC 1.1.2”.)

## **PART I ADMINISTRATIVE**

### **CHAPTER 1 ADMINISTRATION**

#### **(Amd) 1.1.2**

The title of this Code shall be the “*Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code*” and may be cited as such.

#### **(Add) 1.1.3**

The “*Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code*” is hereby adopted pursuant to R.I.G.L. sections 23-28.3.3 23-28.1-2.

#### **(Amd) 1.4.1 Equivalencies.**

Nothing in this Code is intended to prevent the use of systems, methods, or devices of equivalent or superior quality, strength, fire resistance, effectiveness, durability, and safety, as determined by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, to those prescribed in this Code, provided a request for variance is submitted to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review along with technical documentation to demonstrate equivalency and the system, method, or device is approved for the intended purpose.

**(Amd) 1.4.2 Alternatives.**

The specific requirements of this Code may be modified by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review to allow alternative arrangements that will secure nearly equivalent fire safety as practical.

**(Amd) 1.4.3 Modifications.**

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is authorized to modify any of the provisions of this Code upon application in writing by the owner, lessee, or a duly authorized representative where there are practical difficulties in the way of carrying out the provisions of the Code, provided that the intent of the Code shall be complied with, public safety secured, and substantial justice done.

**(Amd) 1.4.4**

Buildings with alternative fire protection features approved by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, shall be considered as conforming with this Code.

**(Amd) 1.4.5**

Each application for variance to allow for an alternative fire protection feature shall be filed with the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review pursuant to the provisions of the Fire Safety Code section 6-1-1 et seq. and R.I.G.L. chapter 23-28.3. Each application shall further be accompanied by such evidence, letters, statements, results of tests, or other supporting information as may be required to justify the request. The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review shall keep a record of all actions on such applications. A written comprehensive Decision shall be signed by both the Chairman or the Board member who chaired the hearing, along with the attorney on the Board's permanent staff (Executive Director or Legal Counsel) who drafted the Decision for the Board's approval. A signed Decision shall be forwarded to the Applicant, the State Fire Marshal and the local fire officials. Unless specifically noted to the contrary, the effective date of the Decision shall be the mailing date listed therein.

**(Amd) 1.4.6**

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review shall approve such alternative construction systems, materials, or methods of design when it is substantiated that the standards of this Code are at least equaled. If, in the opinion of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, the standards of this Code shall not be equaled by the alternative requested, the requested relief shall not be granted. Consideration shall be given to test or prototype installations.

**(Amd) 1.6 Enforcement.**

This Code shall be administered by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review and enforced by the State Fire Marshal.

**(Add) 1.6.1 Enforcement Jurisdiction.**

The State Fire Marshal is the sole authority having jurisdiction for the strict enforcement of the provisions of this code. The state Fire Marshal shall have authority to appoint and certify as many deputy state fire marshals and assistant deputy state fire marshals as are deemed necessary to strictly enforce the provisions of this Code. Accordingly, all deputy state fire marshals shall

be allowed to enforce this code as long as they maintain their certification in the above positions by the State Fire Marshal.

**(Amd) 1.7.1 Administration Jurisdiction.**

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction for the administration of this Code. Accordingly, the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction to grant variances, waivers, modifications and amendments from, or to review and accept any proposed fire safety equivalencies and alternatives to, the strict adherence to the provisions of this Code and all referenced standards herein. For purposes of uniform administration, all exceptions listed in this Code, and its referenced standards, allowing for a discretionary waiver by the authority having jurisdiction, shall be referred directly to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review as outlined in Fire safety Code section 6-1-1 et seq.

**(Amd) 1.7.4 Delegation of Authority.**

The State Fire Marshal may delegate to his or her Deputy State Fire Marshal, Division Chiefs, other members of the staff, and any other qualified individuals, such powers as are necessary for the proper enforcement of the Code. The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review may delegate to its appointed staff such powers as are necessary for the proper administration of this Code.

**(Amd) 1.7.5.1**

The State Fire Marshal is authorized to inspect, at all reasonable times, any building or premises for dangerous or hazardous conditions or materials as set forth in this Code and the general provisions of the Fire Safety Code. The State Fire marshal may order any person(s) to remove or remedy such dangerous or hazardous condition or material. Any person(s) failing to comply with such an order shall be in violation of the Fire Safety Code. Any person so charged with a violation of the Fire Safety Code shall have the right to appeal the order of the State Fire Marshal to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review. An appeal does not automatically stay the State Fire Marshal's order. However, the Chairman of the Board, or his designee, may, for good cause shown, stay the order of the State Fire Marshal pending review by the full Board.

**(Amd) 1.7.6. Abatement.**

The State Fire Marshal, or his or her designee within the division, or an assistant deputy state fire marshal in accordance with the guidelines established by the State Fire Marshal and with the State Fire Marshal's approval, has the authority to summarily abate any condition which presents immediate danger to life, which conditions shall include improper management or use of flammable and combustible materials, liquids and gasses, pyrotechnics, fireworks or explosives, malfunctioning heating and electrical systems, and blocked or inadequate exits or means of egress, and other such conditions as may be established by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review. A failure to abate a condition that presents a clear and immediate danger to life shall be grounds for the person issuing the order to abate, to require that the premises be vacated, which action shall be either authorized by the State Fire Marshal or a designee of the State Fire Marshal who has been given advanced written authority by the State Fire Marshal to approve such actions.

**(Add) 1.7.6.1 Appeal of Abatement.**

Any person subject to the abatement procedure as outlined in section 1.7.6, shall have the right to appeal the order of the State Fire Marshal to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review. An appeal does not automatically stay the State Fire Marshal's order. However, the Chairman of the Board, or his designee, may, for good cause shown, stay the order of the State Fire Marshal pending review by the full Board.

**(Amd) 1.10 Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.**

**(Amd) 1.10.1.1**

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review was originally created in 1966 as the Fire Safety Code Commission. The current composition of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is outlined in R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-2 and Fire Safety Code Section 5.

**(Amd) 1.10.2**

Procedures, adopted by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, addressing administrative appeals, are outlined in Fire Safety Code sections 6-1-1 through 6-1-11.

**(Amd) 1.10.3**

Procedures, adopted by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, addressing administrative hearings and court appeals, are outlined in Fire Safety Code sections 6-2-1 through 6-2-20.

**(Amd) 1.10.4**

Procedures, adopted by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, addressing the Fire Board's rule making authority, are outlined in Fire Safety Code sections 6-3-1 through 6-3-5.

**(Amd) 1.10.2**

Procedures, adopted by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, addressing code interpretation by the Fire Board, are outlined in Fire Safety Code sections 6-4-1 through 6-4-5.

**(Amd) 1.10.3.1**

Members of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, shall comply with the Rhode Island Code of Ethics as outlined in R.I.G.L. 36-14-1 et seq.

**(Amd) 1.10.3.2**

Members of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, shall not sit in judgment and vote on any case in which the member, personally, is directly interested. If the actual interest of the member is unclear, the member should abstain from voting and then request an advisory opinion from State Ethics Commission before participating in comparable cases in the future.

**(Amd) 1.10.5.1**

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review generally meets at least once each week in formal session and throughout the week in subcommittee sessions. All formal meetings are conducted pursuant to the Rhode Island Administrative Procedures Act (R.I.G.L. 42-35-1 et seq.)

and notice is provided pursuant to the Rhode Island Open Meetings Act (R.I.G.L. 42-46-1 et seq.)

**(Add) 1.10.5.1.1**

Notice is hereby provided, pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-6(a), that the formal meetings of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review are currently scheduled on Tuesday afternoons at 1:00 PM. The meetings are currently located in Conference Room “C”, on the second floor of the Department of Administration Building, One Capitol Hill, Providence, R.I. Please consult our website at [www.fsc.state.ri.us](http://www.fsc.state.ri.us) for specific information on the formal weekly hearings.

**(Amd) 1.10.6.**

Pursuant to R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-2(b), the actions on appeals shall be determined by a majority vote by members with at least five (5) members in accord on any decision.

**(Amd) 1.10.8 Procedures.**

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review’s rules, governing its procedures, are found in Section 6 of the Fire Safety Code.

**(Amd) 1.10.9.2**

An appeal shall be submitted directly to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review pursuant to the Fire Board procedures outlined in Section 6 of the Fire Safety Code and R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-5.

**(Amd) 1.11.1**

The State Fire Marshal shall maintain a properly indexed record of all variances in his or her office pursuant to R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-5(b). This record shall be open to the public for inspection.

**(Amd) 1.14.3**

The AHJ shall approve or disapprove the completed set of plans within a reasonable time, not to exceed ninety (90) days.

**(Add) 1.14.3.1 Plans Review Fees.**

Every request for plan review, by the State Fire Marshal’s office, under the provisions of the Fire Safety Code shall be accompanied by the fee prescribed in this section. Plan review fees shall be as follows:

Cost of Construction:	Required Fee:
\$500 or less.....	\$25
Over \$500 but not over \$1,000.....	\$35
Over \$1,000 but not over \$2,000.....	\$45
Over \$2000 but not over \$500,000.....	\$45+
(plus \$6.00 per \$1,000 or fraction thereof over \$2,000)	
Over \$500,000.....	\$3,033+
(plus \$4.00 per \$1,000 or fraction thereof over \$500,000)	

**(Add) 1.14.3.2**

All fees collected by the State Fire Marshal under 1.14.3.1 shall be deposited as general revenue.

**(Add) 1.14.3.3**

Plan review fees, not exceeding the amounts listed in section 1.14.3.1, may be collected by the Assistant Deputy Fire Marshals of the municipal fire departments, pursuant to municipal ordinance. All such fees shall be utilized exclusively for supporting the operations of the municipal fire prevention bureau.

**(Add) 1.14.3.4**

Applications for plan review shall be made on the forms provided by the State Fire Marshal.

**(Add) 1.14.3.5**

The application shall be accompanied by a plan review fee in accordance with either section 1.14.3.2 for state review or section 1.14.3.3 for local review (if approved by municipal ordinance).

**(Add) 1.14.3.6**

The application shall be accompanied by not less than four (4) copies of construction drawings drawn to scale with sufficient clarity and detailed dimensions to show the nature and character of the proposed work.

**(Add) 1.14.6**

When any plan review is appealed, or when any variance request relates to a current or proposed future plan review, the state or local fire marshal conducting, or ultimately responsible for, the plan review shall, upon request of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, appear before the Board and advise the Board as to the position of the applicable state or local fire marshal's office.

**CHAPTER 2  
REFERENCED PUBLICATIONS**

**(Add) 2.2.1 Additional NFPA Publications.**

National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101

NFPA 720, *Recommended Practice for the Installation of Household Carbon Monoxide (CO) Warning Equipment*, 2003 edition.

**CHAPTER 3  
DEFINITIONS**

**CHAPTER 4  
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

**CHAPTER 5  
PERFORMANCE-BASED OPTIONS**

**CHAPTER 6  
RESERVED**

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**PART II GENERAL**

**CHAPTER 10  
GENERAL FIRE SAFETY**

**CHAPTER 11  
BUILDING SERVICES**

**CHAPTER 12  
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**CHAPTER 13  
FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS**

**(Add) 13.6.7 Sales, leasing and servicing.**

The sales, leasing and servicing of portable fire extinguishers and the installation and servicing of fixed fire extinguishing systems shall be in accordance with the provisions of section 13.6.7.1 et seq. of this Code.

**(Add) 13.6.7.1 General**

**(Add) 13.6.7.1.1 Issuance Of Certificate Of Registration:**

- a. Any firm desiring to engage in the business of servicing portable fire extinguishers shall make a written application to the State Fire Marshal on forms provided by that Division. A Certificate of Registration shall be required for each separate location where there are facilities to service extinguishing equipment. The application must be signed by the sole proprietor, or each partner, or by an officer of the corporation.
- b. Any firm desiring to engage in the business of installing, repairing and servicing fixed systems shall make a written application to the State Fire Marshal on forms provided by that Division. A Certificate of registration shall be required for each separate location where there are facilities to service extinguishing equipment. The application must be signed by the sole proprietor, or each partner, or by an officer of the corporation.
- c. A firm must be the holder of both Certificates of Registration in order to service portable fire extinguishers and to engage in the business of installing, repairing and servicing fixed systems. No person(s) shall service portable fire extinguishers or install, repair and service fixed systems without first obtaining the appropriate license to do so.

**(Add) 13.6.7.1.2.**

If the State Fire Marshal finds, after reviewing the applicant's record, that the granting or renewing of a Certificate of registration would not be contrary to public safety and welfare, it shall issue or renew such Certificate of Registration authorizing the applicant to engage in the business of selling or leasing portable fire extinguishers, or selling or leasing fixed systems or both, provided the requisite fee(s) have been paid. Each Certificate of Registration shall be assigned an identifying number.

**(Add) 13.6.7.1.3**

All persons engaged in the business of servicing, installing, repairing and testing portable/fixed fire extinguisher systems shall be required to pass an examination administered by the State Fire Marshal.

**(Add) 13.6.7.1.4 Examination Of Applicants**

The examination shall test applicant's ability, knowledge and skill as may be applicable to the type of certificate being sought, as generally indicated in the listing below. These written examinations shall consist of multiple choice, fill-in, true or false or essay questions.

- a. Portable fire extinguishers: charging, recharging, altering, repairing, testing, inspection, installation and servicing.
- b. Engineered fixed fire extinguishing systems: charging, recharging, altering, repairing, testing, inspection, installation and servicing.
- c. Pr-engineered fixed fire extinguishing systems: same as "b" above.

d. Hydrostatic testing of fire extinguishers and cylinders for fixed systems: self-explanatory.

**(Add) 13.6.7.1.5**

These examinations shall be held at such places and at such times as the State Fire Marshal deems necessary, but must be within 30 days of receipt of application.

**(Add) 13.6.7.2 License/Permits**

**(Add) 13.6.7.2.1 Issuance Of License**

Upon successful completion of an examination, the State Fire Marshal shall issue a license having an identifying number to the Applicant.

**(Add) 13.6.4.2.2 Issuance Of Apprentice Permit**

Any person desiring to service portable fire extinguishers and/or fixed systems, as an apprentice, shall file an application for a permit on forms provided by the State Fire Marshal. The application must be signed by the employer who holds an appropriate certificate of registration. The prescribed fee shall be paid at time of filing.

**(Add) 13.6.7.2.3**

An Apprentice shall not service any portable fire extinguishers and/or fixed systems except under the personal and immediate supervision of a journeyman holding a valid license to install repair and/or service fixed fire extinguishing systems.

**(Add) 13.6.7.2.4**

The State Fire Marshal shall issue each Apprentice Permit an identifying number and each such permit shall be readily identifiable as an Apprentice Permit for portable fire extinguishers or fixed systems. Time served as an apprentice must be a minimum of six (6) months for fixed systems; four (4) months for portable fire extinguishers.

**(Add) 13.6.7.2.5**

An Apprentice Permit shall be valid for a period of one (1) year from date of issuance.

**(Add) 13.6.7.2.6**

An apprentice desiring to remain as same beyond the expiration date of said permit must make application for a new permit.

**(Add) 13.6.7.2.7 Issuance Of Hydrostatic Testing Approval**

Upon successful completion of a written exam, an applicant may be issued a certificate or license with "Hydrostatic Testing Approved" stamped thereon.

**(Add) 13.6.7.2.8**

Services performed after the expiration of certificates, licenses or permits issued by the State Fire Marshal shall be deemed a violation of these regulations.

**(Add) 13.6.7.2.9**

Duplicates may be issued by the State Fire Marshal to replace any valid licenses and/or permits which have been lost or destroyed. Written documentation of loss and a ten dollar (\$10.00) fee will be required.

**(Add) 13.6.7.2.10 Renewal Of Licenses Or Certificates**

All licenses or certificates must be renewed by March 1, annually.

**(Add) 13.6.7.3 Fees**

**(Add) 13.6.7.3.1**

Initial fee for certification for firms selling, leasing, or servicing portable fire extinguishers is \$100.00.

**(Add) 13.6.7.3.2**

Initial fee for certification of firms installing repairing and/or servicing fixed extinguishing systems is \$100.00.

**(Add) 13.6.7.3.3**

Renewal of certification for firms selling, leasing or servicing portable fire extinguishers is \$100.00 annually.

**(Add) 13.6.7.3.4**

Renewal of certification for firms installing, repairing and servicing fixed fire extinguishing systems is \$100.00 annually.

**(Add) 13.6.7.3.5**

Initial fee for examination and license for portable fire extinguisher journeyman is \$60.00.

**(Add) 13.6.7.3.6**

Initial fee for examination and license for fixed fire extinguishing systems journeyman is \$60.00.

**(Add) 13.6.7.3.7**

Renewal of journeyman Licenses is \$50.00 annually.

**(Add) 13.6.7.3.8**

Fee for portable fire extinguishers Apprentice Permit is \$5.00.

**(Add) 13.6.7.3.9**

Fee for fixed fire extinguishing Apprentice Permit systems is \$5.00.

**(Add) 13.6.7.4. Administrative**

**(Add) 13.6.7.4.1**

By March 1st of each year, holders of a Certificate of Registration shall report annually the name, address, license number, and Apprentice Permit number of each licensee and apprentice in their employ to the State Fire Marshal.

**(Add) 13.6.7.4.2**

The State Fire Marshal shall keep and maintain records of all licenses, apprentice permits and Certificates of Registration. Such records shall be available for review by any person desiring to review same. Records may be reviewed by appointment only.

**(Add) 13.6.7.4.3**

The licensing and registration provisions of Section 13.6.7, and its subsections, shall not apply to any firm which services only its own portable fire extinguishers for its own use by maintaining its own fire extinguisher servicing facilities adequate for the purpose and utilizing its own personnel specifically trained by the State Fire Marshal's office, for such servicing.

**(Add) 13.6.7.4.4**

When a person or firm exempt from the licensing provisions as provided under Section 13.6.7.4.3 services a portable fire extinguisher, he shall affix thereto a tag that at least states:

- a. The month and year when the service was performed.
- b. Manufacturer and serial number.
- c. The name of the person performing the services.
- d. The type of service performed.

**(Add) 13.6.7.5. Service Tags For Fixed Fire Extinguishing Systems And Portable Fire Extinguishers**

Service tags are required and shall be in conformity with the following provisions:

**(Add) 13.6.7.5.1**

Tags shall be not more than and not less than five and one-fourth inches (5 1/4") in height, and two and five-eighths inches (2 5/8") in width. Service tags shall not be red in color.

**(Add) 13.6.7.5.2**

One service tag shall be attached to each fixed extinguisher system and each portable extinguisher in such a position as to be conveniently inspected, but not to hamper the operation of the system/ extinguisher.

**(Add) 13.6.7.5.3**

Service tags may be printed or otherwise established for any number of years not in excess of five (5) years.

**(Add) 13.6.7.5.4**

Every tag attached to a system serviced by a licensed firm shall be an approved service tag conforming to these rules and regulations.

**(Add) 13.6.7.5.5**

Service tags shall bear the following information:

- a. Servicing firm's name
- b. Address of servicing firm
- c. Certificate of registration number
- d. Type of service performed
- e. Date service performed
- f. License number of individual who performed or supervised the service or services performed.
- g. Apprentice permit number when applicable
- h. Signature of licensee
- i. Owner and location of extinguisher

**(Add) 13.6.7.5.6**

All above information in Items 1 through 7 shall appear on one (1) side of the service tag. Other printing or information shall be placed on the reverse side of the tag.

**(Add) 13.6.7.5.7**

No person or persons shall remove, deface, modify or alter any valid service tag attached to or required to be attached to any fixed fire extinguisher system or portable fire extinguishers.

**(Add) 13.6.7.5.8**

The State Fire Marshal may either refuse to issue or renew, or it may suspend or revoke any Certificate of Registration, License, Apprentice Permit or Hydrostatic Testing Approval for any of the following reasons:

- a. Any violation as listed in the Enabling Act.
- b. Having obtained or having attempted to obtain a License, Apprentice Permit, Hydrostatic Testing Approval or Certificate of Registration, by fraudulent misrepresentation.
- c. Gross malpractice or gross incompetency.

d. Advertising for the sale or servicing of fixed or portable fire extinguisher system by means of knowingly false or deceptive statements.

e. Violation of any provision of these regulations.

**(Add) 13.6.7.6 Appeals**

**(Add) 13.6.7.6.1**

Any person, firm, corporation and/or co-partnership aggrieved by the decision of the State Fire Marshal to suspend, revoke or refuse to issue or renew a permit may petition the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review for a hearing pursuant to section 6-1-1 et seq. of the Fire Safety Code.

**13.7 Detection, Alarm and Communications Systems.**

**(Add) 13.7.1.1.1**

*Exception:* Existing fire alarm systems that are in full compliance with the provisions of Chapter 8<sup>1</sup> of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code<sup>2</sup> [2002 edition] at the time of the adoption of this Code shall be permitted to be continued in use, subject to the approval of the AHJ. Provided however, that the requirements of 13.8.9.1 shall apply to all places of assembly, new and existing.

**(Add) 13.7.1.1.2**

The provision of 13.8.10.9, Maintenance of the System, shall apply to all systems, new and existing.

**(Res) 13.7.1.4.9 through 13.7.4.7.6**

Sections 13.7.1.4.9 through 13.7.4.7.6 of the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code are hereby reserved pending future review by the Rules and Regulations Subcommittee of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Res) 13.8.1 through 13.8.6**

Sections 13.8.1 through 13.8.6 of the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code are hereby reserved pending future review by the Rules and Regulations Subcommittee of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Add) 13.8.7**

Fire Alarm Systems.

**(Add) 13.8.7.1**

All buildings and facilities covered under the RI Uniform Fire Code, and all codes adopted pursuant thereto, shall be equipped with an approved fire alarm system installed maintained and tested in accordance with this chapter and any updated fire alarm regulations adopted by the Fire

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<sup>1</sup> Fire Detection and Alarm Systems, as reserved and supplemented

<sup>2</sup> *NFPA 1*, 1997 edition, as reserved and supplemented

Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review. Any building, that is not a SAB/CO<sup>3</sup> place of assembly [with an occupancy of greater than one hundred fifty (150)], and is required to be equipped with a fire alarm system pursuant to the Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code, shall be so equipped on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Add) 13.8.7.2**

Whenever or wherever any fire alarm system is required for compliance with the provisions of this Code, such fire alarm system shall thereafter be continuously maintained in accordance with all applicable provisions of this Code.

**(Add) 13.8.7.3**

No provisions of this chapter shall be construed so as to permit the reduction, alteration or removal of any existing fire alarm system installed under prior codes that decreases the level of life safety in any existing protected occupancy.

**(Add) 13.8.7.4**

Equipment constructed and installed in conformity with this Code shall be listed for the purpose for which it is used. Fire alarm system components shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturers' installation instructions.

**(Add) 13.8.7.5**

All fire detection devices that receive their power from the initiating device circuit, signaling line circuit or the notification appliance circuit of a fire alarm control unit shall be listed for use with the control unit.

**(Add) 13.8.7.6**

Where installed, detection that is not required by an applicable section of this Code, whether total, partial or selective coverage, shall conform to the requirements of this Code.

**(Add) 13.8.8**

Whenever a fire alarm system in a protected building is activated, all occupants shall evacuate the building unless specifically authorized to remain in the building by the fire department official in charge of the scene. In the case of a fire alarm activation in a high-rise building, occupants shall evacuate the area(s) where the evacuation signals are sounding or as directed by the fire department official in charge of the scene. *See also chapter 10.5.*

**(Add) 13.8.8.1**

In any building in which a fire alarm system is installed, the AHJ shall have the authority to require a key access box containing all keys to the building where fire alarm protection is provided, in accordance with § 10.12.1. Such key access box shall be compatible with the access system in use in the particular jurisdiction where the building is located. In addition, a key to the fire alarm control unit shall be provided and kept in the key access box.

**(Add) 13.8.9**

Occupancies Requiring Fire Alarm Systems

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<sup>3</sup> See § 13.8.9.1.3.1

**(Add) 13.8.9.1**

Assembly

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.1**

An occupancy (1) used for a gathering of fifty (50) or more persons for deliberation, worship, entertainment, eating, drinking, amusement, awaiting transportation, or similar uses; or (2) used as a special amusement building, regardless of occupant load.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.2**

Assembly occupancies include the following:

Armories	Libraries
Assembly Halls	Mortuary Chapels
Auditoriums	Motion picture theaters
Bowling lanes	Museums
Club rooms	Passenger stations and terminals
College and university classrooms, 50 persons and over	of air, surface, underground ground, and marine public transportation facilities
Conference rooms	Places of religious worship
Courtrooms	Pool rooms
Dance halls	Recreation piers
Drinking establishments	Restaurants (50 persons and over <sup>4</sup> )
Exhibition halls	Skating rinks
Gymnasiums	Theaters

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.3**

For the purposes of § 13.8.9.1, a “Class A” place of assembly is defined as having a capacity of one thousand one (1,001) persons or more; a “Class B” place of assembly is defined as having a capacity of three hundred one (301) to one thousand (1,000) persons; and, a “Class C” place of assembly is defined as having a capacity of fifty (50) to three hundred (300) persons.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.3.1**

A “special amusement building concentrated occupancy [SAB/CO] place of assembly” shall mean a Class A, B or C place of assembly with a maximum occupancy calculated on the basis of less than fifteen square feet (15 sq. ft.) per person and for which there is either a license issued pursuant to R.I.G.L. Chapter 3-7<sup>5</sup> or there is entertainment or there are both a liquor license and entertainment.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Restaurants with a capacity of 49 or less shall be classified as mercantile.

<sup>5</sup> Alcoholic Beverages – Retail Licenses

<sup>6</sup> R.I.G.L. § 23-28.1-5(95)

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.4**

Occupancy of any room or space for assembly purposes by fewer than fifty (50) persons in a building or other occupancy and incidental to such other occupancy shall be classified as part of the other occupancy and shall be subject to the provisions applicable thereto.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.5**

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS (All Assembly Occupancies Except Theaters)

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.5.1**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1 shall be installed in all "Class C" places of assembly.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.5.2**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in all "Class A" and "Class B" places of assembly.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.5.2.1**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in all "Class A, Class B and Class C (with an occupancy of one hundred fifty (150) or greater) SAB/CO" places of assembly, by July 1, 2004<sup>7</sup>

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.5.3**

In addition to the locations prescribed in § 13.8.10 of this chapter, a manual fire alarm box shall be installed on every stage, near any fixed lighting control panel and in any projection booth.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.5.3.1**

Manual fire alarm boxes, with the approval of the AHJ, may be omitted from required exits and installed in such supervised locations as bar areas, hostess stands or other areas attended by permanent staff.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.5.4**

A combination rate of rise and one hundred thirty-five degrees (135°) to one hundred forty degrees (140°) F. fixed temperature heat detector shall be installed above all stage areas, below all accessible stage areas and in every projection booth.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.5.5**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.5.6**

Upon the activation of any fire alarm system in any SAB/CO place of assembly, the notification appliances throughout the facility shall activate and the fire alarm system shall be interconnected with the building systems so that all emergency lights or other appropriate lighting shall activate and that all other conflicting sounds and visuals shall cease. This provision shall take effect on

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<sup>7</sup> R.I.G.L. § 23-28.6-22(a)

or before February 20, 2004<sup>8</sup> where there is an existing fire alarm system and on or before July 1, 2004 for new fire alarm systems.<sup>9</sup>

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.6**

Fire Alarm System Requirements (Theaters Only)

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.6.1**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in every theater.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.6.2**

In addition to the locations prescribed in § 13.8.10 of this chapter, a manual fire alarm box shall be installed on every stage, near any fixed lighting control panel, and in every projection booth.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.6.3**

Manual fire alarm boxes, with the approval of the AHJ, may be omitted from required exits and installed in such supervised locations as the ticket booth or the refreshment stand.

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.6.4**

Notification appliances shall be installed where required by the AHJ. A complete fire alarm/voice communication system with an automatic voice evacuation message is required. The activation of the fire alarm system shall automatically interrupt all theater audio systems and automatically raise the house lights. In addition, if the theater is classified as a SAB/CO, all emergency lights or other appropriate lighting shall activate whenever the fire alarm system is activated, on or before February 20, 2004.<sup>10</sup>

**(Add) 13.8.9.1.6.5**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.2**

EDUCATIONAL

**(Add) 13.8.9.2.1**

An occupancy used for educational purposes through the twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade by six (6) or more persons for four (4) or more hours per day or more than twelve (12) hours per week.

**(Add) 13.8.9.2.2**

Educational occupancies include the following:

Academies  
Kindergartens

Nursery schools  
Schools

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<sup>8</sup> R.I.G.L. § 23-28.6-22(c)

<sup>9</sup> Board FI dated 10/7/03

<sup>10</sup> Id.

**(Add) 13.8.9.2.3**

Other occupancies associated with educational institutions shall be in accordance with the appropriate sections of this chapter. In cases where instruction is incidental to some other occupancy, the section of this chapter governing such other occupancy shall apply.

**(Add) 13.8.9.2.4**

**FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS**

**(Add) 13.8.9.2.4.1**

A total (complete) coverage fire alarm system as is defined in *NFPA 72 § 5.5.2.1 - Initiating Devices - Detector Coverage* and as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 of this chapter shall be installed in all educational occupancies.

**(Add) 13.8.9.2.4.2**

In cases where instruction is incidental to some other occupancy, the section of these regulations governing the other occupancy shall apply. Sunday schools or church schools that are not used for daily classes throughout the week shall comply with that section of this chapter dealing with places of public assembly.

**(Add) 13.8.9.2.4.3**

Notification appliances shall be in accordance with §§ 13.8.10.5.3 & 13.8.10.5.3.1.

**(Add) 13.8.9.2.4.4**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.3**

**HEALTH CARE**

**(Add) 13.8.9.3.1**

An occupancy used for purposes of medical or other treatment or care of four (4) or more persons where such occupants are mostly incapable of self-preservation due to age, physical or mental disability, or because of security measures not under the occupants' control.

**(Add) 13.8.9.3.2**

Health care occupancies include the following:

Hospitals

Nursing homes

Limited care facilities

Ambulatory health care centers

**(Add) 13.8.9.3.3**

**Fire Alarm System Requirements**

**(Add) 13.8.9.3.3.1**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in all health care facilities.

**(Add) 13.8.9.3.3.2**

Provisions for the automatic and/or manual silencing of audible notification appliances may be installed if approved in writing by the AHJ. If automatic silencing of the audible notification appliances is permitted by the AHJ, the notification appliances shall sound for at least five (5) minutes before being silenced while the visible appliances remain energized. If manual silencing of the audible notification appliances is permitted by the AHJ, it shall be key-operated, located within a locked cabinet or otherwise arranged to provide suitable protection against unauthorized use. Once notification appliances are silenced, a visual zone alarm signal shall be activated until such time as the alarm condition has been cleared. Any subsequent alarm condition shall cause the notification appliances to resound. [*NFPA 72* § 4.4.3.7].

**(Add) 13.8.9.3.3.2.1**

Chimes, bells, speakers or other distinctive notification appliances may be utilized instead of the horn/strobe type with the approval of the AHJ. In critical area such as operating rooms, intensive care units and emergency departments, the AHJ may permit elimination of audible, and in some cases visible signaling altogether.

**(Add) 13.8.9.3.3.3**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.4**

Detention and Correctional

**(Add) 13.8.9.4.1**

An occupancy used to house four (4) or more individuals under varied degrees of restraint or security where such occupants are mostly incapable of self-preservation because of security measures not under the occupants' control.

**(Add) 13.8.9.4.2**

Detention and correctional occupancies include the following:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Adult and juvenile substance abuse facilities | Adult local detention facilities       |
| Adult and juvenile work camps                 | Juvenile community residential centers |
| Adult community residential centers           | Juvenile detention facilities          |
| Adult correctional institutions               | Juvenile training schools              |

**(Add) 13.8.9.4.3**

Other uses within detention and correctional facilities, such as gymnasiums or industries, shall be in accordance with the appropriate section of this chapter.

**(Add) 13.8.9.4.4**

FIRE ALARM REQUIREMENTS

**(Add) 13.8.9.4.4.1**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in all detention and correctional facilities.

**(Add) 13.8.9.4.4.2**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.4.4.3**

Provisions for the automatic and/or manual silencing of audible notification appliances may be installed if approved in writing by the AHJ. If automatic silencing of the audible notification appliances is permitted by the AHJ, the notification appliances shall sound for at least five (5) minutes before being silenced while the visible appliances remain energized. If manual silencing of the audible notification appliances is permitted by the AHJ, it shall be key-operated, located within a locked cabinet or otherwise arranged to provide suitable protection against unauthorized use. Once notification appliances are silenced, a visual zone alarm signal shall be activated until such time as the alarm condition has been cleared. Any subsequent alarm condition shall cause the notification appliances to resound. [*NFPA 72* § 4.4.3.7]

**(Add) 13.8.9.4.4.4**

Chimes, bells, speakers or other distinctive notification appliances may be utilized instead of the horn/strobe type with the approval of the AHJ. In critical area such as cell blocks and where the occupants are not capable of self-evacuation, the AHJ may permit elimination of audible, and in some cases visible signaling altogether.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5**

RESIDENTIAL

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.1**

Residential occupancies are those occupancies in which sleeping accommodations are provided for normal residential purposes and include all buildings designed to provide sleeping accommodations. EXCEPTION: Those occupancies classified under health care or detention and correctional.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.2**

Residential occupancies shall be treated separately according to the following usage groups:

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.3**

Dormitories, Hotels & motels

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.3.1**

A dormitory is a building or a space in a building in which group sleeping accommodations are provided for more than sixteen (16) persons who are not members of the same family in one room or a series of closely associated rooms under joint occupancy and single management, with or without meals, but without individual cooking facilities.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.3.2**

A hotel or motel is a building or groups of buildings under the same management in which there are sleeping accommodations are provided for more than sixteen (16) persons and primarily used by transients for lodging with or without meals.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.3.3**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in every dormitory, hotel or motel.

**(Add)13.8.9.5.3.4**

IN ADDITION, a visual alarm signal shall be installed in guest rooms specifically designed for the handicapped. The visual alarm signal shall comply with § 13.8.10.5.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.3.5**

A combination rate of rise and one hundred thirty-five degree (135°) to one hundred forty degree (140°) F. fixed temperature heat detector shall be installed in every sleeping room.

EXCEPTION: The heat detector may be omitted from sprinklered sleeping rooms.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.3.6**

A single station AC smoke alarm with battery back-up shall be installed in every sleeping room.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.3.7**

EXCEPTION: Buildings no more than two (2) stories high where each guest room has a direct exit to the outside of the building shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1.

In ADDITION: A single station AC smoke alarm with battery back-up shall be installed in every sleeping room.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.3.8**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.3.9**

In addition, every hotel or dormitory shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with *NFPA 720*<sup>11</sup> in every guest room and every living area and sleeping room within a guest suite.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.3.10**

Any hotel or dormitory, not previously required to install such detectors, shall have the above detectors installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.4**

Apartment Buildings

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<sup>11</sup> NFPA 720, *Recommended Practice for the Installation of Household Carbon Monoxide (CO) Warning Equipment*, 2003 Edition

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.4.1**

A building containing four (4) or more dwelling units with independent cooking and bathroom facilities.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.4.1.1**

For three (3) family apartment buildings, see § 13.8.9.5.6.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.4.1.2**

Townhouse units are considered to be an apartment building if there are four or more units in the building. EXCEPTION: Should the units be separated by walls of sufficient fire resistance and structural integrity to be considered as separate buildings<sup>12</sup>, then only the requirements of §§ 13.8.9.5.6.2 through 13.8.9.5.6.4 shall apply. [RILSC<sup>13</sup> § A-3.3.27.3]

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.4.2**

Every apartment building shall have a fire alarm system installed as follows:

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.4.2.1**

Buildings containing more than three (3) and less than eight (8) dwelling units shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.4.2.2**

Buildings containing eight (8) or more dwelling units shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.4.2.3**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.4.3**

IN ADDITION: All dwelling units in new apartment buildings shall have smoke detection systems as described in *NFPA 72* § 11.5.3 and all dwelling units in existing apartment buildings shall have smoke detection systems as described in *NFPA 72* § 11.5.4 — *Single- and Multiple-Station Alarms and Household Fire Alarm Systems*.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.4.4**

In addition, every apartment building shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with *NFPA 720*.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.4.5**

Any apartment building, not previously required to install such detectors, shall have the above detectors installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.5**

Lodging or Rooming Houses

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<sup>12</sup> See RILSC §§ 30.3.4.1.2 & 31.3.4.1.2

<sup>13</sup> RI Fire Safety Code Section 8, RI Life Safety Code

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.5.1**

A building or portion thereof that does not qualify as a one-, two- or three-family dwelling, that provides sleeping accommodations for a total of sixteen (16) or fewer people on a transient or permanent basis, without personal care services, with or without meals, but without separate cooking facilities for individual occupants.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.5.2**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1 shall be installed in every lodging or rooming house.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.5.3**

IN ADDITION: A single station AC smoke alarm with battery back-up shall be installed in every sleeping room.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.5.4**

In addition, every lodging or rooming house shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with *NFPA 720*.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.5.5**

Any lodging or rooming house, not previously required to install such detectors, shall have the above detectors installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.6**

One-, Two- and Three Family Dwellings

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.6.1**

One-, two- and three-family dwellings include buildings containing not more than three dwelling units in which each dwelling unit is occupied by members of a single family with not more than three (3) outsiders, if any, accommodated in rented rooms.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.6.1.1**

A three family apartment building is a building or portion thereof containing three dwelling units with independent cooking and bathroom facilities.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.6.2**

A fire and carbon monoxide detection system as prescribed in RILSC Chapters 24 & 25 and *NFPA 720* shall be installed in all one-, two- and three-family dwellings and all three family apartment buildings.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.6.3**

In addition, an interconnected smoke detector(s) shall be installed in all integral or attached garages in dwelling units permitted or constructed after February 20, 2004.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.6.3.1**

EXCEPTION: Rate of rise heat detectors, fixed temperature heat detectors or other type detectors listed for these applications may be installed in situations where physical, environmental or other conditions would render smoke detectors impractical.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.6.4**

Further, interconnected hard-wired or supervised interconnected UL ® listed wireless smoke and carbon monoxide [CO] detectors shall be installed in all three (3) family dwellings and three (3) family apartment buildings on or before July 1, 2008.<sup>14</sup>

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.7**

Residential Boarding and Care Facilities

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.7.1**

A building or portion thereof that is used for lodging and boarding of four (4) or more residents, not related by blood or marriage to the owners or operators, for the purpose of providing personal care services.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.7.2**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1 shall be installed in every board and care facility housing less than seventeen (17) occupants.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.7.3**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in every board and care facility housing seventeen (17) or more occupants.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.7.4**

IN ADDITION, a visual alarm signal shall be installed in guest rooms specifically designed for the handicapped. The visual alarm signal shall comply with § 13.8.10.5.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.7.5**

A combination rate of rise and one hundred thirty-five degree (135°) to one hundred forty degree (140°) F. fixed temperature heat detector shall be installed in every sleeping room.  
EXCEPTION: The heat detector may be omitted from sprinklered sleeping rooms.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.7.6**

A single station AC smoke alarm with battery back-up shall be installed in every sleeping room.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.7.7**

EXCEPTION: Buildings no more than two (2) stories high where each guest room has a direct exit to the outside of the building shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1.  
IN ADDITION: A single station AC smoke alarm with battery back-up shall be installed in every sleeping room.

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<sup>14</sup> R.I.G.L. § 23-28.1-2(b)(2)

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.7.8**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.7.9**

In addition, every residential board and care facility shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with *NFPA 720*.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.7.10**

Any residential board and care facility, not previously required to install such detectors, shall have the above detectors installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.8**

Emergency Shelter Occupancies

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.8.1**

An occupancy or portion thereof used on a temporary basis to provide sleeping accommodations for transient individuals who have no other shelter arrangements during periods of severe life-threatening weather.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.8.2**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1 shall be installed in every emergency shelter occupancy housing sixteen (16) or fewer residents.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.8.2**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in every emergency shelter occupancy housing more than sixteen (16) residents.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.8.3**

A combination rate of rise and one hundred thirty-five degree (135°) to one hundred forty degree (140°) F. fixed temperature heat detector shall be installed in every sleeping room.

EXCEPTION: The heat detector may be omitted from sprinklered sleeping rooms.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.8.4**

A single station AC smoke alarm with battery back-up shall be installed in every sleeping room.

**(Add) 13.8.9.5.8.5**

In addition, every emergency shelter occupancy shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with *NFPA 720*.

**(Add) 13.8.9.6**

MERCANTILE

**(Add) 13.8.9.6.1**

An occupancy used for the display and sale of merchandise.

**(Add) 13.8.9.6.2**

Mercantile occupancies include the following:

Auction rooms	Shopping centers
Department stores	Supermarkets
Drugstores	Restaurants (< 50 occupants)

**(Add) 13.8.9.6.3**

**FIRE ALARM REQUIREMENTS**

**(Add) 13.8.9.6.3.1**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1 shall be installed in all mercantile buildings having more than six hundred square feet (600 sq. ft.), or more than one story above grade, or having commercial cooking facilities.

**(Add) 13.8.9.6.3.2**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in every mercantile building having a total floor area of more than ten thousand square feet (10,000 sq. ft.) on any one floor or extending three (3) stories or more above grade level.

**(Add) 13.8.9.6.3.3**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.7**

**BUSINESS**

**(Add) 13.8.9.7.1**

An occupancy used for account and record keeping or the transaction of business other than mercantile.

**(Add) 13.8.9.7.2**

Business occupancies include the following:

Air traffic control towers (ATCTs)	Courthouses
City/Town Halls	Dentist's offices
College and university instructional buildings, classrooms under 50 persons and instructional laboratories	Doctor's offices
	General offices
	Outpatient clinics, ambulatory

**(Add) 13.8.9.7.3**

**FIRE ALARM REQUIREMENTS**

**(Add) 13.8.9.7.3.1**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1 shall be installed in all business buildings having more than one thousand square feet (1,000 sq. ft.), or more than one story above grade, or having commercial cooking facilities.

**(Add) 13.8.9.7.3.2**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in every business building having a total floor area of more than ten thousand square feet (10,000 sq. ft.) on any one floor or extending three (3) stories or more above grade level.

**(Add) 13.8.9.7.3.3**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.8**

**INDUSTRIAL**

**(Add) 13.8.9.8.1**

An occupancy in which products are manufactured or in which processing, assembling, mixing, packaging, finishing, decorating, or repair operations are conducted.

**(Add) 13.8.9.8.2**

Industrial occupancies include the following:

Dry cleaning plants	Laundries
Factories of all kinds	Power plants
Food Processing plants	Pumping stations
Gas plants	Refineries
Hangars (for servicing or maintenance)	Sawmills
	Telephone exchange facilities

**(Add) 13.8.9.8.3**

**FIRE ALARM REQUIREMENTS**

**(Add) 13.8.9.8.3.1**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1 shall be installed in all industrial buildings having more than two thousand five hundred square feet (2,500 sq. ft.), or more than one story above grade, or having commercial cooking facilities.

**(Add) 13.8.9.8.3.2**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in every industrial building having a total floor area of more than ten thousand square feet (10,000 sq. ft.) on any one floor or extending three (3) stories or more above grade level.

**(Add) 13.8.9.8.3.3**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.9**  
STORAGE

**(Add) 13.8.9.9.1**

An occupancy used primarily for the storage or sheltering of goods, merchandise, products, vehicles or animals.

**(Add) 13.8.9.9.2**

Storage occupancies include the following:

Barns	Hangars (for storage only)
Bulk oil storage	Parking structures
Cold storage	Stables
Freight terminals	Truck and marine terminals
Grain elevators	Warehouses

**(Add) 13.8.9.9.3**

**FIRE ALARM REQUIREMENTS**

**(Add) 13.8.9.9.3.1**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1 shall be installed in all storage buildings having more than two thousand square feet (2,000 sq. ft.), or more than one story above grade, or having commercial cooking facilities.

**(Add) 13.8.9.9.3.2**

A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 shall be installed in every storage building having a total floor area of more than ten thousand square feet (10,000 sq. ft.) on any one floor or extending three (3) stories or more above grade level.

**(Add) 13.8.9.9.3.3**

Buildings classified as high rise shall have a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.3.

**(Add) 13.8.9.9.3.4**

EXCEPTION: Fire alarm systems shall not be required in non-combustible storage buildings with contents classified as low hazard.

**(Add) 13.8.9.10**

**DAY CARE**

**(Add) 13.8.9.10.1**

An occupancy in which four (4) or more clients receive care, maintenance and supervision by other than their relatives or legal guardians, for less than twenty-four (24) hours per day.

**(Add) 13.8.9.10.2**

Day care occupancies include the following:

Child day-care occupancies  
Adult day-care occupancies,  
    Except where part of a  
    health care occupancy  
Day-care homes (4 to 12 clients)

Kindergarten classes  
that are incidental to a child  
day-care occupancy

**(Add) 13.8.9.10.3**

In cases where care is incidental to some other occupancy, the section of this chapter governing such other occupancy shall apply.

**(Add) 13.8.9.10.4**

**FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS**

**(Add) 13.8.9.10.4.1**

A total (complete) coverage fire alarm system as defined in *NFPA 72* § 5.5.2.1 — *Initiating Devices – Detector Coverage* and as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2 of this chapter shall be installed in all day care occupancies.

**(Add) 13.8.9.10.4.2**

EXCEPTION: A fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1 shall be installed in all day care occupancies used for the gathering of nineteen (19) or less clients and under three thousand square feet (3,000 sq. ft.) and located on a ground floor.

**(Add) 13.8.9.10.4.3**

In addition, every child day care occupancy shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with *NFPA 720*.

**(Add) 13.8.9.10.4.4**

Any child day care occupancy, not previously required to install such detectors, shall have the above detectors installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Add) 13.8.9.11**

**Mixed Occupancies**

**(Add) 13.8.9.11.1**

When two or more classes of occupancy occur in the same building or structure and are intermingled so that separate safeguards are impractical, means of egress facilities, construction, protection and other safeguards shall comply with the most restrictive life safety requirements of the occupancies involved.

**(Add) 13.8.9.11.1.2**

EXCEPTION: An occupancy incidental to operations in another occupancy shall be permitted to be considered as part of the predominant occupancy and shall be subject to the provisions of this chapter that apply to the predominant occupancy.

**(Add) 13.8.9.12**  
HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS

**(Add) 13.8.9.12.1**

In a building where a fire alarm system is exempted due to the minimum square footage provisions of §§ 13.8.9.6.3.1, 13.8.9.7.3.1, 13.8.9.8.3.1 or 13.8.9.9.3.1 or by § 13.8.9.9.3.4, a fire alarm system as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.1 may be required by the AHJ where it is proven that life safety of the occupants is compromised due to the proximity of exposures, limitations to fire department vehicle access or other such hazardous conditions. See also § 13.1.11.

**(Add) 13.8.10**  
ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

**(Add) 13.8.10.1**  
APPLICABILITY

**(Add) 13.8.10.1.1**

This chapter shall apply to all existing and new buildings and to all buildings with an existing fire alarm system where there is a change of use or occupancy to one that will require a new fire alarm system.

**(Add) 13.8.10.1.2**  
Existing buildings shall be in compliance with section 13.7.

**(Add) 13.8.10.2**  
Authority Having Jurisdiction

**(Add) 13.8.10.2.1**

The authority having jurisdiction [AHJ], for the purpose of this chapter only, shall be the state fire marshal or his or her designee and those chiefs of fire departments, superintendents of fire alarms, or directors of communication certified by the state fire marshal as prescribed by R.I.G.L. § 23-28.2-6.

**(Add)13.8.10.3**  
APPROVAL

**(Add) 13.8.10.3.1**

Before installation or alteration of any fire alarm system required by this chapter commences and regardless of what any other authority may require, construction documents and drawings showing complete system design details, inclusive of, but not limited to, a description of system operations and a description of the components of the system and their location within the protected building shall be submitted in writing to the AHJ and shall fully comply with the contents of this chapter.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4**  
Types of Systems

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.1**

Local Systems

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.1.1**

A connection to a municipal fire alarm system is not required for this type of system. A local system, for the purpose of this chapter is defined as consisting of a power limited fire alarm control unit listed by the UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES [hereinafter UL] or approved by FM GLOBAL [hereinafter FMG]; manual fire alarm boxes marked "Local Alarm Not Connected To Fire Dept." located within five (5) feet of each required means of egress on each floor; at least one automatic fixed temperature heat detector with a rating of one hundred ninety degree (190°) to two hundred degree (200°) F. installed in kitchens, boiler rooms, and accessible attics; at least one combination rate of rise and one hundred thirty-five degree (135°) to one hundred forty degree (140°) F. fixed temperature heat detectors in all utility, mechanical, storage, and maintenance rooms, all integral or attached garages and all elevator shafts; and smoke detectors in all common corridors, stairwells at each floor, all elevator machine rooms and all elevator landings. Combination rate of rise and one hundred thirty-five degree (135°) to one hundred forty degree (140°) F. fixed temperature heat detectors shall be installed in spaces of twenty-four inches (24") or more above suspended ceilings and in accordance with *NFPA 72 — Initiating Devices*, and shall be on a separate zone from the area below the ceiling. Additional detectors shall be required in areas proven essential to life safety by the AHJ. A minimum of twenty-four (24) hours of battery standby power is required for a local system. Class "B" wiring using an end of line resistor installed on terminal strips in the fire alarm control unit for both initiating and notification appliance circuits shall be used for all local systems. Class "A" wiring shall be required if the fire alarm control unit is so configured. All detectors, notification appliances and manual fire alarm boxes shall be mounted on approved junction boxes. Installation of this system shall be in compliance with *NFPA 72* and §§ 13.8.10.5 and 13.8.10.6 of this chapter. The activation of any manual fire alarm box or the automatic activation of any detector or suppression system switch shall activate all notification appliances, de-energize all door holders, and initiate elevator recall. Audible and visible notification appliances shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of *NFPA 72 — Notification Appliances for Fire Alarm Systems*.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.1.1.1**

In addition, a weatherproof horn/strobe shall be installed on the exterior of each building at a location approved by the AHJ.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.1.2**

EXCEPTION: A municipally connected fire alarm system meeting the requirements of § 13.8.10.4.2 may be installed at the option of the building owner.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.2**

Municipally Connected Systems.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.2.1**

Municipally connected systems shall comply with § 13.8.10.7 of this chapter. A municipally connected system for the purpose of this chapter is defined as a system consisting of a power limited fire alarm control unit listed by UL or approved by FMG, where the manual activation of any fire alarm box or the automatic activation of any heat detector, smoke detector, sprinkler flow switch, other extinguishing system switch or standpipe flow switch shall activate all notification appliances within the building, de-energize door holders causing all fire/smoke doors that are allowed to be held open in the entire building to close, summon the local fire department, shut down any applicable heating, ventilating and air conditioning [HVAC] systems and initiate elevator recall. Operating power failure, low battery voltage, an open or grounded wire in any of the initiating device circuits [IDC], signaling line circuits [SLC], notification appliance circuits [NAC], the circuit to the municipal master box or transmitter, or the leased line to the remote station shall activate audible and visual trouble signals on the system control unit and annunciator, that cannot be reset until the circuits are restored to normal. All circuits and components of a fire alarm system shall be monitored for integrity as required by *NFPA 72 — Fundamentals of Fire Alarm Systems*. The audible trouble signal may be silenced with the trouble signal silencing switch but the lamp shall not be extinguished until the circuits are normal. Restoring the circuits to normal after the silencing switch has been operated shall cause the lamp to extinguish and the audible signal to resound until the silencing switch is restored to normal. In the event of a commercial power outage, the entire system shall immediately transfer to a standby battery source of power and be capable of supplying the entire system for sixty (60) hours. All initiating device circuits [IDC], signaling line circuits [SLC], and notification appliance circuits [NAC] shall be wired in a Class “A” fashion as defined in *NFPA 72 — Protected Premises Fire Alarm Systems*.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.2.2**

Combination rate of rise and one hundred thirty-five degree (135°) to one hundred forty degree (140°) F. fixed temperature heat detectors shall be located in all general storage rooms, all utility, electrical, and mechanical equipment rooms, all janitor closets, trash collection rooms, maintenance shops, locker rooms, classrooms, projection booths, above stage areas, below any accessible stage areas, all integral or attached garages and all elevator shafts. Combination rate of rise and one hundred thirty-five degree (135°) to one hundred forty degree (140°) F. fixed temperature heat detectors shall be installed in spaces of twenty-four inches (24") or more above suspended ceilings and installed in accordance with *NFPA 72 — Initiating Devices*, and shall be on a separate zone from the area below the ceiling.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.2.2.1**

EXCEPTION: Rate anticipation detectors, beam detectors or other type detectors listed for these applications may be installed in situations where physical, environmental or other conditions would render other detectors impractical.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.2.3**

Automatic fixed temperature heat detectors with a rating of one hundred ninety degrees (190°) to two hundred degrees (200°) F. shall be installed in all boiler rooms, accessible attics, and kitchens or where permanent cooking or heating equipment is located.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.2.3.1**

EXCEPTION: Kitchens adjacent to all sleeping rooms separated by any wall shall be protected by a combination rate of rise and one hundred thirty-five degrees (135°) to one hundred forty degrees (140°) F. fixed temperature heat detector in lieu of a fixed temperature heat detector.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.2.4**

Smoke detectors shall be installed in all common corridors, in stairwells at each floor level, in all elevator machine rooms and all elevator landings.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.2.5**

Manual fire alarms boxes shall be distributed throughout the protected building so that they are conspicuous, unobstructed and readily accessible. Manual fire alarm boxes shall be located within five feet (5') of each required means of egress on each floor. Manual fire alarm boxes shall be mounted on both sides of grouped openings over forty feet (40') in width, and within five feet (5') of each side of the opening. These boxes shall not be marked "local". [NFPA 72 § 5.12.7]

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.2.5.1**

Additional boxes shall be provided on each floor or in each fire area to obtain a maximum horizontal travel distance of two hundred feet (200') to the nearest box unless otherwise specified in occupancy sections of this code. [NFPA 72 § 5.12.8]

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.2.6**

Additional detectors shall be required in areas proven essential to life safety by the AHJ, and shall be in compliance with §§ 13.8.10.5 and 13.8.10.6.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3**

*High Rise Systems*

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.1**

A high rise building is defined as a building more than seventy-five feet (75') in height measured from the lowest level of fire department vehicle access to the highest occupiable story. An occupiable story is a story occupied by people on a regular basis. Stories used exclusively for mechanical equipment rooms, elevator penthouses and similar spaces are not occupiable stories.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.2**

A high rise system for the purpose of this chapter is defined as a municipally connected fire alarm system consisting of a power limited fire alarm control unit listed by UL and/or approved by FMG, with voice communication and a two-way fire department communication system. All circuits for a high rise fire alarm system shall be installed in a Class "A" fashion as described in NFPA 72. Fire Alarm/Voice Communication Systems shall be provided in all high rise buildings regardless of the occupancy and shall operate as follows:

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.3**

The operation of any manual fire alarm box or the automatic activation of any heat detector, smoke detector, sprinkler flow switch, standpipe flow switch or other extinguishing system switch shall:

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.3.1**

Automatically sound a distinctive audible signal and activate the visible notification appliances on the floor where the alarm originated, one floor above and one floor below the floor where the alarm originated;

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.3.2**

Automatically notify the local fire department;

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.3.3**

Visually indicate the location of the origin of the alarm at the fire command center within the building;

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.3.4**

Interlock with the heating, ventilating and air conditioning [HVAC] control systems to provide for automatic fan shut-down as required in § 13.8.10.5.10;

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.3.5**

Interlock with all stairwell pressurization, smoke exhaust and smoke control systems to control HVAC operations as required in § 13.8.10.5.10. Stairwell pressurization, smoke exhaust and smoke control systems shall not be activated by the activation of manual fire alarm boxes;

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.3.6**

Interlock with all elevators to provide elevator recall in accordance with *NFPA 72* § 6.15.3; and,

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.3.7**

De-energize door holders causing all fire/smoke doors which are allowed to be held open in the entire building to close.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.4**

All high rise fire alarm and voice communication system equipment shall comply with all applicable UL and FMG Standards. All Fire Alarm/Voice Communication Systems shall also be provided with standby amplifiers equal to the amount of amplification required for the complete system operation. A fire command center shall be provided at the main level of access to the building at a location approved by the AHJ. This fire command center shall include, but is not limited to, fire alarm and fire detection system control unit; voice communication system control units; emergency firefighter's telephone systems; status indicators and controls for air handling systems; status indicators and controls for elevators; and other systems as may be required. Means shall be provided at the fire command center to selectively manually operate the audible notification appliances on any floor. A microphone and suitable switches shall be provided at the fire command center to selectively transmit voice communications to all public areas on every floor or fire area or groups of floors or fire areas. Voice communications shall override the

alarm signal. Means shall be provided at the fire command center to operate any exit or stairway door unlocking system. Two-way telephonic communication system shall be provided between the fire command center, every stairway floor landing, and each elevator lobby on every floor. In addition, a two-way fire emergency telephone shall be provided in every elevator car. Firefighters' two-way telephone system shall be individually zoned and supervised by floors and shall be selectable individually by floor or up to five (5) telephones in a group at the command center. This system shall be wired in a separate metallic raceway system from the fire alarm system wiring and shall meet the survivability requirements for fire alarm voice/communication circuits as required by *NFPA 72*. An individual telephone instrument shall be permanently installed at each telephone location and mounted in a lockable, red enclosure. Individual telephone annunciation shall be by telephone cradle switch. Speaker and telephone circuits shall also be supervised for short circuits. Manual fire alarm boxes shall be located at every stairwell on every floor and as indicated in § 13.8.10.4.2.5. Combination rate of rise and fixed temperature heat detectors rated at one hundred thirty-five degrees (135°) to one hundred forty degrees (140°) F. shall be located in accordance with § 13.8.10.4.2.2. Automatic one hundred ninety degrees (190°) to two hundred degrees (200°) F. fixed temperature heat detectors shall be installed in accordance with § 13.8.10.4.2.3. Smoke detectors shall be installed as required in all common corridors, all elevator machine rooms, all elevator landings, and on the first floor, every third floor thereafter and at the top of every stairwell. Stairwell smoke detector activation shall not cause an evacuation signal to be sounded however automatic notification of the fire department shall occur. Where there is a constantly attended location within the building, an alarm signal shall be transmitted to this location whenever a stairwell smoke detector is activated. Speakers shall be provided so as to be effectively heard above all other sounds by all occupants in every occupied space on each floor or fire area. Audibility levels and voice intelligibility levels shall be as required by *NFPA 72*. All circuitry to all manual fire alarm boxes, automatic heat detectors, and smoke detectors, sprinkler or standpipe flow switches, all fire communication speakers, and firefighter's and emergency telephones shall be supervised. An open or ground in any of this circuitry or a failure of any essential part of the amplifier shall activate audible and visual trouble signals at the fire command center. Standby power shall be provided as prescribed in § 13.8.10.4.2.1.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.3.5**

EXCEPTION: A radio repeater system compatible with the local fire department's equipment may be installed instead of a two-way telephonic communication system with the written approval of the AHJ. Any equipment installed pursuant to this section shall have its operating and/or annunciation controls located at the fire command center. Standby power shall be provided for this system capable of maintaining complete operation for sixty (60) hours.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.4**

Multiplex Systems, Addressable, Addressable-Analog Systems

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.4.1**

Active polling multiplex systems, addressable and addressable analog systems shall be permitted. Microprocessor, software or wiring failures shall indicate a trouble condition specific to the failure. Multiplexing of analog and digital signals shall be provided between the Central Processing Unit [CPU] and circuit interfaces. Transponders, Data Gathering Panels, Nodes, etc.

shall communicate with the Central Processing Unit [CPU] via a Class “A”, Style 7 Signaling Line Circuits [SLC] meeting the requirements for survivability as described in *NFPA 72*. The Signaling Line Circuit for all other devices shall be wired Class “A”. [Style 6, *NFPA 72*]. Signaling Line Circuits shall be protected from wire to wire short circuit faults by the use of fault isolation modules. Fault isolation modules shall be installed on all SLCs to prevent a wire to wire short circuit fault from disabling more than twenty-five (25) devices on the circuit. In no case shall the length of and area disabled by a wire to wire short circuit fault exceed two hundred feet (200’) in any one direction. When a common SLC serves more than one floor of a building, fault isolation modules shall be installed to prevent a wire to wire short circuit fault on one floor from disabling the SLC on any other floor. All wiring shall be as required by the manufacturer following the color code requirements of § 13.8.10.6, and, a minimum of #16 gauge wire. All remote data gathering panels, remote fire alarm control units and devices shall derive their power from the CPU or from self-contained power supplies; the power supply shall be subject to the same primary and secondary power requirements as the main fire alarm control unit. The CPU, remote interface panels, modules, and the system devices shall be UL listed or FMG approved and cross-listed for compatibility as a system by the fire alarm control unit manufacturer. Devices using self-contained addressable modules (i.e. smoke detectors, manual fire alarm boxes, etc.) shall be UL listed or FMG approved for the desired application and shall meet all requirements of this code for such devices. Removal of any such device shall cause a trouble signal specific to the affected device and shall not affect the operation of other devices on the circuit. Devices monitored or controlled by an addressable module separate from the device shall have the location of the addressable module plainly displayed at the CPU. All addressable or addressable-analog fire alarm control units shall be programmed such that when an alarm is silenced or acknowledged, the municipal connection shall be restorable.

**(Add) 13.8.10.4.4.2**

The time delay between the activation of any initiating device and the automatic activation of local safety devices, alarm notification appliances and/or emergency voice communications and annunciation shall not exceed ten (10) seconds [*NFPA 72* § 6.8.1.1].

**(Add) 13.8.10.5**  
**EQUIPMENT**

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.1**

All components of the fire alarm system including, but not limited to, the control equipment, the battery(s) and charger, the annunciator, the manual fire alarm boxes, the automatic heat detectors, the smoke detectors, the sprinkler flow switches, the extinguishing system switches, the door holders, and the alarm notification appliances shall be listed by UL or approved by FMG.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.2**

Manual fire alarm boxes shall be approved for the particular application and shall be used only for alarm signaling or emergency evacuation purposes, shall be double action, color red, key locked and shall be keyed the same as the fire alarm control unit door lock. The height of the manual fire alarm boxes shall be forty-eight inches (48") measured vertically, from the finished floor level to the activating handle or lever of the fire alarm box.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.2.1**

EXCEPTION: Key-operated manual fire alarm boxes, lockable enclosures, break-glass enclosures or other tamper-resistant devices may be installed in place of or in addition to standard manual fire alarm boxes in areas deemed prone to false alarms subject to the written approval of the AHJ.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.3**

Alarm notification appliances shall be the combination horn/strobe type, or if the horn is mounted separately, there shall be a flashing strobe located nearby. The horn and strobe distribution and installation shall be in accordance with *NFPA 72 — Notification Appliances for Fire Alarm Systems*. This strobe shall be distinctively marked "FIRE". Notification appliances shall be used for no other purpose and shall be of such character and so located as to be effectively heard above all other sounds by all occupants in every occupied space in the building. Where specified in occupancy sections of this code, bells or chimes may, with the approval of the AHJ, be used in lieu of horns providing that they are distinct from any other signal in the building. Approved speaker systems used for evacuation shall be at the same audio level for both speech information and alarm evacuation. Both speech information and alarm evacuation audible levels must be high enough to be heard above ambient room noises throughout the building. In bedroom areas alarm sounding levels must be at least fifteen (15) dbA above average ambient room noise levels or seventy (70) dbA, whichever is greater, measured at the pillow level. Mini horns (or speakers, if applicable) shall be installed in all sleeping areas.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.3.1**

All notification appliances installed after February 20, 2004 and used for building evacuation shall be of the distinctive three-pulse temporal fire alarm evacuation signal. EXCEPTION: This evacuation signal shall not be used where, with the approval of the AHJ, the planned action during a fire emergency is not evacuation, but rather is the relocation of occupants or their protection in place as directed by the building fire protection plan or as directed by the fire fighting personnel. *NFPA 72* §§ 4.4.3.6 & 6.8.6.4.1.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.3.2**

Wall-mounted notification appliances shall be mounted such that the entire strobe lens is not less than eighty inches (80") and not greater than ninety-six inches (96") above the finished floor. Ceiling-mounted appliances shall be permitted provided that they are listed for that application.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.3.3**

The light source color shall be clear or nominal white and shall not exceed one thousand (1,000) cd (effective intensity).

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.4**

Heat detector and smoke detector spacing shall not exceed the linear maximum indicated for that particular device by an UL or FMG approved testing laboratory except as allowed by *NFPA 72*. In locations where heat detectors and/or smoke detectors are required, the type and/or temperature rating of the heat detector or smoke detector may be modified by the AHJ if, in the authority's judgment, the type or temperature setting of the unit is unsuitable due to

environmental or structural conditions unique to that location. Areas in buildings having an approved system of automatic sprinklers shall be exempt from the requirements of heat detectors.<sup>15</sup> This exemption shall not apply to smoke detectors.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.4.1**

Where subject to mechanical damage, an initiating device shall be protected. A mechanical guard used to protect a smoke or heat detector shall be listed for use with the detector.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.4.2**

Unless tested and listed for recessed mounting, detectors shall not be recessed into the mounting surface.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.5**

Waterflow switches shall be provided on all sprinkler systems and standpipes installed in all buildings required by this code to have a fire alarm system. The flow switch shall activate the fire alarm system within ninety (90) seconds if any one sprinkler head activates or any standpipe is opened in accordance with *NFPA 72* § 5.10.2. All flow switches shall have a retard feature to prevent false alarms due to a water surge. A flow switch shall be installed in the main riser so that any flow of water in the system will activate this device. This flow switch shall be on a separate zone and will be designated “sprinkler water flow” or “sprinkler/standpipe water flow”. Flow alarm switches on sprinkler systems and wet standpipe systems shall be installed so that they cannot be disconnected from the fire alarm system by the operation of a shutoff valve. Sprinklers systems shall be zoned hydraulically as per fire alarm zones with an additional flow switch connected to each fire alarm zone. An inspector’s test valve shall be installed at the end of each sprinkler zone, at the furthest point away from the riser. Any alarm originating from a sprinkler head or a standpipe connection shall provide two (2) separate indications on the system annunciator, one to indicate “sprinkler/standpipe” and one to indicate the activated zone. All standpipe connections on each floor shall be wired with flow switches. The flow switches shall alarm the zone where the standpipe connection is located.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.5.1**

Exception: Multiplex, addressable, addressable-analog fire alarm systems shall indicate the zone using the square footage of each floor protected by the automatic sprinkler zone as allowed in *NFPA 13* — 2003 edition.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.6**

Valves on connections to water supplies, sectional control and isolation valves, and other valves in supply pipes to sprinklers and other fixed water-based fire suppression systems shall be supervised by tamper switches. The tamper switch shall activate the fire alarm system sprinkler supervisory zone signal any time the valve is in an “off-normal” condition and the water supply is shut off or interrupted in accordance with *NFPA 13* and *NFPA 72* § 6.8.5.7.

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<sup>15</sup> Board BV dated 10/7/03 provides that when a future required sprinkler system is to installed in a place of assembly, required heat detectors may be omitted at the time of the fire alarm system installation. Should the sprinklers not be installed for any reason, the required heat detectors would then be required.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.7**

An alarm-initiating switch shall be provided on all required manual or automatic extinguishing systems, in addition to sprinkler systems, in buildings required by this code to have a fire alarm system. This switch shall activate the building's fire alarm system any time the extinguishing system is activated and shall be on a separate zone.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.8**

A building having a required fire alarm system, which is more than twenty thousand square feet (20,000 sq. ft.) in total area or which extends to more than one floor, shall have a fire alarm annunciator to visually indicate the location of an alarm within the building located inside the main entrance of the building or in a location as approved by the AHJ. Each floor shall be separately zoned. If a floor area exceeds twenty thousand square feet (20,000 sq. ft.), additional zoning shall be provided. In no case shall the length of any zone exceed two hundred feet (200') in any direction. Fire alarm annunciator visible indicators can not be extinguished until the system is reset. Other identifying devices such as a computer printout are acceptable in lieu of an annunciator, subject to approval of the AHJ. A directory or zone map as required by the AHJ shall be provided for every zoned fire alarm system. Fire alarm annunciator location shall meet the requirements of the AHJ. If the fire alarm annunciator is a remote fire alarm control unit, it shall be key-locked and contain all system functions including a trouble light and audible trouble signal with silence switch, system reset, and system silence with resound and cover all required zones. Annunciation of alarm and trouble indications will be accomplished with the use of separate zone wiring and not with the use of multiple contact initiating devices. The fire alarm annunciation shall be by floors or locations and not by a zone number only. In the event that a building has a fire pump(s) or generator(s), provisions shall be made at the fire alarm control unit and fire alarm annunciator for visible/audible indication of generator or fire pump operation. Activation of a fire pump or generator shall not cause an alarm condition or notify the fire department. Power-off switches for any required generator or fire pump shall be monitored at the fire alarm control unit, fire alarm annunciator and at a constantly attended location within the building, if so provided.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.8.1**

In complexes consisting of multiple building clusters, a common municipal fire department connection may, at the discretion of the AHJ, be used providing a system-powered one million (1,000,000) candle power strobe light shall be installed on each building so as to be visible at the master box or a central location.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.9**

All required fire alarm systems shall be connected to an approved power source in the building and in addition shall have automatically charged storage type battery standby power (dry cell shall not be used) of sufficient capacity to operate the entire system as required by § 13.8.10.4 for the type of system after the principal source of power has failed. The fire alarm system must be able to function and sound the notification appliances for at least five (5) minutes following the required standby period.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.9.1**

Systems utilizing an emergency generator as a source of standby power shall not be exempt from the above requirements for battery standby power.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.10**

In all buildings having a fire alarm system, the fire alarm system shall be interconnected to the building's heating, ventilation and air conditioning [HVAC] controls so that the fan(s) supplying two thousand (2,000) cubic feet per minute (cfm) or greater capacity of any ventilating system not used for pressurization of a fire safe area or four (4) or more ceiling mounted industrial air circulation fans installed in one room shall automatically shut down any time, other than drills or when testing, that any initiating device connected to the fire alarm system is activated. If duct-type smoke detectors are installed in HVAC systems, the duct-type smoke detectors shall be connected to the fire alarm control unit to signal an audible and visual supervisory signal at the fire alarm control unit and annunciator. An alarm condition shall not occur unless specifically requested and authorized by the AHJ.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.10.1**

EXCEPTION: Where total coverage smoke detection is installed in all areas of the smoke compartment served by the return air system, installation of air duct detectors in the return air system shall not be required, provided their function is accomplished by the design of the area detection system.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.10.2**

Where installation of automatic smoke area detection is impractical due to ambient conditions, automatic heat detection shall be permitted. In areas covered by automatic sprinkler systems, automatic heat detection shall not be required.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.10.3**

EXCEPTION: See § 13.8.10.4.3.3.5.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.10.4**

A manual override for the HVAC, stairwell pressurization, smoke venting and smoke control systems control feature shall be provided in the fire alarm control unit for drills and testing of the fire alarm system.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.11**

All required smoke and fire doors in all buildings required by this code to have a fire alarm system may be held open only if equipped with magnetic or electro-mechanical door holders installed so as to close the doors anytime the alarm system within the building is activated. Smoke detectors connected to the alarm system within the building shall be installed proximate to every smoke and fire door that is held open.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.12**

All buildings that have a fire alarm system required by this Code that require fire drills to be held shall have a key operated drill switch to activate the notification appliances in the building,

installed at a remote location outside of the fire alarm control unit, subject to the approval of the AHJ. The drill switch key shall not be the same as the fire alarm control unit key.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.13**

All spaces where fire alarm control units or remote fire alarm control unit equipment (such as auxiliary power supplies) are located shall be protected with a smoke detector(s) spaced in accordance with *NFPA 72 — Initiating Devices*.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.14**

Elevators shall be recalled to floors or areas as designated by the AHJ. In the event that the designated level is the zone or area in alarm, the elevators shall return to an approved alternate level where they shall be under the exclusive control of the fire department for the duration of the alarm condition.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.15**

In all building covered by this chapter having an elevator(s), required sprinkler coverage by this or any other code of any elevator machine room and any elevator shaft shall not be deleted unless approved by the State Fire Marshal. Any deleted sprinklers shall be replaced with combination rate of rise and fixed temperature heat detectors rated at one hundred thirty-five degrees (135°) to one hundred forty degrees (140°) F. in the shaft and smoke detectors in the machine room, installed at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ.

**(Add) 13.8.10.5.16**

All fire alarm control units installed pursuant to §§ 13.8.10.4.2, 13.8.10.4.3 or 13.10.4.4 shall be configured or programmed such that when an alarm is silenced or acknowledged, the municipal connection shall be restorable. This feature shall not require any password, code or other programming operations by fire department personnel in charge of the scene to operate, reset or disconnect the fire alarm system.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6**

INSTALLATION AND WIRING

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.1**

All fire alarm system wiring within a building and between buildings in multiple building clusters shall be installed in metal raceway with steel couplings and box connectors or type MC cable rated as FPLP and 2-hour fire rated for penetrations by UL. Cast “LB” or “T” type connectors shall be permitted. An equipment-bonding conductor shall be provided in all flexible metallic raceways.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.1.1**

EXCEPTION: Wiring between buildings may be buried if enclosed in PVC conduit using approved IMSA<sup>16</sup> shielded cables, or installed either using approved direct burial type MC cable, or run aerial with approved IMSA shielded cable(s) subject to approval by the AHJ.

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<sup>16</sup> International Municipal Signal Association

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.2**

Wiring installation shall meet the following requirements:

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.2.1**

All conductors shall be minimum #16 gauge solid copper, type thhn, thwn or tfn. All wiring shall be run continuously from device to device.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.2.2**

The minimum separation between the outgoing and return circuits shall be a minimum of one foot (1') vertically and four feet (4') horizontally in accordance with the provisions of NFPA-72 § 6.4.2.2.2.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.2.3**

A cable-cutting tool with controlled depth of cut shall be used in all MC cable installations.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.2.4**

UL listed type MC cable connectors with insulated bushings and screw type cable attachments shall be used in all MC cable installations. Connectors shall be steel, not the cast type.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.2.5**

Conductor size shall be increased as required so as to limit voltage drop to a maximum of three percent (3%).

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.2.6**

All initiating devices and notification appliances shall be supported independently of their attachment to the circuit conductors.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3**

The color code for all fire alarm system conductors shall be as follows:

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.1**

INITIATING DEVICE CIRCUIT shall be red and black. Red shall be positive and black shall be negative [IDC/SLC].

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.2**

NOTIFICATION APPLIANCE CIRCUIT shall be blue and white. Blue shall be positive and white shall be negative. When bells, chimes or other audible/visual devices are used in lieu of horns, this color code shall be followed [NAC].

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.3**

FLASHING STROBE CIRCUIT, if a separate feed is required, shall be blue and white. Blue shall be positive and white shall be negative.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.4**

SPRINKLER/STANDPIPE CIRCUITS shall be red and black. Red shall be positive and black shall be negative.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.5**

SMOKE DETECTOR CIRCUITS, if a separate power feed is required, shall be brown and violet. Violet shall be positive and brown shall be negative.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.6**

AUXILIARY REMOTE POWER SUPPLY CIRCUITS shall be brown and violet. Violet shall be positive and brown shall be negative.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.7**

ELECTRO-MAGNETIC DOOR HOLDBACK CIRCUITS shall be gray and gray.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.8**

MUNICIPAL MASTER BOX TRIPPING CIRCUITS shall be orange and orange. Conductors for this circuit shall be installed in a separate raceway.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.9**

ELEVATOR CAPTURE CIRCUITS shall be brown and yellow.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.10**

HVAC SHUTDOWN CIRCUITS shall be orange and yellow.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.11**

REMOTE ANNUNCIATOR CIRCUITS shall be violet and numbered at each end.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.12**

BOND WIRES from the control panel to the master box ground rod, and all required bonding conductors shall be green or bare.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.13**

MUNICIPAL FIRE ALARM LOOP from the master box to the municipal loop shall be black and white.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.3.14**

AC SUPPLY CIRCUIT to the main fire alarm control unit shall be white, black and red. The black shall be one phase, and the red shall be the opposite phase, if required. The white shall be the neutral. If a separate feed is required for the battery charger, it shall be black and white unless the main fire alarm control unit requires only one AC feed. In that case, the conductors to the battery charger shall be red and white.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.4**

Primary AC power and/or battery charger circuits shall be on a dedicated branch circuit(s). Circuit breaker locks shall be provided and listed for use with the applicable circuit breaker. The location of the circuit disconnecting means shall be permanently identified at the fire alarm control unit. AC and DC portions of the system shall be installed in separate raceways. [*NFPA* 72 § 4.4.1].

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.5**

Any fire alarm wiring between the fire alarm control unit and remote terminal cabinets or between remote terminal cabinets may, at the option of the installer, be a multi-conductor cable with each conductor numbered at two-inch (2") intervals. All wiring from a terminal cabinet(s) to an alarm device(s) shall conform to the color code specified before herein. Terminal cabinets with hinged, lockable red covers shall be provided at all junction points. All conductor splices or terminations shall be made on screw-type terminal blocks — wire nuts, butt or crimp type connectors shall not be used. All terminals within a terminal cabinet shall be properly labeled.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.6**

Spacing and location of heat detectors or smoke detectors required by this Code shall be in accordance with *NFPA 72*.

**(Add) 13.8.10.6.7**

Smoke detectors shall not be installed until after the construction clean-up of all trades is complete and final. Detectors that have been installed prior to final cleanup by all trades shall be cleaned or replaced per *NFPA 72 — Inspection, Testing and Maintenance*. [*NFPA 72* § 5.7.1.11]

**(Add) 13.8.10.7**

**CONNECTION TO FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**(Add) 13.8.10.7.1**

Where a municipally connected fire alarm system required by this chapter is installed in a building in a city, town, or fire district having a municipal alarm system, the fire alarm system within the building shall be connected into the municipal system via a local energy master box, auxiliary transmitter, radio master box, or other approved method so that any fire alarm within the building will be automatically transmitted to the municipal fire department dispatch center. Systems installed in buildings in a city, town, or fire district not having a municipal alarm system shall be connected to the community Fire Dispatch Center via a supervised leased telephone line (or other line) but shall not be connected to any service requiring retransmission to the community Fire Dispatch Center.

**(Add) 13.8.10.7.2**

In either event, the AHJ shall be consulted as to the type and location of the master box or auxiliary transmitter or the location of the remote station.

**(Add) 13.8.10.8**

**System Acceptance**

**(Add) 13.8.10.8.1**

A pretest will be held with the installer and the manufacturer's technical representative present. In addition to the requirements listed below, the pretest shall demonstrate that each smoke detector is operative and produces the intended response. Each smoke detector shall be tested with smoke generated from a wick/punk source or in accordance with the manufacturer's

recommendations to initiate an alarm at its installed location. After certification of a complete pretest, the installing contractor shall provide the AHJ with written documentation from the manufacturer's authorized representative of the outcome of the test and provide a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours notice to the AHJ for the final inspection test. The installing contractor will re-inspect in the presence of the AHJ and the manufacturer's authorized technical representative. A complete test shall be conducted as follows: the installing contractor, in the presence of a representative of the AHJ, shall manually operate every manual fire alarm box, activate every rate of rise type heat detector and rate anticipation heat detector with heat, manually operate or electrically short out every non-restorable fixed temperature heat detector, activate every smoke detector with smoke generated from a wick/punk source or in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations to demonstrate that smoke can enter the chamber and initiate an alarm, activate all automatic extinguishing system switches and activate every water sprinkler/standpipe flow switch by a flow of water through the inspectors' test valves.

**(Add) 13.8.10.8.2**

After installation and before the system acceptance test is performed, a copy of the testing and maintenance contract shall be furnished to the AHJ by the owner or contractor. The contractor shall prepare and submit a single line diagram of each installation, as built, indicating wiring between equipment and locations of control units, manual fire alarm boxes, detectors, and other devices to the AHJ.

**(Add) 13.8.10.8.3**

Each manual fire alarm box, heat detector, smoke detector, extinguishing system switching circuits, flow switch circuit and each notification appliance circuit shall be opened in at least two locations to test for the correctness of the supervisory circuitry. All communications shall be tested completely. The fire alarm system shall be in accordance with this chapter and in one hundred percent (100%) operation prior to acceptance and/or issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

**(Add) 13.8.10.8.4**

The fire alarm system may be placed in operation prior to final acceptance if in the opinion of the AHJ, it will enhance public safety or provide property protection during the final phases of construction. In this case all devices will be thoroughly cleaned or replaced prior to the system acceptance test. The system will not be placed in operation without the written permission of the AHJ. Under no circumstances will this be considered a final acceptance test.

**(Add) 13.8.10.8.5**

Prior to the final operational acceptance test, a *Fire Alarm System Record of Completion* in accordance with *NFPA 72* § 4.5.2.1 shall be prepared and submitted to the property owner and the AHJ.

**(Add) 13.8.10.9**

MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.1**

Owners of buildings where fire alarm systems are installed shall ensure that the systems and all of their components are in one hundred percent (100%) operating condition at all times and provide a twenty-four (24) hour emergency telephone number of the owner or owner's representative for the fire department to call in the event of an alarm. This telephone number shall be conspicuously posted at the fire alarm control unit

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.1.1**

In lieu of the owner's number, the twenty-four (24) hour emergency telephone number of the testing and maintenance company authorized by the owner to respond to service the system may be provided.

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.1.2**

Answering machines are not an acceptable method for contacting the owner or authorized service company.

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.2**

Owners of buildings where systems are installed shall provide written evidence to the AHJ that there is a testing and maintenance program in force for the fire alarm system providing for periodic testing of the system. A system as described in § 13.8.10.4.1 with twenty-four (24) or fewer initiating devices shall be tested at least once every six (6) months with fifty percent (50%) of all manual fire alarm boxes, heat detectors, smoke detectors and other devices and components operated with each test. A different fifty percent (50%) of the above-mentioned devices will be operated at each inspection so that the entire system will have been tested at the end of each year. All other systems shall be tested at least once every three (3) months with twenty-five percent (25%) of all manual fire alarm boxes, heat detectors, smoke detectors and other devices and components operated with each test. A different twenty-five percent (25%) of the above-mentioned devices will be operated at each inspection so that the entire system will have been tested at the end of each year. In addition to the initiating devices to be tested above, during each test, the fire alarm control unit and every zone shall be tested. It is the intent of this section to reduce the cost and paperwork of testing smaller fire alarm systems while maintaining the integrity of those systems.

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.2.1**

In addition to the testing and maintenance requirements set forth above, an annual certification shall be provided to the AHJ that all smoke detectors located within the protected building have been cleaned in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations or at least once every twelve (12) month period.

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.2.2**

EXCEPTION: A system as described in § 13.8.10.4.1 with twenty-four (24) or fewer initiating devices may be tested quarterly, as described in § 13.8.10.9.2, at the option of the building owner.

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.3**

The person(s) and firm performing any testing and/or maintenance required by this Code shall be licensed as required by R.I.G.L. § 5-6-2.<sup>17</sup>

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.3.1**

EXCEPTION: This licensing requirement shall not apply to fire department personnel in charge of the scene to operate, reset or disconnect the fire alarm system as authorized by the AHJ.

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.4**

The AHJ shall be notified a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours prior to conducting any tests.

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.5**

Certification of these tests and results shall be forwarded to the AHJ from the person(s) or firm performing the test within ten (10) days of the completion of the test. The person(s) or firm performing the testing and maintenance of the fire alarm system shall notify the AHJ within five (5) days, in writing, after any cancellation of a testing/maintenance agreement with the building owner.

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.5.1**

Certification of any periodic testing required by the Code shall be on a standardized inspection form as developed by the Fire Communications Officers Association of Rhode Island and the State Fire Marshal and approved by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review. Once approved, said form shall be utilized by all persons and firms performing fire alarm testing and inspections pursuant to this Code and shall bear the name and license number of the licensed person performing the test.

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.5.2**

In addition, the person(s) or firm performing the test shall conspicuously indicate that the fire alarm system providing service at the protected premises complies with all requirements of this Code. A document attesting to this certification shall be located on or within thirty-six inches (36") of the fire alarm control unit following each required test.

**(Add) 13.8.10.9.5.3**

If any deficiencies are discovered during a routine test or inspection and they cannot be corrected within four (4) hours, the AHJ shall be notified, who may invoke the provisions of § 13.1.9 if he or she deems the deficiency to jeopardize the safety of the building occupants.

**CHAPTER 14  
MEANS OF EGRESS**

**CHAPTER 15  
PLANNED BUILDING GROUPS**

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<sup>17</sup> Businesses and Professions – Electricians – Work for which license required

**CHAPTER 16  
SAFEGUARDS DURING BUILDING CONSTRUCTION,  
ALTERATION, AND DEMOLITION OPERATIONS**

**CHAPTER 17  
WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE**

**CHAPTER 18  
FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS AND WATER SUPPLY**

**CHAPTER 19  
COMBUSTIBLE WASTE AND REFUSE**

**PART III OCCUPANCY**

**CHAPTER 20  
OCCUPANCY FIRE SAFETY**

**(Amd) 20.1 Application.**

New and existing assembly occupancies shall comply with Section 20.1 and the referenced addition of NFPA *101*, as amended by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, now known as the Rhode Island Life Safety Code.

**CHAPTER 21  
AIRPORTS AND HELIPORTS**

**CHAPTER 22  
AUTOMOBILE WRECKING YARDS**

**CHAPTER 23  
CLEANROOMS**

**CHAPTER 24  
DRYCLEANING**

**CHAPTER 25  
GRANDSTANDS AND BLEACHERS,  
FOLDING AND TELESCOPIC SEATING,  
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**(Amd) 65.2.3 Permits.**

Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.2.3.1 et seq. of this Code.

**(Add) 65.2.3.1 Application For Permits**

**(Add) 65.2.3.1.1**

No application for permit shall be issued by the local fire authority, unless applicant is holder of a valid Certificate of Competency issued by the State Fire Marshal

**(Add) 65.2.3.1.2**

Application for permit to operate a display of fireworks or pyrotechnics in conformance with the terms of Chapter 28.11 of the General Laws of Rhode Island shall be made in writing on forms provided by the State Fire Marshal, and delivered in person to the chief of the fire department or his designee of the city, town, district or municipality in which the display is to be held.

**(Add) 65.2.3.1.3**

Such application and any addendum necessary shall set forth:

- a. The name of the organization sponsoring the display.
- b. The name of the company and/or individuals actually in charge of firing the display.
- c. Evidence of financial responsibility.
- d. The date and time of day at which the display is to be held.
- e. The exact location planned for the display.
- f. The license number of the person firing the display along with all names of the persons who will be assisting him.
- g. The number, kinds and sizes of fireworks and/or pyrotechnics to be discharged.
- h. The manner and place of storage of such fireworks and/or pyrotechnics prior to the display.
- i. A diagram of the grounds, for all outdoor displays, on which the display is to be held showing the point at which the fireworks are to be discharged, the locations of all buildings, highways and other lines of communication, the lines behind which the audience will be restrained, the location of all nearby trees, telegraph or telephone lines or other overhead obstruction.
- j. A diagram of the interior of the building, for all pyrotechnic displays, for where the display is to be held showing the points where the pyrotechnics are to be discharged, the height of the ceilings or overhead obstructions, the distance to interior walls, the distances to the audience, the proximity to persons performing in relation to the pyrotechnics.
- k. A copy of the up to date permit issued by the State Fire Marshal's Office for the vehicle that will be used to transport the commercial fireworks for the display.
- l. A copy of the letter from an attorney, a member of the Rhode Island Bar Association, stating that they represent the nonresident shooter of fireworks and/or pyrotechnics upon whom all processes in any action or proceeding against the person may be served.

**(Add) 65.2.3.1.4**

Upon receipt of such application at least 15 days in advance of the date set for this display, the Chief of the Fire Department shall make, or cause to be made, an investigation of the site of the proposed display for the purpose of determining whether the provisions of these regulations are complied with in the case of the particular display. The Chief of the Fire Department or his designee shall endorse the Application, stating that he approves the display as being in conformance with all parts of the law and with these regulations.

**(Add) 65.2.3.1.5**

The Chief of the Fire Department, or his designee, upon endorsement of the application and after receipt of evidence of financial responsibility and proof of an attorney for nonresident shooters as required by law, shall issue a nontransferable permit authorizing the display.

**(Add) 65.2.3.2 Conduct Of Display**

**(Add) 65.2.3.2.1**

In addition to the guidelines set forth by NFPA 1123, Code for Fireworks Display, the following shall apply:

- a. No fireworks display shall be held during any windstorm in which the wind reaches a velocity of more than twenty (20) miles per hour.
- b. The point from where the fireworks are to be fired shall be at least fifty (50) feet from any overhead obstruction.
- c. Any aerial shell which fails to function must be turned over to the State Fire Marshal's office for disposal.

**(Add) 65.2.3.3 Qualification Of Operators.**

**(Add) 65.2.3.3.1**

The person in actual charge of the firing of the fireworks or pyrotechnics in a display shall be able-bodied, at least 21 years of age, competent for the task, and so certified by the State Fire Marshal. Such operator shall have his or her Certificate of Competency in his or her possession when engaged in conducting a display and shall exhibit same on request of any authorized person. Said Certificate of Competency may be revoked by the State Fire Marshal for any violation of these regulations or when the holder's conduct or condition of sobriety is such as to imperil the public's safety. Each person assisting the certificated operator shall be able-bodied, at least 18 years of age and capable of reading, writing, speaking, and understanding the English language.

**(Add) 65.2.3.3.2**

There shall be at all times no fewer than two operators of the display constantly on duty during the discharge, at least one of whom shall be certificated.

**(Add) 65.2.3.4 General**

**(Add) 65.2.3.4.1**

Fire protection and extinguishing equipment shall be provided and required by the Chief of the Fire Department, or his designee.

**(Add) 65.2.3.4.2**

The person to whom a permit has been issued shall arrange for the detailing of one member of the local fire department or such larger number as may be deemed necessary by the Chief of the Fire Department or his designee. Fire Department personnel shall be on duty from the time the fireworks are delivered at the site until the termination of the display and the removal of all fireworks and debris from the site. The expense for such firemen shall be paid by the permittee.

**(Add) 65.2.3.4.3**

All disputes arising as a result of the administration of these rules and regulations shall be referred to the State Fire Marshal.

**(Add) 65.2.3.4.4**

Any person, firm corporation and/or co-partnership aggrieved by the decision of the State Fire Marshal, as outlined in section 65.2.3.4.3 above, may file an appeal and request a hearing before the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review pursuant to RIGL section 23-28.3-3(d) and section 6-1-1 of the Fire Safety Code.

**(Add) 65.2.3.5 Additional Requirements**

**(Add) 65.2.3.5.1**

Dealers and manufacturers of Class B explosives, DOT 1.3, and Class C explosives, DOT 1.4, which includes commercial fireworks and pyrotechnics, shall be subject to provisions of Chapter 23-28.28 of the Fire Safety Code entitled EXPLOSIVES, and the requirements of Chapter 65 of this Code, and no permit or license shall be issued until all requirements of Chapter 23-28.28 and the requirements of Chapter 65 of this Code are fulfilled.

**(Amd) 65.3.3 Permits.** Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.2.3.1 et seq. of this Code.

**(Amd) 65.4.2 Permits.** Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.2.3.1 et seq. of this Code.

**(Amd) 65.5.2 Permits.** Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.2.3.5.1 of this Code.

**(Add) 65.6.1 Rockets**

**(Add) 65.6.1.1**

Model rockets shall comply with the following requirements prior to launch, operation and flight:

- a. Gross weight, including the model rocket motor, shall not exceed 1500 grams (53 ounces).
- b. No more than 62.5 grams (2.2 ounces) of propellant materials shall be contained in a single model rocket motor and no more than 125 grams (4.4 ounces) of propellant shall be contained in a model rocket at the time of launch.
- c. Model rockets shall contain means for retarding descent to the ground so that the structure shall be substantially damaged and no hazard shall be created to persons or property on the ground.
- d. Construction shall be of wood, plastic, paper, rubber or similar materials, and without any metal as structural parts.
- e. Design and construction shall include attached aerodynamic surfaces or other suitable means which will provide stabilizing and restoring forces necessary to maintain a substantially true and predictable flight path.
- f. A model rocket shall not contain any type of explosive or pyrotechnic warhead.

**(Add) 65.6.1.2**

Any person who has knowledge of fire or accident caused by a model rocket or rocket motor shall notify the head of the fire department and the Marshal. Failure to comply with this rule shall be cause for revocation of permit.

**(Add) 65.6.2 Solid Propellant Rocket Motors**

**(Add) 65.6.2.1**

A solid propellant rocket motor shall be a device produced by a commercial manufacturer. It shall have all of the propellant preloaded into the casing in such a manner that the propellant cannot be removed without destroying the motor. Delay trains and ejection charges may be included as an integral part of the motor or may be preloaded and packaged separately if:

- a. The auxiliary package is a single pre-assembled unit containing all of the remaining combustible material, and
- b. The auxiliary package is so designed that an individual would have no difficulty handling or using it safely.

**(Add) 65.6.2.2**

A solid propellant rocket motor casing shall be made of nonmetallic material of low thermal conductivity so that the temperature of the external surface of the model rocket motor shall not exceed 200 degrees Celsius (392 degrees Fahrenheit) during or after operation.

**(Add) 65.6.2.3**

A solid propellant rocket motor casing shall be so designed and constructed that it will not fragment if it should rupture.

**(Add) 65.6.2.4**

A solid propellant rocket motor shall be so designed and constructed as to be incapable of spontaneous ignition in air, in water, as a result of physical shocks, jarring, impacts or motion under conditions that would reasonably be expected to occur during shipment, storage and use, or when subjected to a temperature of 80 degrees Celsius (176 degrees Fahrenheit) or less.

**(Add) 65.6.2.5**

A solid propellant rocket motor shall contain no more than 62.5 grams (2.2 ounces) of propellant material and shall produce less than 160 Newton-seconds (35.855 pound-seconds) of total impulse with average thrust not greater than 100 Newtons.

**(Add) 65.6.2.6**

A manufacturer of solid propellant rocket motors shall subject a random sample of one percent (1%) of each motor production lot to a static test which shall measure and record the rocket motor's total impulse, delay time and action of ejection charge, if included. Solid propellant rocket motor production lots shall be corrected, destroyed or retested by the manufacturer under any of the following conditions:

- a. Total impulse of any test item departs more than twenty percent (20%) from the established mean value for the motor type,
- b. The time delay of the test item departs more than twenty percent (20%) from the established mean value for the motor type but in no case shall this variation exceed three (3) seconds,
- c. The ejection charge, if any, of the test item does not function properly,
- d. Any test item malfunctions in any other manner that affects the safety of its shipment, storage, handling or uses. Static tests shall be conducted with the test item at ambient temperature. For a retest, a manufacturer shall test a minimum additional two percent (2%) of the production lot in question. If any additional test item displays any of the above mentioned conditions, the entire production lot shall be corrected or destroyed by the manufacturer.

**(Add) 65.6.2.7**

A solid propellant rocket motor type whose performance deviates from the sample test criteria and performance limits detailed above within one (1) year from the date of manufacture shall be withdrawn from commercial sale and redesigned to provide reliable operation when ignited within a period of one (1) year from the date of manufacture. All solid propellant rocket motors shall have imprinted upon the exterior surface of their motor casing the date of manufacture or equivalent coding.

**(Add) 65.6.2.8**

A solid propellant rocket motor shall be shipped and stored with no ignition element installed that can be activated by open flame at a temperature of less than 150 degrees Celsius (302 degrees Fahrenheit) or by incident radio frequency radiation normally encountered in shipping, storage and use. No manufacturer, distributor, or any other person shall sell expose for sale, or

otherwise make available to the public any type of rocket motor ignition device that is intended to be initiated by a hand-held flame.

**(Add) 65.6.2.9**

A model rocket motor shall be shipped and sold with complete instructions for storage, handling and use. The instructions shall contain a warning to read and follow all instructions carefully and to use the motor only in accordance with instructions. In addition, the instructions shall contain the following information:

- a. How to safely ignite the motor safely by electrical means,
- b. Performance data on the model rocket motor type to include propellant weight, total impulse, average thrust, time delay and representative thrust time curve,
- c. Any specific first aid data or action to be taken in the event of burns or oral ingestion of the propellant;
- d. Proper and safe disposal of the rocket if it has become too old, been subjected to conditions that may impair its performance or, in the opinion of the user, may have become unsafe,
- e. Any special action that must be taken to fight any fire in which stored rocket motors may be involved.

**(Add) 65.6.2.10**

The competent person responsible for handling the rocket motors shall notify the Marshal whenever he is aware of defects in such motors. He should describe the defect and include the manufacturer's name and model or catalog number of the defective device.

**(Add) 65.6.3 Location For Operation**

**(Add) 65.6.3.1**

Flight areas shall be located in areas that will not create a hazard to persons and property in the vicinity of the area.

**(Add) 65.6.3.2**

A model rocket launch site shall be at least one hundred feet (100') from the nearest building and fifty feet (50') from a public way or the nearest natural or man-made obstruction or at a distance equal to the height of such obstruction, whichever is greater.

**(Add) 65.6.3.3**

Flight areas shall not contain or be located adjacent to limited access highways, buildings over four (4) stories in height or other similar obstacles.

**(Add) 65.6.4 Launching**

**(Add) 65.6.4.1**

The competent person responsible for supervising the launching of model rockets shall make certain that these rules and regulations are being adhered to by all present at the launch site and shall also be familiar with and conduct the launch in accordance with the instructions supplied with the model rockets or rocket motors and these regulations shall take precedence.

**(Add) 65.6.4.2**

All model rockets shall be launched from a launch rod or other device that provides rigid guidance until the rocket has reached a speed adequate to ensure a safe flight path. The launcher shall have a jet deflector device to prevent the motor exhaust from hitting the ground directly. (NFPA 1122 A-2.8.)

**(Add) 65.6.4.3**

Launching or ignition shall be conducted by remote electrical means fully under the control of the person launching the model

**(Add) 65.6.4.4**

All persons within one hundred (100) feet of the launch site shall be notified of the timing of each launch by an audible warning and count down.

**(Add) 65.6.4.5**

A model rocket shall not be launched so as to create a hazard to aircraft.

**(Add) 65.6.4.6**

A model rocket shall not be used as a weapon against ground or air targets, nor shall it be equipped with an explosive or incendiary device of any kind designed to ignite on rocket impact.

**(Add) 65.6.4.7**

All materials such as recovery system wadding or igniter holding devices which are subject to high temperatures and ejected from the rocket during the launch and recovery sequence shall be of a sufficiently flame resistant nature so as to prevent any ignition upon landing.

**(Add) 65.6.4.8**

All personnel conducting or assisting in the launching shall remain at least fifteen feet (15') from models containing motors totaling 30 Newton-seconds or less of total impulse and at least thirty feet (30') from models exceeding this limit, during the countdown and launching. Spectators and others not participating in the launching activities shall maintain a distance of at least one hundred feet (100') from the launching device.

**(Add) 65.6.5 Test And Experiments**

**(Add) 65.6.5.1**

Model rocket motors may be tested on the ground for the purpose of determining performance or may be used as the motive power of an experiment conducted on the ground under the supervision of a competent person with a permit.

**(Add) 65.6.5.2**

The model rocket motor shall be securely affixed to a testing device or to an immovable structure in such a manner that such motor shall not become free during the conduct of such test or experiment.

**(Add) 65.6.5.3**

The model rocket motor shall be ignited only by remotely operated electrical means fully under the control of the person conducting the test or experiment.

**(Add) 65.6.5.4**

When tests or experiments are conducted indoors, the exhaust from each model rocket motor so tested shall be directed into a non-flammable hood or vent which shall lead to the outside of the building.

**(Add) 65.6.5.5**

Before a model rocket motor may be tested or used experimentally on the ground its exhaust path shall be cleared of all flammable objects prior to the igniting of such motor.

**(Add) 65.6.5.6**

Persons who conduct, participate in or observe static or ground testing of a model rocket motor shall stand a distance no less than five feet (5') away from such motor, and never within a thirty (30) degree angle of a direct line with its longitudinal axis during the conduct of the test.

**(Add) 65.6.5.7**

Static test shall be conducted with the test item at a temperature of less than 50 degrees Celsius (122 degrees Fahrenheit).

**(Add) 65.6.5.8**

The competent person with a permit shall inspect each model rocket motor to be tested and the testing device to be used before such test may be conducted.

**(Add) 65.6.6. Permits**

**(Add) 65.6.6.1**

Any person who handles, stores, sells, buys, transports or ignites a rocket motor must have a permit from the head of the fire department or must be accompanied by and be under the supervision of a person with a permit.

**(Add) 65.6.6.2**

Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older desiring to oversee the launching of model rockets propelled by a model rocket motor shall first obtain a permit from the head of the fire department.

**(Add) 65.6.6.3**

A person under eighteen (18) years of age but not less than fourteen (14) years of age wishing to handle transport or detonate model rocket motors may do so only after first receiving consent

from a parent or legal guardian on the proper forms and having been approved by the fire authority having responsibility for the prevention and suppression of fire in that city or town. In the case where there is no fire authority, these forms shall be approved by the State Fire Marshal or his Deputies.

**(Add) 65.6.6.4**

The head of the fire department shall issue the permit to a competent person after that person has shown proof of age and the fact that he has in his possession a copy of these regulations. Such permit shall be valid for a period of one (1) year unless otherwise revoked.

**(Add) 65.6.6.5**

Any person wishing to handle, store, buy, transport or ignite rocket motors must first obtain a permit from the head of the fire department in the city or town of his residence at the time of such application or in the city or town wherein he intends to comply with these rules and regulations.

**(Add) 65.6.6.6**

A competent person who wishes to ignite or supervise the launching of motors in another city or town may do so after first receiving permission from the fire department of the city or town in which he expects to conduct the launch. The requirement for repeated notification on return visits to such city or town shall be left to the discretion of the head of the fire department of that city or town.

**(Add) 65.6.6.7**

Any person requiring a permit under these regulations who is not a resident of the State of Rhode Island may obtain a permit from the head of the fire department in the city or town where he is living at the time or where he intends to comply with these rules and regulations.

**(Add) 65.6.6.8**

Rocket motors shall be kept at all times during storage and transportation in a sturdy metal or wooden box, complete with a cover which may be latched or locked closed.

**(Add) 65.6.6.9**

Any person, corporation or firm wishing to sell solid propellant rocket motors must first obtain a permit for storage and sale from the head of the fire department of the town in which the storage and sale is to be made. Such permits shall be in effect for one (1) year after the date of issue, unless otherwise revoked.

**(Add) 65.6.6.10**

Any solid propellant rocket motors which are being stored for sale shall be kept in a sturdy metal or wooden chest or drawer which must be kept securely clamped or locked shut when not in use. Such containment units must be located in a space approved by the head of the fire department, at least ten (10') feet from any flammable liquids. Failure to comply with this rule may be cause for revocation of the permit.

**(Add) 65.6.6.11**

Whenever the solid propellant rocket motors are loaded or manufactured, they shall be considered Class B explosives and shall be handled in compliance with the Fire Safety Code, Chapter 28-28.

**(Add) 65.6.6.12**

Quantities of solid propellant rocket motors in excess of ten thousand (10,000) shall be classified as a Class B explosives and shall be handled, transported and stored in accordance with the Fire Safety Code, Chapter 28.28.

**(Add) 65.6.6.13**

Quantities of Solid propellant rocket motors of ten thousand (10,000) or less shall be classified as Class C explosives in accordance with the Fire Safety Code, Chapter 28.28.

**(Amd) 65.7.2 Permits.** Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.6.1 et seq. of this Code.

**(Amd) 65.8.2 Permits.** Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.6.1 et seq. of this Code.

**(Amd) 65.9.2 Permits.** Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.9.3.1 et seq. of this Code.

**(Add) 65.9.3 General Provisions**

**(Add) 65.9.3.1**

The handling and firing of explosives shall be performed by a person possessing a license to conduct blasting operations and a user's permit.

**(Add) 65.9.3.2**

A permit to blast shall be obtained from the State Fire Marshal at least three (3) working days prior to requested blast time. Working days are Monday through Friday; with Saturday, Sunday and Holidays excluded.

**(Add) 65.9.3.3**

No person shall handle explosives while under the influence of intoxicants or narcotics, or while in an emotional state.

**(Add) 65.9.3.4**

Blasting shall be conducted so as to prevent injury, hazards or unsafe conditions to persons or damage to property outside the controlled blasting site, and the State Fire Marshal may require certain precautionary procedures at any time to protect life and property. The State Fire Marshal may suspend, revoke or deny a permit to blast at any location for just cause if no precautionary steps are available to adequately protect life and property.

**(Add) 65.9.3.5**

No person shall carry matches or smoke while handling explosives, or while in the vicinity thereof. There shall be no open flame in the vicinity.

**(Add) 65.9.3.6**

Blasting operations shall be conducted between sunrise and sunset; exceptions may be authorized by the State Fire Marshal.

**(Add) 65.9.3.7**

Precautions shall be taken to prevent accidental discharge of blasting caps and explosives from current induced by radios, radar transmitters, lightning, adjacent power lines, dust storms, or other sources of extraneous electricity. These shall include:

- a. The suspension of all blasting operations and removal of persons from the blasting area during the approach and progress of an electrical storm.
- b. The posting of signs warning against the use of mobile radio transmitters on all roads within three hundred feet (300') of the blasting site.
- c. Caution must be taken by following the recommendations of the Institute of Makers of Explosives, and/or by the use of non-electric blasting caps, in the one and one-half (1 1/2) mile radius of radios, transmitters, or high tension power lines.

**(Add) 65.9.3.8**

Whenever blasting is being conducted in the vicinity of gas, electric, water, fire alarm, telephone, or any other utility, the blaster shall immediately notify the appropriate representatives of such utilities in advance of blasting, specifying the location and intended time of blasting.

**(Add) 65.9.3.9**

Persons authorized to prepare explosive charges or conduct blasting operations shall use every reasonable precaution; including, but not limited to, warning signals, flags, barricades, or woven wire mats to ensure the safety of the general public and workmen.

**(Add) 65.9.3.10**

Water-gels, binary energy agents, or any similar agents manufactured for the purpose of producing an explosive material shall be transported, stored, and used as specified for explosives in these rules and regulations.

**(Add) 65.9.3.11**

Empty boxes and paper and fiber packaging materials which have previously contained explosives shall not be used again for any purpose, but shall be destroyed by burning at an approved isolated location out of doors and no person shall be nearer than one hundred feet (100') after burning has started.

**(Add) 65.9.4. Use Of Explosives:**

**(Add) 65.9.4.1**

No spark-producing tools shall be used to open kegs or wooden cases or any other explosives container.

**(Add) 65.9.4.2**

Wood containers of explosive materials shall not be opened within fifty feet (50') of any magazine.

**(Add) 65.9.4.3**

No explosives shall be carried in the pockets, on clothing, or elsewhere on a person.

**(Add) 65.9.4.4**

No explosive materials shall be abandoned in any location, or for any reason. No explosives shall be left unattended where they may be accessible to unauthorized persons or children.

**(Add) 65.9.4.5**

No primers shall be made up in excess of the immediate needs.

**(Add) 65.9.4.6**

No primers shall be made up in a magazine or near an excessive amount of explosives.

**(Add) 65.9.4.7**

Nothing other than a fuse shall be inserted into the open end of a blasting cap and no blasting cap shall be tampered with.

**(Add) 65.9.4.8**

When a safety fuse is used, the blasting cap shall be securely attached to the fuse only with an approved cap crimper.

**(Add) 65.9.4.9**

No blasting cap shall be forced into any explosive, but shall be inserted into a hole made with suitable punch.

**(Add) 65.9.4.10**

Primers shall be made up with proven and established methods from the Dupont Blasters' Handbook. The cap shall be securely encased in the explosive and so secured that no tension be placed on the wires or the fuse at the point of entry into the cap.

**(Add) 65.9.4.11**

No explosives that have been water-soaked shall be reclaimed for use without first determining from the manufacturer if explosives are usable.

**(Add) 65.9.4.12**

When blasting is done in a congested area, or in close proximity to a structure, railway, or highway, or any other installation that may be damaged, the blast shall be covered before firing with a mat constructed so that it is capable of preventing fragments from being thrown.

**(Add) 65.9.4.13**

Before a blast is fired, the person in charge shall make certain all surplus explosives are in a safe place; all persons vehicles and equipment are at a safe distance or under sufficient cover, and that a loud warning signal has been sounded.

**(Add) 65.9.4.14**

If there are any misfires while using cap-and-fuse, all persons shall remain away from the charge for at least one (1) hour. If electric blasting caps are used and a misfire occurs, this waiting period may be reduced to thirty (30) minutes. Misfires shall be handled under the direction of the person in charge of the blasting and wires shall be carefully traced and a search made for unexploded charges.

**(Add) 65.9.4.15**

Blasters, when testing circuits to charged holes, shall use only blasting galvanometers designed for this purpose, or other instruments approved for the purpose by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.

**(Add) 65.9.4.16**

Only the man making leading wire connections in electrical firing shall fire the shot. All connections shall be made from the bore hole back to the source of firing current, and the lead wires shall remain shorted and not be connected to the blasting machine or other source of current until the charge is to be fired.

**(Add) 65.9.4.17**

All explosives shall be handled carefully at all times and be protected against sudden shock or any such source which may cause detonation or de-flagration.

**(Add) 65.9.4.18**

There shall be no smoking, matches, or any source of fire or flame within one hundred feet (100') of an area in which explosives are being handled or used, nor shall explosives be placed where they may be exposed to flame, excessive heat, sparks, or impact.

**(Add) 65.9.4.19**

All connections, such as the connecting of blasting caps to detonating cord, shall be done according to methods recommended by the manufacturer.

**(Add) 65.9.4.20**

Dynamite that has been removed from the cartridge shall not be tamped.

**(Add) 65.9.4.21**

Explosives in bore holes shall be confined with sand, earth, clay, or other suitable non-combustible stemming material.

**(Add) 65.9.4.22**

Caution shall be taken so as not to kink or damage fuse or electric blasting cap wires when tamping or loading.

**(Add) 65.9.4.23**

The electric firing circuit shall be completely insulated from the ground and other conductors.

**(Add) 65.9.4.24**

Only electric blasting caps of the same type and function from the same manufacturer shall be used in the same circuit.

**(Add) 65.9.4.25**

All electric blasting caps shall be connected with good contact made and all firing shall be done with no less than the minimum current specified by the manufacturer.

**(Add) 65.9.4.26**

Fuse shall be handled carefully so as to avoid damaging the covering or separating the filler.

**(Add) 65.9.4.27**

A sufficient length of fuse shall be used so as to allow ample time to reach a place of safety. Never use less than two feet (2').

**(Add) 65.9.4.28**

In cutting, seating and crimping the fuse to the cap, the recommended methods from the Dupont Blaster's Handbook shall be used.

**(Add) 65.9.4.29**

All drill holes shall be sufficiently large to admit freely the insertion of the packages of explosive material.

**(Add) 65.9.4.30**

No holes shall be loaded, except those to be fired in the next round of blasting. after loading, all remaining explosives shall be immediately returned to an authorized magazine.

**(Add) 65.9.4.31**

No person shall be allowed to deepen drill holes which have contained explosives.

**(Add) 65.9.4.32**

Drilling shall not be started until all remaining butts of old holes are examined with a wooden stick for unexploded charges and, if any are found, they shall be refired before work proceeds.

**(Add) 65.9.4.33**

Upon the discovery of any unfired explosives, all working operations in that area shall be stopped until such explosives are properly disposed of

**(Add) 65.9.4.34**

Pneumatic loading of blasting agents into blast holes primed with electric blasting caps or other static systems shall conform to the following requirements:

- a. A positive grounding device shall be used to prevent the accumulation of static electricity.
- b. A semi-conductor discharge hose shall be used.
- c. A qualified person shall evaluate all systems to assure that they will adequately dissipate static potential under field conditions.

**(Add) 65.9.4.35**

No explosive material shall be extracted from a hole that has once been charged or has misfired unless it is impossible or hazardous to detonate the unexploded charge by insertion of an additional primer.

**(Add) 65.9.4.36**

Tamping shall be done only with wood rods without exposed metal parts but, non-sparking metal connectors may be used for jointed poles. Violent tamping shall be avoided. Primed cartridges shall not be tamped.

**(Add) 65.9.4.37**

No holes shall be loaded, except those that are to be fired the same day.

**(Add) 65.9.4.38**

No bore hole shall be loaded until it has been carefully checked with a wooden tamping pole to determine its condition.

**(Add) 65.9.4.39**

Surplus explosives shall not be kept near the working area during loading.

**(Add) 65.9.4.40**

Detonating cord, extending into a bore hole, shall be cut from the spool before the remainder of the charge is loaded.

**(Add) 65.9.4.41**

No bore hole shall be loaded after being drilled or sprung until it is certain that it is cool and that it does not contain any hot metal or burning or smoldering material. No bore hole shall be loaded if its internal temperature approaches or exceeds 150 degrees.

**(Add) 65.9.4.42**

No Bore hole shall be sprung with explosives while near another bore hole loaded with explosives.

**(Add) 65.9.4.43**

No hole, or series of holes, shall be fired in the vicinity of another loaded hole or series of loaded holes unless they are to be fired in an instantaneous or delayed series as approved by the manufacturer.

**(Add) 65.9.4.44**

No damaged leading or connecting wire shall be used in any blasting circuits.

**(Add) 65.9.4.45**

Frozen or partially frozen explosives shall not be placed or used in bore holes.

**(Add) 65.9.4.46**

Caution shall be taken not to drop a large size heavy cartridge directly on the primer.

**(Add) 65.9.4.47**

When blasting near power lines, no leg or lead wires shall be long enough to come into contact with the electric power lines.

**(Add) 65.9.5. Storage Of Explosives On Land:**

**(Add) 65.9.5.1**

Explosives shall be stored only in magazines which are clean, dry, well ventilated where appropriate, reasonably cool, properly located, substantially constructed, bullet and fire resistant, and securely locked.

**(Add) 65.9.5.2**

No explosives shall be stored near oil, gas, cleaning solvents, or any other flammable or corrosive substances.

**(Add) 65.9.5.3**

Explosives shall be stored in an approved magazine at least five hundred feet (500') away from blasting operations.

**(Add) 65.9.5.4**

No explosives shall be stored near any source of possible heat, fire or flame, nor shall combustible or flammable debris be allowed to accumulate near explosives.

**(Add) 65.9.5.5**

In the event that nitroglycerin from deteriorated explosives has leaked onto a floor or other area, the manufacturer shall be consulted as to the desensitizing process. The State Fire Marshal shall also be notified.

**(Add) 65.9.5.6**

No smoking, burning, discharging of firearms, or other possible source which could cause detonation or deflagration of explosives shall be allowed in the vicinity of any explosives magazine.

**(Add) 65.9.5.7**

Each magazine shall at all times be under the control of a competent person.

**(Add) 65.9.6. Transportation Of Explosives:**

**(Add) 65.9.6.1**

No person shall deliver to any other person any Class "A" or Class "B" explosives unless the person to whom such explosives are delivered exhibits a license to conduct blasting operations and a permit to possess or a permit to use explosives issued by the State Fire Marshal. All such explosives shall except as otherwise provided, be delivered directly to an approved magazine as required by State and Federal Law. No person shall buy, receive, or accept delivery of any Class "A" or Class "B" explosives unless he possesses adequate storage facilities as required by State and Federal Law.

**(Add) 65.9.6.2**

The provisions of this rule as they apply to storage facilities of the receiver may be waived if delivery is made in an approved magazine direct to the job site for immediate placement in previously prepared drill holes and further provided that the explosives are to be detonated in their entirety prior to sunset of the day of delivery.

**(Add) 65.9.6.3**

All explosive contents of portable magazines shall be removed and placed into an approved permanent magazine at the end of each day. No explosives shall be stored in a portable magazine overnight.

**(Add) 65.9.6.4**

If fire should come into contact with explosives, all personnel shall be removed to a safe location and the area guarded against intruders and no attempt shall be made to fight such a fire except from a safe distance or shelter.

**(Add) 65.9.6.5**

Any vehicle used to transport explosives shall be in proper working condition and shall be equipped with the proper magazine or magazines which shall be securely attached to the vehicle to prevent falling off. The explosives shall be so located so as not to be in contact with any source of heat, such as an exhaust pipe.

**(Add) 65.9.6.6**

No metal, flammable, or corrosive substances shall be transported with explosives.

**(Add) 65.9.6.7**

All explosives shall be handled carefully and never thrown from the vehicle.

**(Add) 65.9.6.8**

Radio transmitters shall be shut off on vehicles transporting explosives.

**(Add) 65.9.6.9**

No smoking shall be allowed on any vehicle containing Class "A" or Class "B" Explosives.

**(Add) 65.9.7 Additional Requirements**

**(Add) 65.9.7.1**

Any situation not covered by these Rules and Regulations shall be covered by NFPA Standard 495 and 498 referenced in section 65.9.1 of this Code.

**(Amd) 65.10.2 Permits.** Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.9.3.1 et seq. of this Code.

**(Res) 65.11.2 through 65.11.12.7.** Sections 65.11.2 through 65.11.12.7 are hereby reserved due to the fact that the retail sale of consumer fireworks is a prohibited activity in the State of Rhode Island.

**CHAPTER 66  
FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS**

**CHAPTER 67  
FLAMMABLE SOLIDS**

**CHAPTER 68  
HIGHLY TOXIC AND TOXIC SOLIDS AND LIQUIDS**

**CHAPTER 69  
LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GASES AND  
LIQUEFIED NATURAL GASES**

**(Amd) 69.1.2 Permits.**

Any firm desiring to engage in the business of storing, handling or dispensing LPG and/or LNG shall make written application to the State Fire Marshal, on forms provided by the State Fire Marshal. A certification of registration and permit shall be required for each separate facility. The application must be signed by the sole proprietor, or each partner, or by an officer of the company responsible for the acceptance of service of process.

**(Amd) 69.1.3**

Upon receipt of said application, the State Fire Marshal shall schedule a fire safety inspection of the facility of the facility in accordance with the provisions of chapter 69 of this Code and its referenced standards.

**(Amd) 69.1.4**

All permits must be renewed by January 1<sup>st</sup> annually.

**(Amd) 69.1.5 Permit fee.**

Each annual application for a permit hereunder shall be accompanied by a permit fee of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars, by check or money order made payable to the State of Rhode Island.

**(Amd) 69.1.6 Expiration of permits.**

All permits hereunder shall expire on the last day of each calendar year unless revoked under section 69.1.7, or unless an earlier expiration date is specifically noted on the permit.

**(Amd) 69.1.7 Revocation.**

The State Fire Marshal may either refuse to issue or renew, or he may suspend or revoke, any Certificate of Registration or Permit, for cause.

**(Amd) 69.1.8 Sufficient cause, includes, but is not limited to, the following:**

- a. A gross malpractice or gross incompetence in the handling, storage or dispensing of LPG or LNG.
- b. Violation of any provision of the Fire safety Code in general and/or this Chapter 69 in particular.
- c. A fire, explosion or other comparable incident at any facility under the control the permit holder.

**(Amd) 69.1.9 Hearings and review.**

Any person, firm, corporation, and/or co-partnership aggrieved by the decision of the State Fire Marshal to suspend, revoke or refuse to issue or renew a permit may petition the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review for a hearing pursuant to section 6-1-1 et seq. of the Fire Safety Code.

**(Add) 69.7.1** In addition to the requirements set forth in section 69.7, all existing, new, and modified liquefied petroleum gas plants and systems, having a total container water capacity in excess of 1,000 gallons, shall further provide the AHJ with an engineering study evaluating the liquefied petroleum gas plant and system's susceptibility to earthquake damage using the current procedures recommended by Factory Mutual, the Army Corps of Engineers and the seismic evaluation standards issued by FEMA.

**(Add) 69.7.2**

All new, existing, and modified liquefied petroleum gas plants and systems shall further comply with earthquake protection standards outlined in NFPA chapter 59 along with all other safety requirements mandated by the AHJ after his or her review of the engineering study outlined in section 69.7.1.

**(Add) 69.8.1**

In addition to the requirements set forth in section 69.8, all existing, new, and modified liquefied natural gas plants and systems, having a total container water capacity in excess of 1,000 gallons, shall further provide the AHJ with an engineering study evaluating the liquefied natural gas plant and system's susceptibility to earthquake damage using the current procedures recommended by Factory Mutual, the Army Corps of Engineers and the seismic evaluation standards issued by FEMA.

**(Add) 69.8.2**

All new, existing, and modified liquefied natural gas plants and systems shall further comply with earthquake protection standards outlined in NFPA chapter 59A along with all other safety requirements mandated by the AHJ after his or her review of the engineering study outlined in section 69.7.1.

**CHAPTER 70  
OXIDIZERS AND ORGANIC PEROXIDES**

**CHAPTER 71  
PYROPHORIC SOLIDS AND LIQUIDS**

**CHAPTER 72  
UNSTABLE (REACTIVE) SOLIDS AND LIQUIDS**

**CHAPTER 73  
WATER-REACTIVE SOLIDS AND LIQUIDS**

**ANNEX A**

**ANNEX B**

**ANNEX C**

**ANNEX D**

**ANNEX E**

**ANNEX F**

**ANNEX G**

**ANNEX H**

**ANNEX I**

**ANNEX J**

**ANNEX K**

## RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 8

### RHODE ISLAND LIFE SAFETY CODE OF THE RHODE ISLAND FIRE CODE

The Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection Association, Inc., Standard 101 (NFPA 101), 2003 edition, with appendices, except those portions specifically reserved, deleted, altered, added to, or otherwise amended as outlined in section 8 herein, and including all of the specific amendments to Standard 101, as outlined in section 8 herein, is hereby adopted by reference as the Rhode Island Life Safety Code. Copies of NFPA 101, 2003 edition, are available from the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy Massachusetts 02269-9101. The National Fire Protection Association's telephone number is 1-800-344-3555.

Copies of the reservations, deletions, alterations, additions and other amendments to this code, also known as the Rhode Island Fire Code Section 8, will be initially made available at the offices of the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and on the Fire Board's website at [www.fsc.state.ri.us](http://www.fsc.state.ri.us). Copies shall subsequently be available from LexisNexis / Matthew Bender & Co., 1275 Broadway, Albany, N.Y. 12204-2694. The LexisNexis telephone number is 1-800-562-1197.

The State Fire Marshal is the sole authority having jurisdiction for the strict enforcement of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code. The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction for administration of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code. Accordingly, the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction to grant variances, waivers, modifications and amendments from, or to review and accept any proposed fire safety equivalencies and alternatives to, the strict adherence to the provisions of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code and all referenced standards therein.

For the purposes of uniform administration, all exceptions listed in the Rhode Island Life Safety Code and its referenced standards, allowing for a discretionary waiver by the authority having jurisdiction, shall be referred directly to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review as outlined in Fire Safety Code section 6-1-1 et seq. The only official formal and binding interpretations of the provisions of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code and its referenced standards are those approved and published by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review pursuant to the procedures outlined in Fire Safety Code Section 6-1-3 et seq.

All new buildings and structures, for which a building permit is issued on or after February 20, 2004, shall be subject to the provisions of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code addressing the new occupancy.

All existing buildings and structures, and those buildings and structures for which a building permit was issued prior to February 20, 2004, shall be subject to the provisions of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code addressing the existing occupancy.

Any existing building or structure, subject to the provisions of the Rehabilitation Building and Fire Code for existing Buildings and Structures, shall also comply with the existing occupancy provisions of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code addressing the current or proposed occupancy.

All existing protection systems, such as sprinklers, fire alarms, emergency lighting and exit signs, installed in existing buildings, shall continue to be properly maintained.

The effective date of the “*Rhode Island Life Safety Code*” shall be February 20, 2004.

The provisions of NFPA 101, 2003 edition, as amended and referenced below, and incorporated herein as the “*Rhode Island Life Safety Code*”, shall be preceded by the acronym “RILSC”. All of the remaining provisions of NFPA 101, 2003 edition, adopted as the “*Rhode Island Life Safety Code*”, but not specifically addressed below, shall likewise be identified by the acronym “RILSC” preceding it. (Accordingly, “Chapter 1” below would be identified as “RILSC 1”. Likewise, “Section 1.1.2” below would be identified as “RILSC 1.1.2”.)

## **CHAPTER 1 ADMINISTRATION**

### **1.1 Scope**

#### **(Amd) 1.1.1 Title.**

The Title of this code shall be known as the “*Rhode Island Life Safety Code*”, is cited as such, and shall be referred to herein as “this *Code*” or “the *Code*”

#### **(Add) 1.1.1.2 Relationship to other fire codes.**

The “*Rhode Island Life Safety Code*” (NFPA 101, 2003 Edition, as amended) and the “*Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code*” (NFPA 1, 2003 Edition, as amended) comprise the “*Rhode Island Fire Safety Code*” as mandated by the Comprehensive Fire Safety Act of 2003.

The “*Rhode Island Fire Safety Code*” is the major component of the “*Fire Safety Code*” which includes all other statutory mandates found in chapter 28 of title 23 of the Rhode Island General Laws along with any additional rules and regulations adopted, by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review, pursuant to R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-3.

### **1.3 Application**

#### **(Amd) 1.3.1 New and Existing Buildings and Structures.**

The *Code* shall apply to both new construction and existing buildings and structures. All new buildings and structures, for which a building permit is issued on or after February 20, 2004, shall be subject to the provisions of *Rhode Island Fire Safety Code* addressing the new occupancy. All existing buildings and structures, and those buildings and structures for which a building permit was issued prior to February 20, 2004, shall be subject to the provisions of the

*Rhode Island Fire Safety Code* addressing the existing occupancy. Any existing building or structure, subject to the provisions of the Rehabilitation Building and Fire Code for Existing Buildings and Structures, shall also comply with the existing occupancy provisions of the *Rhode Island Fire Safety Code* addressing the current or proposed occupancy. All active fire protection systems, such as sprinklers, fire alarms, emergency lighting and exit signs, installed in existing buildings shall be properly maintained.

**(Amd) 1.4**

Nothing in this Code is intended to prevent the use of systems, methods, or devices of equivalent or superior quality, strength, fire resistance, effectiveness, durability, and safety over those prescribed by this code provided that any proposed equivalent systems, methods and devices are first approved by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Amd) 1.4.2 Approval.**

The system, method, or device shall be approved for the intended purpose by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Amd) 1.4.3 Equivalent Compliance.**

Alternative systems, methods, or devices approved as equivalent by the Fire safety Code Board of Appeal & Review shall be recognized as being in compliance with this code.

**(Amd) 1.6 Enforcement and Administration.**

**(Add) 1.6.1 Enforcement.**

The State Fire Marshal is the sole authority having jurisdiction for the strict enforcement of the provisions of this Code. The State Fire Marshal shall have authority to appoint and certify as many deputy state fire marshals and assistant deputy state fire marshals as are deemed necessary to strictly enforce the provisions of this Code. Accordingly, all deputy state fire marshals and assistant deputy state fire marshals shall be allowed to enforce this code as long as they maintain their certification in the above positions by the State Fire Marshal.

**(Add) 1.6.2. Administration.**

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction for administration of this Code. Accordingly, the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction to grant variances, waivers, modifications and amendments from, or to review and accept any proposed fire safety equivalencies and alternatives to, the strict adherence to the provisions of this Code and all referenced standards herein. For purposes of uniform administration, all exceptions listed in this Code, and its referenced standards, allowing for a discretionary waiver by the authority having jurisdiction, shall be referred directly to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review as outlined in Fire Safety Code Section 6-1-1 et seq.

**(Add) 1.6.2.1**

Procedures, adopted by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, addressing administrative appeals, are outlined in Fire Safety Code sections 6-1-1 through 6-1-11.

**(Add) 1.6.2.2**

Procedures, adopted by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, addressing administrative hearings and court appeals, are outlined in Fire Safety Code sections 6-2-1 through 6-2-20.

**(Add) 1.6.2.3**

Procedures, adopted by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, addressing the board's rule making authority, are outlined in Fire Safety Code sections 6-3-1 through 6-3-5.

**(Add) 1.6.2.4**

Procedures, adopted by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, addressing code interpretation by the board, are outlined in Fire Safety Code section 6-4-1 through 6-4-5.

**(Add) 1.6.3**

Police and other enforcement agencies shall have authority to render necessary assistance in the enforcement of this Code when expressly requested to do so by the State Fire Marshal.

**(Add) 1.6.4.**

The State Fire Marshal may delegate to other qualified individuals such powers as are necessary for the proper enforcement of the Code. The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review may delegate to its appointed staff such powers as are necessary for the proper administration of this Code.

**(Add) 1.6.5.**

The State Fire Marshal is authorized to inspect, at all reasonable times, any building or premises for dangerous or hazardous conditions or materials as set forth in this Code and the general provisions of the Fire Safety Code. The State Fire Marshal may order any person(s) to remove or remedy such dangerous or hazardous condition or material. Any person(s) failing to comply with such an order shall be in violation of the Fire Safety Code. Any person so charged with a violation of this Code shall have the right to appeal the order of the State Fire Marshal to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review. An appeal does not automatically stay the State Fire Marshal's order. However, the Chairman of the Board, or his designee, may, for good cause shown, stay the order of the State Fire Marshal pending review by the full Board.

**(Add) 1.6.6. Abatement.**

The State Fire Marshal, or his or her designee within the division, or an assistant deputy state fire marshal in accordance with the guidelines established by the State Fire Marshal and with the State Fire Marshal's approval, has the authority to summarily abate any condition which presents immediate danger to life, which conditions shall include improper management or use of flammable and combustible materials, liquids and gasses, pyrotechnics, fireworks or explosives, malfunctioning heating and electrical systems, and blocked or inadequate exits or means of egress, and other such conditions as may be established by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review. A failure to abate a condition that presents a clear and immediate danger to life shall be grounds for the person issuing the order to abate, to require that the premises be vacated, which action shall be either authorized by the State Fire Marshal or a designee of the State Fire

Marshal who has been given advanced written authority by the State Fire Marshal to approve such actions.

## **CHAPTER 2 REFERENCED PUBLICATIONS**

### **(Add) 2.2.1**

Additional NFPA Publications: National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101

NFPA 720, *Recommended Practice for the Installation of Household Carbon Monoxide (CO) Warning Equipment*, 2003 edition.

## **CHAPTER 3 DEFINITIONS**

### **(Amd) 3.3.27.3**

***Apartment Building.*** A building or portion thereof containing four or more dwelling units with independent cooking and bathroom facilities.

### **(Add) 3.3.27.3.1**

***Three Family Apartment Building.*** A building or portion thereof containing three dwelling units with independent cooking and bathroom facilities. This code shall provide reasonable standards and a timetable for the installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in three family apartment buildings.

### **(Add) 3.3.152.2.2**

***Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly.*** The term “special amusement building concentrated occupancy place of assembly” shall mean a place of assembly with a maximum occupancy calculated on the basis of less than fifteen square feet (15 sq. ft.) per person and for which either there is a license issued pursuant to Rhode Island General Law chapter 3-7 or there is entertainment or there are both a liquor license and entertainment. The above fifteen square feet (15 sq. ft.) per person calculation shall be exclusive of any separately calculated limited incidental spaces designated as a waiting area by the AHJ. This classification of occupancy shall also not apply buildings, containing separately calculated booths or similar fixed seating, determined not to be concentrated occupancies by the AHJ.

***Emergency Shelter Occupancy.*** A building or portion thereof, used on a temporary basis, to provide sleeping accommodations for transient individuals who have no alternative shelter arrangements during periods of severe life-threatening weather.

**CHAPTER 4  
GENERAL**

**CHAPTER 5  
PERFORMANCE-BASED OPTIONS**

**CHAPTER 6  
CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPANCY AND  
HAZARD OF CONTENTS**

**CHAPTER 7  
MEANS OF EGRESS**

**CHAPTER 8  
FEATURES OF FIRE PROTECTION**

**CHAPTER 9  
BUILDING SERVICE AND FIRE  
PROTECTION EQUIPMENT**

**(Amd) 9.6.1.3**

A fire alarm system required for life safety shall be installed, tested, and maintained in accordance with the applicable requirements of NFPA 70, National Electrical Code, NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Amd) 9.6.1.6**

To ensure operational integrity, the fire alarm system shall have an approved maintenance and testing program complying with the applicable requirements of NFPA 70, National Electrical Code, NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Res) 9.6.3.2.1 through 9.6.3.2.4**

Sections 9.6.3.2.1 through 9.6.3.2.4 of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code are hereby reserved pending future review by the Rules and Regulations Subcommittee of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Res) 9.6.3.5.1 through 9.6.3.5.6**

Sections 9.6.3.5.1 through 9.6.3.5.6 of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code are hereby reserved pending future review by the Rules and Regulations Subcommittee of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Add) 9.6.8**

Any building that is not a place of assembly, that is required to be equipped with a fire alarm pursuant to this Code, shall be so equipped on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Add) 9.7.1.1.1**

In the retrofitting of an existing building with sprinklers, alternatively engineered sprinkler systems, approved for the specific occupancy by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, may be substituted for the systems outlined in 9.7.1.1 with the approval of the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 10  
INTERIOR FINISH, CONTENTS, AND FURNISHINGS**

**CHAPTER 11  
SPECIAL STRUCTURES AND HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS**

**(Amd) 11.2.3.4**

**Detection, Alarm, and Communications Systems.** Open structures shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, if so required by the provisions of those Codes.

**(Amd) 11.3.3.4**

**Detection, Alarm, and Communications Systems.** Towers shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, if so required by the provisions of those Codes.

**(Amd) 11.4.3.4**

**Detection, Alarm, and Communications Systems.** Water-surrounded structures shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, if so required by the provisions of those codes.

**(Amd) 11.8.3.1**

A fire alarm system using an approved, emergency voice / alarm communication system shall be installed in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Add) 11.8.3.3**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 12  
NEW ASSEMBLY OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 12.2.5.4.1**

Festival seating, as defined in 3.3.188.1, shall be prohibited within a building, unless otherwise permitted by the following:

- (1) Festival seating shall be permitted in assembly occupancies having occupant loads of 250 or less.
- (2) Festival seating shall be permitted in assembly occupancies where occupant loads exceed 250 and an approved life safety evaluation has been performed. (*See 12.4.1*)

**(Amd) 12.3.4.1**

All assembly occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Amd) 12.3.5.1**

All new places of assembly shall be completely protected by an approved system of automatic sprinklers installed and maintained in accordance with 9.7.1.1.

**(Add) 12.3.5.2.1**

The requirements of 12.3.5.1 shall also not apply to the following:

- (1) Any place of assembly of less concentrated use, with an occupancy of 300 or fewer people, calculated at 15 square feet per person.

(The above fifteen square feet (15 sq. ft.) per person calculation shall be exclusive of any separately calculated limited incidental spaces designated as a waiting area by the AHJ.

The above fifteen square feet (15 sq. ft.) per person calculation shall also not apply buildings, containing separately calculated booths or similar fixed seating, determined not to be concentrated occupancies by the AHJ.)

- (2) Any place of assembly of concentrated use, with an occupancy of 300 or fewer people, not meeting the definition of a *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly* as outlined in 3.3.152.2.2.

- (3) Any place of assembly of concentrated use, meeting the definition of a *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly*, as outlined in 3.3.152.2.2, with a posted maximum occupancy of less than 150 people.

**(Add) 12.3.5.4**

Any place of assembly, not required to be sprinkled, shall render all furniture, decorative and acoustical materials, floors, walls, ceilings and their coverings flame resistant, by the application of fire retardant materials approved by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Add) 12.3.5.5**

The requirements of 12.3.5.4 shall not apply to a place of assembly that voluntarily installs approved sprinklers, in accordance with 9.7.1.1.

**(Add) 12.4.7.1.1**

All *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Places of Assembly*, as defined in 3.3.152.2.2, shall comply with the requirements of 12.4.7.2 through 12.4.7.8 and shall be inspected annually by the AHJ.

**(Add) 12.4.7.1.2**

Each stage area, within *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly*, shall be provided with, and maintain, two fire extinguishers approved by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Add) 12.4.7.1.3**

The responsible management of each *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly*, shall provide an audible announcement of the location of emergency exits prior to each act or set.

**(Add) 12.4.7.1.4**

The responsible management of each *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly*, shall have an emergency plan for the rapid evacuation of the premises approved by the state fire marshal. The plan shall identify the egress system of the building, explain, on a step-by-step basis, how the crowd manager on duty will complete the evacuation, and explain how the crowd manager will direct the occupants to safety in the event of one or more blocked exits.

**(Add) 12.4.7.2.1**

Any *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly*, as outlined in 3.3.152.2.2, with a posted maximum occupancy of less than 150 people, shall not required to install the sprinkler coverage outlined in 12.4.7.1.

**(Amd) 12.6 Means of Egress Inspection.**

**(Add) 12.6.1**

The building owner or agent shall inspect the means of egress to ensure it is maintained free of obstructions, and correct any deficiencies found, prior to each opening of the building to the public.

**(Add) 12.6.2**

In places of assembly which have scheduled activities for recreational, educational, political, fraternal, social, or amusement purposes, the owner or management must inspect every exit from the building not more than ninety (90) minutes prior to the beginning of any meeting, concert, etc. If the inspection reveals blocked exits, the scheduled presentation must not begin until the exits are cleared and made easily accessible, assuring the safety and welfare of the patrons.

**(Add) 12.6.3**

The building owner or agent shall prepare and maintain records of the date and time of each inspection on approved forms, listing any deficiencies found and actions taken to correct them.

**(Add) 12.7.2.1**

The use of pyrotechnic devices, outlined in 12.7.2, shall be limited to the places of assembly with occupancy loads in excess of 1000 persons and to those places of assembly, that are theaters, with occupancy loads of greater than 300 but less than 1001. All such places of assembly must be fully sprinkled and further protected by a municipally connected fire alarm system.

**(Amd) 12.7.5 Crowd Management**

**(Amd) 12.7.5.2**

The crowd manager shall receive appropriate training in emergency planning and basic crowd control techniques, by the state fire marshal, or his or her designee, on or before October 1, 2004.

**(Add) 12.7.5.2.1**

The crowd manager(s) identified in 12.7.5.1 shall be in addition to the detail fire fighter(s) identified in 12.7.5.4 through 12.7.5.10.

**(Add) 12.7.5.3**

**Admissions supervised.** Admissions to all places of assembly shall be supervised by the responsible management or by the person or persons delegated with the responsibility by the management, and the responsible person shall not allow admissions in excess of the maximum occupancy posted by the State Fire Marshal or his or her designee.

**(Add) 12.7.5.4**

All places of assembly with an occupancy load of greater than 1000 people shall have a uniformed fire fighter, and any additional uniformed fire fighters on duty when deemed necessary by the designee of the state fire marshal in the local fire department.

**(Add) 12.7.5.5**

All places of assembly, of less concentrated use, with an occupancy load of greater than 300 people, but less than 1001 people, shall have a uniformed fire fighter, and any additional uniformed fire fighters on duty when deemed necessary by the designee of the state fire marshal in the local fire department.

**(Add) 12.7.5.6**

All places of assembly, of concentrated use, with an occupancy load of greater than 50 people, but less than 1001 people shall have a uniformed fire fighter, and any additional uniformed fire fighters on duty when deemed necessary by the designee of the state fire marshal in the local fire department except as provided under 12.7.5.7.

**(Add) 12.7.5.7**

All places of assembly, of concentrated or less concentrated use, with an occupancy load of greater than 50 people, but less than 1001 people, being utilized for activities that could potentially cause the place of assembly to be unsafe, dangerous or hazardous shall have one uniformed fire fighter on duty during such activity and any additional uniformed fire fighters on duty when deemed necessary by the designee of the state fire marshal in the local fire department unless this requirement is specifically waived in writing for each such event.

**(Add) 12.7.5.8**

The cost of all fire fighters on duty under 12.7.5.4 through 12.7.5.7 shall be borne by the management of the facility.

**(Add) 12.7.5.9**

Fire fighter(s) assigned a detail pursuant to 12.7.5.4 through 12.7.5.7 shall be equipped with portable communication devices which shall be provided by the local fire department to allow direct communication to the dispatcher of the local fire department.

**(Add) 12.7.5.10**

The provisions of R.I.G.L. 23-28.2-17 shall apply to any fire fighter assigned a detail, to a place of assembly, pursuant to 12.7.5.4 through 12.7.5.7.

## **CHAPTER 13**

### **EXISTING ASSEMBLY OCCUPANCIES**

#### ***Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly.***

**(Amd) 13.2.5.4.1**

Festival seating, as defined in 3.3.188.1, shall be prohibited within a building, unless otherwise permitted by the following:

(1) Festival seating shall be permitted in assembly occupancies having occupant loads of 250 or less.

(2) Festival seating shall be permitted in assembly occupancies where occupant loads exceed 250 and an approved life safety evaluation has been performed. (*See 13.4.1*)

**(Amd) 13.3.4.1**

All assembly occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Amd) 13.3.5.1**

All existing places of assembly shall be completely protected by an approved system of automatic sprinklers installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA Standard 13, 2002 edition, and its related standards pursuant to the schedule outlined in section 13.3.5.1.1.

**(Add) 13.3.5.1.1**

All places of assembly with occupancy loads of more than 300 shall be completely protected by an approved system of automatic sprinklers, installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA Standard 13, 2002 edition, and its related standards, on or before July 1, 2005.

All places of assembly with occupancy loads of 300 or less shall be completely protected by an approved system of automatic sprinklers, installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA Standard 13, 2002 edition, and its related standards, on or before July 1, 2006.

**(Add) 13.3.5.2.1**

The requirements of 13.3.5.1 and 13.3.5.1.1 shall also not apply to the following:

(1) Any place of assembly of less concentrated use, with an occupancy of 300 or fewer people, calculated at 15 square feet per person. (The above fifteen square feet (15 sq. ft.) per person calculation shall be exclusive of any separately calculated limited incidental spaces designated as a waiting area by the AHJ. The above fifteen square feet (15 sq. ft.) per person calculation shall also not apply buildings, containing separately calculated booths or similar fixed seating, determined not to be concentrated occupancies by the AHJ.)

(2) Any place of assembly of concentrated use, with an occupancy of 300 or fewer people, not meeting the definition of a *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly* as outlined in 3.3.152.2.2.

(3) Any place of assembly of concentrated use, meeting the definition of a *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly*, as outlined in 3.3.152.2.2, with a posted maximum occupancy of less than 150 people.

(4) Any existing fully alarmed building used exclusively as a place of worship. (This exemption shall include places of worship with incidental business offices, religious education programs, and other programs designed watch children during the limited period of time that their parents or guardians attend religious services in the building. It shall also include the temporary programs outlined in chapter 27 of this Code until July 1, 2006. This exemption shall not include places of worship maintaining such licensed activities as child day care and Bingo. Permission for limited one time or annual events may be sought from the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.)

**(Add) 13.3.5.4**

Any place of assembly, not required to be sprinkled, shall, on or before July 1, 2006, render all furniture, decorative and acoustical materials, floors, walls, ceilings and their coverings flame resistant, by the application of fire retardant materials approved by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Add) 13.3.5.5.1**

The requirements of 13.3.5.4 shall not apply to a place of assembly that voluntarily installs approved sprinklers, in accordance with 9.7.1.1, on or before July 1, 2006.

**(Add) 13.3.5.5**

The occupancy of any place of assembly without a fire alarm system and/or sprinkler system after July 1, 2004, shall have its maximum occupancy adjusted by minus ten percent (10%) for the absence of a fire alarm system and minus twenty (20%) for the absence of a sprinkler system, when sprinklers are required by law or regulation. Such downward adjustment in occupancy shall be cumulative and shall cease to apply when the premises are in compliance with the requirements for fire alarm systems and sprinklers, and shall not affect any other requirements of this Code, or the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review, applicable to the premises.

**(Add) 13.3.5.5.1**

A place of assembly, with an occupancy of between one hundred fifty (150) and three hundred (300) people, may avoid the requirements of section 13.3.5.5 by requiring a fire fighter on duty, as outlined in section 13.7.5.9, during all hours of occupancy. However, the occupancy re-adjustment with the required firefighter shall not alter the July 1, 2006 deadline for the installation of sprinklers.

**(Add) 13.4.7.1.1**

All *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Places of Assembly*, as defined in 3.3.152.2.2, shall comply with the requirements of 13.4.7.2 through 13.4.7.8 and shall be inspected annually by the AHJ.

**(Add) 13.4.7.1.2**

Each stage area, within *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly*, shall be provided with, and maintain, two fire extinguishers approved by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Add) 13.4.7.1.3**

The responsible management of each *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly*, shall provide an audible announcement of the location of emergency exits prior to each act or set.

**(Add) 13.4.7.1.4**

The responsible management of each *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly*, shall have an emergency plan for the rapid evacuation of the premises approved by the state fire marshal. The plan shall identify the egress system of the building, explain, on a step-by-step basis, how the crowd manager on duty will complete the evacuation, and explain how the crowd manager will direct the occupants to safety in the event of one or more blocked exits.

**(Add) 13.4.7.2.1**

Any *Special Amusement Building Concentrated Occupancy Place of Assembly*, as outlined in 3.3.152.2.2, with a posted maximum occupancy of less than 150 people, shall not be required to install the sprinkler coverage outlined in 13.4.7.1.

**(Amd) 13.6 Means of Egress Inspection.**

**(Add) 13.6.1**

The building owner or agent shall inspect the means of egress to ensure it is maintained free of obstructions, and correct any deficiencies found, prior to each opening of the building to the public.

**(Add) 13.6.2**

In places of assembly which have scheduled activities for recreational, educational, political, fraternal, social, or amusement purposes, the owner or management must inspect every exit from the building not more than ninety (90) minutes prior to the beginning of any meeting, concert, etc. If the inspection reveals blocked exits, the scheduled presentation must not begin until the exits are cleared and made easily accessible, assuring the safety and welfare of the patrons.

**(Add) 13.6.3**

The building owner or agent shall prepare and maintain records of the date and time of each inspection on approved forms, listing any deficiencies found and actions taken to correct them.

**(Add) 13.7.2.1**

The use of open flame devices or pyrotechnic devices, outlined in 12.7.2, shall be limited to the places of assembly with occupancy loads in excess of 1000 persons and to those places of assembly, that are theaters, with occupancy loads of greater than 300 but less than 1001. All such places of assembly must be fully sprinkled and further protected by a municipally connected fire alarm system.

**(Amd) 13.7.5 Crowd Management**

**(Amd) 13.7.5.2**

The crowd manager shall receive appropriate training in emergency planning and basic crowd control techniques, by the state fire marshal, or his or her designee, on or before October 1, 2004.

**(Add) 13.7.5.2.1**

The crowd manager(s) identified in 12.7.5.1 shall be in addition to the detail fire fighter(s) identified in 12.7.5.4 through 12.7.5.10.

**(Add) 13.7.5.3**

**Admissions supervised.** Admissions to all places of assembly shall be supervised by the responsible management or by the person or persons delegated with the responsibility by the management, and the responsible person shall not allow admissions in excess of the maximum occupancy posted by the State Fire Marshal or his or her designee.

**(Add) 13.7.5.4**

All places of assembly with an occupancy load of greater than 1000 people shall have a uniformed fire fighter, and any additional uniformed fire fighters on duty when deemed necessary by the designee of the state fire marshal in the local fire department.

**(Add) 13.7.5.5**

All places of assembly, of less concentrated use, with an occupancy load of greater than 300 people, but less than 1001 people, shall have a uniformed fire fighter, and any additional uniformed fire fighters on duty when deemed necessary by the designee of the state fire marshal in the local fire department.

**(Add) 13.7.5.6**

All places of assembly, of concentrated use, with an occupancy load of greater than 50 people, but less than 1001 people shall have a uniformed fire fighter, and any additional uniformed fire fighters on duty when deemed necessary by the designee of the state fire marshal in the local fire department except as provided under 12.7.5.7.

**(Add) 13.7.5.7**

All places of assembly, of concentrated or less concentrated use, with an occupancy load of greater than 50 people, but less than 1001 people, being utilized for activities that could potentially cause the place of assembly to be unsafe, dangerous or hazardous shall have one uniformed fire fighter on duty during such activity and any additional uniformed fire fighters on duty when deemed necessary by the designee of the state fire marshal in the local fire department unless this requirement is specifically waived in writing for each such event.

**(Add) 13.7.5.8**

The cost of all fire fighters on duty under 12.7.5.4 through 12.7.5.7 shall be borne by the management of the facility.

**(Add) 13.7.5.9**

Fire fighter(s) assigned a detail pursuant to 12.7.5.4 through 12.7.5.7 shall be equipped with portable communication devices which shall be provided by the local fire department to allow direct communication to the dispatcher of the local fire department.

**(Add) 13.7.5.10**

he provisions of R.I.G.L. 23-28.2-17 shall apply to any fire fighter assigned a detail, to a place of assembly, pursuant to 12.7.5.4 through 12.7.5.7.

**CHAPTER 14  
NEW EDUCATIONAL OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 14.3.4.1.1**

Educational occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code,

**(Amd) 14.3.4.1.2**

Exceptions to the above fire alarm requirements, if any, shall be listed in amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code,

**(Add) 14.3.4.4**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Add) 14.7.3.3** All new educational occupancies shall be inspected annually by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 15  
EXISTING EDUCATIONAL OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 15.3.4.1.1**

Educational occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code,.

**(Amd) 15.3.4.1.2**

Exceptions to the above fire alarm requirements, if any, shall be listed in amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code,.

**(Add) 15.3.4.4**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Add) 15.7.3.3**

All existing educational occupancies shall be inspected annually by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 16  
NEW DAY-CARE OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 16.3.4.1. General.**

Day-care occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Add) 16.3.4.1.1**

Exceptions to the above fire alarm requirements, if any, shall be listed in amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Add) 16.3.4.1.2.**

**Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.** In addition, every child day-care occupancy shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72 and NFPA 720.

**(Add) 16.3.4.6**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 17  
EXISTING DAY-CARE OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 17.3.4.1. General.**

Day-care occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code,. Any day-care occupancy, not previously required to install such an alarm system, shall have the above system installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Add) 17.3.4.1.1**

Exceptions to the above fire alarm requirements, if any, shall be listed in amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code,.

**(Add) 17.3.4.1.2.**

**Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.** In addition, every child day-care occupancy shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72 and NFPA 720. Any day-care occupancy, not previously required to install such alarms, shall have the above alarms installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Add) 17.3.4.6**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 18  
NEW HEALTH CARE OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 18.3.4.1**

**General.** Health care occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code,.

**(Add) 18.3.4.6**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 19  
EXISTING HEALTH CARE OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 19.3.4.1**

**General.** Health care occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code,.

**(Add) 19.3.4.6**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 20  
NEW AMBULATORY HEALTH CARE OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 20.3.4.1.**

**General.** Ambulatory health care facilities shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, except as modified by 20.3.4.2 through 20.3.4.5.

**(Add) 20.3.4.6**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 21**  
**EXISTING AMBULATORY HEALTH CARE OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 21.3.4.1.**

**General.** Ambulatory health care facilities shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, except as modified by 21.3.4.2 through 21.3.4.5.

**(Add) 21.3.4.6**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 22**  
**NEW DETENTION AND CORRECTIONAL OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 22.3.4.1.1**

Detention and correctional occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, except as modified by 22.3.4.1.3 through 22.3.4.4.3.

**(Add) 22.3.4.5**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 23**  
**EXISTING DETENTION AND CORRECTIONAL OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 23.3.4.1.1**

Detention and correctional occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, except as modified by 23.3.4.1.3 through 23.3.4.4.4.

**(Add) 23.3.4.5**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 24**  
**ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS**

**(Delete) 24.1 through 24.5.1.2**

Sections 24.1 through 24.5.1.2 of Chapter 24 are hereby deleted and replaced with the following sections:

**(Add) 24.1**

Compliance with State Building and Minimum Housing Codes.

**(Add) 24.1.1**

All one and two family dwellings shall remain subject to, and comply with, the State Building Code adopted pursuant to RIGL 23-27.3 et seq.

**(Add) 24.1.2**

All one and two family dwellings shall further remain subject to, and comply with the Minimum Housing Standards outlined in RIGL 45-24.2-1 et seq.

**(Add) 24.2**

**Installation of Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms-New and converted buildings.**

**(Add) 24.2.1**

All buildings hereinafter constructed or converted for residential occupancy, including mobile and modular homes, shall be provided with smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ.

**(Add) 24.2.1.1**

The above smoke and carbon monoxide detectors may be installed as either separate or combination units approved by the AHJ.

**(Add) 24.2.1.2**

The above smoke and carbon monoxide detectors may be either hardwired or wireless units approved by the AHJ.

**(Add) 24.2.1.3**

The local fire authorities certified by the State Fire Marshal as prescribed in RIGL 23-28.2.6, in cooperation with the local building code officials, shall enforce the provisions of this chapter.

**(Add) 24.2.1.4**

Compliance with the above provisions shall be considered a prerequisite to the approval, by the fire authority, of any certificate of occupancy issued by the building official pursuant to RIGL 23-27.3-120.

**(Add) 24.2.1.5**

It shall be the responsibility of the owner to maintain in operable condition smoke and carbon monoxide detection systems, installed as required pursuant to this chapter, and the owner shall make operable, within seven (7) days after being notified by certified mail by the occupant and/or enforcement official, any inoperable system.

**(Add) 24.2.1.5.1**

If the owner fails to make the system operable within the required seven (7) days, the tenant may cause the system to be made operable if the reasonable total reasonable cost of making the repairs does not exceed the sum of twenty dollars (\$20.00), and the tenant may deduct from his or her rent the actual reasonable cost of repairs not to exceed twenty (\$20.00).

**(Add) 24.2.1.5.2**

The payment of the reasonable costs, outlined in section 24.2.1.5.1, shall not exempt the owner from the payment of fines for violation of this Code as outlined in RIGL 23-28.3-9.

**(Add) 24.3 Installation of Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms-Existing Buildings**

**(Add) 24.3.1**

All occupied residential properties, including mobile homes, shall, at the responsibility of the seller before title to the property is transferred, be provided with smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ.

**(Add) 24.3.1.1**

The above smoke and carbon monoxide detectors may be installed as either separate or combination units approved by the AHJ.

**(Add) 24.3.1.2**

The above smoke and carbon monoxide detectors may be either battery operated, hardwired or wireless units approved by the AHJ.

**(Add) 24.3.1.3**

The local fire authorities shall enforce the provisions of this chapter. The State Fire Marshal's Office may enforce the provisions of this chapter when so requested to by the local authority or when the local authority is either unwilling or unable to fulfill its obligations under this chapter.

**(Add) 24.3.1.3.1**

The local fire authority that performs smoke and carbon monoxide detector inspections in all residential occupancies shall, at the time of the inspection, be allowed to charge a thirty dollar (\$30.00) fee for the inspection of any residential occupancy. The responsibility of this charged fee will be borne by the seller on each occurrence before title to the property is transferred. A thirty dollar (\$30.00) fee will be allowed for any subsequent re-inspection of the same residential occupancy due to improper installation, wrong location, improper wiring method, or the seller's failure to maintain a mutually agreed upon appointment with the local fire authority that

performs the inspection function. The fees collected by the local fire authority shall be used for fire prevention purposes in that particular city, town, fire district, or other municipal subdivision.

**(Add) 24.3.1.4**

At the time of the transfer of title, the seller must provide the purchaser with a certificate from the fire department for the community in which the dwelling is located stating that the smoke and carbon monoxide detector systems have been inspected within sixty (60) days prior to the date of sale and has been determined to be in good working order. The fire department for the community in which the dwelling is located must inspect the smoke and carbon monoxide detector systems of the dwelling within ten (10) days of a request from the owner. The inspection may be conducted by qualified personnel of the department or the State Fire Marshal's Office. No fire department nor the State Fire Marshal shall be liable for any damage caused by the subsequent malfunction of a smoke detection system or carbon monoxide detector system which it inspected.

**(Add) 24.3.1.4.1**

Transfers of real property are exempt from compliance with the provisions of sections 24.2.2 through 24.2.2.7 if:

- (1) The property being transferred does not contain residential dwellings;
- (2) Within the past six months a certificate of use or occupancy has been issued, in accordance with section 24.2.1.4, for the property being transferred;
- (3) The property being transferred currently maintains the smoke and carbon monoxide detection systems in accordance with this chapter;
- (4) The property being transferred is uninhabitable without the issuance of a certificate of use and occupancy referenced in section 24.2.1.4;
- (5) The property is being transferred pursuant to a foreclosure sale, a tax sale, as a redemption of a tax sale, or in lieu of foreclosure, and provided further that the requirements of this chapter 24 shall met prior to the re-occupancy of the property;
- (6) The property is being transferred by operation of law, or pursuant to an order of any United States court, or any superior or family court of the State of Rhode Island, and provided further that such court order specifically directs non-compliance with this chapter 24; or
- (7) The property is being acquired by the state for demolition and will not be sold or used by the state for residential purposes.

**(Add) 24.3.1.5**

It shall be the responsibility of the owner to maintain in operable condition smoke and carbon monoxide detection systems, installed as required pursuant to this chapter, and the owner shall make operable, within seven (7) days after being notified by certified mail by the occupant and/or enforcement official, any inoperable system.

**(Add) 24.3.1.5.1**

If the owner fails to make the system operable within the required seven (7) days, the tenant may cause the system to be made operable if the reasonable total reasonable cost of making the

repairs does not exceed the sum of twenty dollars (\$20.00), and the tenant may deduct from his or her rent the actual reasonable cost of repairs not to exceed twenty (\$20.00).

**(Add) 24.3.1.6**

Owners of existing residential properties, previously required to install smoke detectors, shall maintain those detectors in good operating condition.

**(Add) 24.3.1.7**

Owners of existing residential properties, previously required to install smoke detectors, shall not be required to immediately install the carbon monoxide detectors. However, full compliance with section 24.2.2 through 24.2.2.7 shall be required with the next transfer of title.

**CHAPTER 25**  
**Three Family Apartment Building.**

**(Add) 25.1**

Compliance with State Building and Minimum Housing Codes.

**(Add) 25.1.1**

All three family apartment buildings shall remain subject to, and comply with, the State Building Code adopted pursuant to RIGL 23-27.3 et seq.

**(Add) 25.1.2**

All three family apartment buildings shall further remain subject to, and comply with the Minimum Housing Standards outlined in RIGL 45-24.2-1 et seq.

**(Add) 25.2 Installation of Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.**

**(Add) 25.2.1**

All three family apartment buildings hereinafter constructed or converted for residential occupancy, including modular homes, shall be provided with smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ.

**(Add) 25.2.1.1**

The above smoke and carbon monoxide detectors may be installed as either separate or combination units approved by the AHJ.

**(Add) 25.2.1.2**

The above smoke and carbon monoxide detectors may be either hardwired or wireless units approved by the AHJ.

**(Add) 25.2.1.3**

The local fire authorities certified by the State Fire Marshal as prescribed in RIGL 23-28.2.6, in cooperation with the local building code officials, shall enforce the provisions of this chapter.

**(Add) 25.2.1.4**

Compliance with the above provisions shall be considered a prerequisite to the approval, by the fire authority, of any certificate of occupancy issued by the building official pursuant to RIGL 23-273-120.

**(Add) 25.2.1.5**

It shall be the responsibility of the owner to maintain in operable condition smoke and carbon monoxide detection systems, installed as required pursuant to this chapter, and the owner shall make operable, within seven (7) days after being notified by certified mail by the occupant and/or enforcement official, any inoperable system.

**(Add) 25.2.1.5.1**

If the owner fails to make the system operable within the required seven (7) days, the tenant may cause the system to be made operable if the reasonable total reasonable cost of making the repairs does not exceed the sum of twenty dollars (\$20.00), and the tenant may deduct from his or her rent the actual reasonable cost of repairs not to exceed twenty (\$20.00).

**(Add) 25.2.1.5.2**

The payment of the reasonable costs, outlined in section 25.2.1.5.1, shall not exempt the owner from the payment of fines for violation of this Code as outlined in RIGL 23-28.3-9.

**(Add) 25.2.2**

On and after July 1, 2008, all three family apartment buildings, shall, at the responsibility of the owner, be provided with smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ. Prior to July 1, 2008, all three family apartment buildings, shall, at the responsibility of the seller before title to the property is transferred, be provided with smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ.

**(Add) 25.2.2.1**

The above smoke and carbon monoxide detectors may be installed as either separate or combination units approved by the AHJ.

**(Add) 25.2.2.2**

Prior to July 1, 2008, the above smoke and carbon monoxide detectors may be either battery operated, hardwired or wireless units approved by the AHJ. On and after July 1, 2008, The above smoke and carbon monoxide detectors shall be hardwired or wireless units approved by the AHJ.

**(Add) 25.2.2.3**

The local fire authorities shall enforce the provisions of this chapter. The State Fire Marshal's Office may enforce the provisions of this chapter when so requested to by the local authority or when the local authority is either unwilling or unable to fulfill its obligations under this chapter.

**(Add) 25.2.2.3.1**

The local fire authority that performs smoke and carbon monoxide detector inspections in all residential occupancies shall, at the time of the inspection, be allowed to charge a thirty dollar (\$30.00) fee for the inspection of any residential occupancy. The responsibility of this charged fee will be borne by the seller on each occurrence before title to the property is transferred. A thirty dollar (\$30.00) fee will be allowed for any subsequent re-inspection of the same residential occupancy due to improper installation, wrong location, improper wiring method, or the seller's failure to maintain a mutually agreed upon appointment with the local fire authority that performs the inspection function. The fees collected by the local fire authority shall be used for fire prevention purposes in that particular city, town, fire district, or other municipal subdivision.

**(Add) 25.2.2.4**

At the time of the transfer of title, the seller must provide the purchaser with a certificate from the fire department for the community in which the dwelling is located stating that the smoke and carbon monoxide detector systems have been inspected within sixty (60) days prior to the date of sale and has been determined to be in good working order. The fire department for the community in which the dwelling is located must inspect the smoke and carbon monoxide detector systems of the dwelling within ten (10) days of a request from the owner. The inspection may be conducted by qualified personnel of the department or the State Fire Marshal's Office. No fire department nor the State Fire Marshal shall be liable for any damage caused by the subsequent malfunction of a smoke detection system or carbon monoxide detector system which it inspected.

**(Add) 25.2.2.4.1** Transfers of real property are exempt from compliance with the provisions of sections 25.2.2 through 25.2.2.7 if:

- (1) The property being transferred does not contain residential dwellings;
- (2) Within the past six months a certificate of use or occupancy has been issued, in accordance with section 25.2.1.4, for the property being transferred;
- (3) The property being transferred currently maintains the smoke and carbon monoxide detection systems in accordance with this chapter;
- (4) The property being transferred is uninhabitable without the issuance of a certificate of use and occupancy referenced in section 25.2.1.4;
- (5) The property is being transferred pursuant to a foreclosure sale, a tax sale, as a redemption of a tax sale, or in lieu of foreclosure, and provided further that the requirements of this chapter 25 shall met prior to the re-occupancy of the property;
- (6) The property is being transferred by operation of law, or pursuant to an order of any United States court, or any superior or family court of the State of Rhode Island, and provided further that such court order specifically directs non-compliance with this chapter 25; or
- (7) The property is being acquired by the state for demolition and will not be sold or used by the state for residential purposes.

**(Add) 25.2.2.5**

It shall be the responsibility of the owner to maintain in operable condition smoke and carbon monoxide detection systems, installed as required pursuant to this chapter, and the owner shall

make operable, within seven (7) days after being notified by certified mail by the occupant and/or enforcement official, any inoperable system.

**(Add) 25.2.2.5.1**

If the owner fails to make the system operable within the required seven (7) days, the tenant may cause the system to be made operable if the reasonable total reasonable cost of making the repairs does not exceed the sum of twenty dollars (\$20.00), and the tenant may deduct from his or her rent the actual reasonable cost of repairs not to exceed twenty (\$20.00).

**(Add) 25.2.2.6**

Owners of existing residential properties, previously required to install smoke detectors, shall maintain those detectors in good operating condition.

**(Add) 25.2.2.7**

Owners of existing residential properties, previously required to install smoke detectors, shall not be required to immediately install the carbon monoxide detectors. However, full compliance with section 25.2.2 through 25.2.2.7 shall be required with the next transfer of title.

## **CHAPTER 26 LODGING OR ROOMING HOUSES**

**(Add) 26.3.5.3.7**

Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 26.3.3.5. Detection, Alarm, and Communications Systems.**

**(Amd) 26.3.3.5.1. General.**

Lodging or Rooming House occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code. Any lodging or rooming house occupancy, not previously required to install such an alarm system, shall have the above system installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Amd) 26.3.3.5.2. Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.**

In addition, every Lodging or Rooming House shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition, in every guest room and every living area and sleeping room within a guest suite. Any lodging or rooming house occupancy, not previously required to install such alarms, shall have the above alarms installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Amd) 26.3.3.5.3**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be

resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 26.3.5.1.**

All new lodging or rooming houses shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 26.3.5.3.

**(Amd) 26.3.5.2.**

Every existing lodging or rooming house built, or converted to this occupancy, on or after June 29, 1990, shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 26.3.5.3.

**(Add) 26.3.5.4**

Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

**CHAPTER 27**  
**Emergency Shelter Occupancy.**

**(Add) 27.1 General Requirements.**

**(Add) 27.1.1 Application.**

**(Add) 27.1.1.1**

The requirements of this chapter shall apply to buildings that provide temporary emergency sleeping space for 16 or fewer persons. The intent of this chapter is to allow a phased upgrading of emergency shelter occupancies to the provisions of Chapter 26 while allowing this essential service to continue in full operation during the interim period. The provisions of this chapter shall remain effective until July 1, 2006 at which time such facilities shall be brought into compliance with the provisions of Chapter 26 of this Code.

**(Add) 27.1.1.2**

Places of worship, maintaining this temporary occupancy in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, shall not lose their exception from the requirements of sections 13.3.5.1 and 13.3.5.1.1 as outlined in section 13.3.5.2.1 (4) of this Code.

**(Add) 27.1.1.2.1**

Places of worship, wishing to maintain this emergency shelter occupancy, and their exception to the requirements of sections 13.3.5.1 and 13.3.5.1.1, on and after July 1, 2006, shall either comply with the provisions of Chapter 26 of this Code or comply with an alternative plan for fire safety approved by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Add) 27.1.1.3**

For buildings with larger occupancies, the requirements of Chapters 28 and 29 are applicable. The owners of such facilities may seek interim relief from specific requirements from the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**(Add) 27.1.1.4**

All emergency shelter occupancies shall be located on the on the first floor or on the level of exit discharge unless specifically authorized by the AHJ to be located on a lower level.

**(Add) 27.2 Means of Escape Requirements**

**(Add) 27.2.1**

There shall be at least two (2) clearly defined means of escape to grade from the space used as an emergency shelter.

**(Add) 27.2.2**

The means of escape, stairways and doors shall comply with the provisions of sections 26.2.1.1.1 through 26.2.3.6 of this Code.

**(Add) 27.2.3**

The means of escape shall be further protected with emergency lighting and exit signs approved by the AHJ.

**(Add) 27.3 Protection.**

**(Add) 27.3.1 Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detection**

**(Add) 27.3.1.1**

Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detection shall be immediately provided and maintained in accordance with the provisions of section 26.3.3.5.2. On or before July 1, 2005, all such facilities shall also be in compliance with section 26.3.3.5.1 of this Code.

**(Add) 27.3.2 Supervision**

**(Add) 27.3.2.1**

At least one responsible adult, approved by the AHJ and not a resident of the emergency shelter occupancy, shall maintain a fire watch during all hours of occupancy of the emergency shelter facility.

**(Add) 27.3.2.1.1**

In shelters used to temporarily house families, a responsible adult member of each such family may be approved by the AHJ to maintain the fire watch referenced in 27.3.2.1.

**(Add) 27.3.2.2**

The responsible adult(s) must be trained in fire prevention techniques, fire department notification, evacuation procedures and fire extinguisher operation by the AHJ prior to being approved to oversee the fire watch.

**(Add) 27.3.2.3**

The owner or management of the shelter shall provide the AHJ with a schedule listing the names of the responsible adults conducting the fire watch and the times to which they have been assigned this duty.

**(Add) 27.3.2.4**

A fire fighter on duty, as defined in sections 12.7.5.9 and 13.7.5.9 may be substituted for the responsible adult at the discretion of the owner or management of the emergency shelter facility.

**(Add) 27.3.3 Protection from Hazards.**

**(Add) 27.3.3.1**

No smoking shall be allowed in any building utilized as an emergency shelter facility during any and all periods of this occupancy.

**(Add) 27.3.3.2**

No cooking shall be allowed in any building utilized as an emergency shelter facility during any and all periods of overnight occupancy. If specifically authorized by the AHJ, cooking, with the appropriate temporary safeguards required by the AHJ, may be allowed during limited periods when the occupants are all awake and fully capable of self preservation.

**(Add) 27.3.3 Fire Extinguishers.**

**(Add) 27.3.3.1**

A minimum of two fire extinguishers, installed at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ, shall be provided in every emergency shelter facility in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

**CHAPTER 28  
NEW HOTELS AND DORMITORIES**

**(Add) 28.3.2.2.4**

Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 28.3.4.1. General.**

Every hotel and/or dormitory shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, except as modified by 28.3.4.2 through 28.3.4.5.

**(Amd) 28.3.4.5. Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.**

In addition, every hotel and/or dormitory shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition, in every guest room and every living area and sleeping room within a guest suite.

**(Amd) 28.3.4.6.**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 28.3.5.1.**

All new hotel and/or dormitory occupancies shall be protected throughout by approved automatic sprinkler systems in accordance with 28.3.5.3.

**(Amd) 28.3.5.2.**

Every hotel and/or dormitory occupancy, every addition hereafter made to a hotel and/or dormitory, and every building hereafter converted for the purposes of a hotel and/or dormitory shall be completely protected by an approved system of automatic sprinklers installed and maintained in accordance with 28.3.5.3.

**(Amd) 28.3.5.7**

Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in all new hotel occupancies in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

## **CHAPTER 29 EXISTING HOTELS AND DORMITORIES**

**(Add) 29.3.2.2.4**

Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 29.3.4.1. General.**

Every Hotel and/or Dormitory shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, except as modified by 28.3.4.2 through 28.3.4.5. Any existing hotel and/or dormitory occupancy, not previously required to install such an alarm system, shall have the above system installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Amd) 29.3.4.5. Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.**

In addition, every existing hotel and/or dormitory shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition, in every guest room and every living area and sleeping room within a guest suite. Any hotel and/or dormitory occupancy, not previously required to install such alarms, shall have the above alarms installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Amd) 29.3.4.5.3.**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 29.3.5.2.**

Every existing hotel and/or dormitory occupancy built, or converted to this occupancy, on or after June 29, 1990, and all existing hotels and/or dormitories constructed wholly or in part of combustibile materials, which have sleeping accommodations for guests or employees above the third story, shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 29.3.5.3.

**(Amd) 29.3.5.7**

Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in all existing hotel occupancies in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

**CHAPTER 30  
NEW APARTMENT BUILDINGS**

**(Add) 30.3.2.1.3**

Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 30.3.4.1.1 General.**

Every apartment building, other than those meeting 30.3.4.1.2, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, except as modified by 30.3.4.2 through 30.3.4.5.2

**(Amd) 30.3.4.1.2**

A fire alarm system shall not be required in buildings where each dwelling unit is completely separated from other contiguous dwelling units by fire barriers (see Section 8.3) having a fire resistance rating of not less than 1 hour, and where each dwelling unit has either its own independent exit or its own independent stairway or ramp discharging at grade. However, such exempted buildings shall fully comply with the provisions for smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in accordance with Section 30.3.4.5.1

**(Amd) 30.3.4.1.3**

Apartment buildings containing more than three (3) and less than (8) living units, between fire barriers (see Section 8.3) having a fire resistance rating of not less than two (2) hours, shall have a local fire alarm system capable of immediately notifying all of the residents of the facility of fire or other emergency.

**(Add) 30.3.4.1.4**

Apartment buildings containing eight (8) or more living units, without approved fire barriers, as outlined in 31.3.4.1.3, shall have a municipally connected fire alarm system capable of immediately notifying all of the residents of the facility and the municipal fire department of fire or other emergency in accordance with 9.6.4.2 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Add) 30.3.4.1.5**

Apartment buildings meeting the definition of a *High-Rise Building* as defined in 3.3.27.7 shall further comply with the detection, alarm and communication systems requirements outlined in 11.8.3.

**(Amd) 30.3.4.5.1. Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.**

In addition, every apartment building shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition.

**(Amd) 30.3.4.6.**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 30.3.5.1.**

All new apartment buildings, every addition hereafter made to an apartment building, and every building hereafter converted for the purposes of an apartment building, which are either more than three (3) stories in height above the basement or contain more than six (6) living units between approved fire barriers (see Section 8.3) having a fire resistance rating of not less than two (2) hours, shall be protected throughout by approved automatic sprinkler systems in accordance with 30.3.5.3.

**(Amd) 30.3.5.2.**

In buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 30.3.5.1, properly zoned sprinkler heads may be substituted for the required heat detectors of the fire alarm system.

**(Amd) 30.3.5.11**

Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in all new apartment occupancies in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

**(Amd) 30.3.5.11.1**

As an alternative to the location requirements for portable fire extinguishers outlined in section 9.7.4.1 of this Code, the owner or management of a new apartment building may provide each apartment unit with an approved fire extinguisher installed at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ.

**(Amd) 30.6**

All new apartment buildings, used as housing for elderly or disabled people, shall be inspected annually by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 31  
EXISTING APARTMENT BUILDINGS**

**(Add) 31.1.1.3 AHJ approved apartment buildings.**

Any existing, fully alarmed apartment building, shall be deemed in compliance with the provisions of this Chapter 31, upon meeting the following fifteen requirements:

- (1) The building maintains a fire alarm system that complies with the provisions of Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, along with subsections 31-3.4.1.2 through 31.3.4.1.5 to the satisfaction of the state fire marshal, deputy state fire marshal and/or the assistant deputy state fire marshal (hereinafter the "AHJ"); and
- (2) The building maintains an approved system of either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition, or shall provide this detection, to the satisfaction of the AHJ, on or before July 1, 2005; and
- (3) The building maintains emergency lighting approved by the AHJ; and
- (4) The building maintains approved exit signage, if so required by the AHJ; and
- (5) The building shall have at least two means of egress of which one may be a properly maintained existing metal fire escape or platform and ladder system, approved by the AHJ.
- (6) The walls of the internal means of egress are made of plaster and/or sheetrock, are in good repair, and maintain an approximate fire rating of twenty (20) minutes as determined by the AHJ; and
- (7) All combustible covering materials, within the approved egress systems, such as existing paneling or wainscoting, mounted on approved plaster or sheetrock walls or ceilings, shall be rendered flame resistant by the application of an approved *Class A* flame-spread rated material to the satisfaction of the AHJ; and
- (8) The existing dimensions of the egress system appear to adequately support the rapid evacuation of the building, in the opinion of the AHJ.
- (9) The internal means of egress may contain winding stairs approved by the AHJ.

- (10) Approved solid core or steel doors, maintaining an approximate fire rating of twenty (20) minutes, have been installed in the existing egress system door jambs to the satisfaction of the AHJ; and
- (11) Existing metal fire escapes, platform and ladder systems, maintained in good repair, may be utilized as a second means of egress, as approved by the AHJ. The above existing fire escape systems may be accessed through windows providing a clear opening of at least 5.7 square feet, as approved by the AHJ. All locks and locking devices shall be permanently removed from the doors to the rooms providing access to the fire escape system; and
- (12) Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.
- (13) Any furnace, boiler or comparable central heating plant above 160,000 BTU input and all floor mounted units requiring a non-combustible floor by their listing, shall be either segregated from the remainder of the building by a one hour rated enclosure or protected by domestically-supplied sprinkler head(s) to the satisfaction of the AHJ.
- (14) Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code. As an alternative to the location requirements for portable fire extinguishers outlined in section 9.7.4.1 of this Code, the owner or management of the apartment building may provide each apartment unit with an approved fire extinguisher installed at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ.
- (15) Every existing apartment building, containing more than six (6) living units between approved fire barriers (see Section 8.3) having a fire resistance rating of not less than two (2) hours, built, or converted to this occupancy, on or after June 29, 1990, and all existing apartment buildings constructed wholly or in part of combustible materials, which have sleeping accommodations for guests or employees above the third story, shall, at a minimum, maintain an approved, engineered system of domestically supplied sprinkler heads covering the entire internal egress system with at least one additional head located inside the exit access door of each apartment. The above domestically supplied sprinkler coverage shall be installed to the satisfaction of the AHJ. The engineering of this limited coverage domestically supplied system of sprinkler heads shall comply with either section 9.7.1.2 of this Code or standards outlined in BOCA Standard 100 Life Safety Fire Sprinkler Code.

(The above alternative requirements are primarily designed to address the structural issues facing the owners of existing apartment buildings that were previously converted, to this occupancy, from older existing one, two and three family dwellings.)

**(Add) 31.3.2.1.2**

Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 31.3.4.1.1 General.**

Every existing apartment building, other than those meeting 31.3.4.1.2, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, except as modified by 31.3.4.2 through 31.3.4.5.2. Any existing apartment building, not previously required to install such alarms, shall have the above alarms installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Amd) 31.3.4.1.2**

A fire alarm system shall not be required in buildings where each dwelling unit is completely separated from other contiguous dwelling units by fire barriers (see Section 8.3) having a fire resistance rating of not less than 1 hour, and where each dwelling unit has either its own independent exit or its own independent stairway or ramp discharging at grade. However, such exempted buildings shall fully comply with the provisions for smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in accordance with Section 31.3.4.5.1

**(Add) 31.3.4.1.3**

Apartment buildings containing more than three (3) and less than (8) living units, between fire barriers (see Section 8.3) having a fire resistance rating of not less than two (2) hours, shall have a local fire alarm system capable of immediately notifying all of the residents of the facility of fire or other emergency.

**(Add) 31.3.4.1.4**

Apartment buildings containing eight (8) or more living units, without approved fire barriers as outlined in 31.3.4.1.3, shall have a municipally connected fire alarm system capable of immediately notifying all of the residents of the facility and the municipal fire department of fire or other emergency in accordance with 9.6.4.2 and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Add) 31.3.4.1.5**

Apartment buildings meeting the definition of a *High-Rise Building* as defined in 3.3.27.7 shall further comply with the detection, alarm and communication systems requirements outlined in 11.8.3.

**(Amd) 31.3.4.5.1. Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.**

In addition, every apartment building shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition. Any existing apartment building, not previously required to install such alarms, shall have the above alarms installed and approved on or before July 1, 2005.

**(Amd) 31.3.4.6.**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be

resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 31.3.5.1.**

Every existing apartment building, containing more than six (6) living units between approved fire barriers (see Section 8.3) having a fire resistance rating of not less than two (2) hours, built, or converted to this occupancy, on or after June 29, 1990, and all existing apartment buildings constructed wholly or in part of combustible materials, which have sleeping accommodations for guests or employees above the third story, shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 31.3.5.3.

**(Amd) 31.3.5.2.**

In buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 31.3.5.1, properly zoned sprinkler heads may be substituted for the required heat detectors of the fire alarm system.

**Amd) 31.3.5.11**

Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in all existing apartment occupancies in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

**(Amd) 31.3.5.11.1**

As an alternative to the location requirements for portable fire extinguishers outlined in section 9.7.4.1 of this Code, the owner or management of an existing apartment building may provide each apartment unit with an approved fire extinguisher installed at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ.

**(Amd) 31.6**

All existing apartment buildings, used as housing for elderly or disabled people, shall be inspected annually by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 32  
NEW RESIDENTIAL BOARD AND CARE OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 32.2.3.4.1 Fire Alarm Systems.**

Every new residential board and care occupancy, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Amd) 32.2.3.4.3.1 Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.**

In addition, every new residential board and care occupancy shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition.

**(Amd) 32.2.3.5.1**

All facilities shall be protected throughout by an approved, automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with 32.2.3.5.3 using quick response or residential sprinklers.

**(Amd) 32.2.3.5.2.**

In buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 31.3.5.1, properly zoned sprinkler heads may be substituted for the required heat detectors of the fire alarm system.

**(Add) 32.3.3.2.2.1**

Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 32.3.3.4.1 Fire Alarm Systems.**

Every new residential board and care occupancy, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Add) 32.3.3.4.3.1 Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.**

In addition, every new residential board and care occupancy shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition.

**(Amd) 32.3.3.5.1**

All facilities shall be protected throughout by an approved, automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with 32.2.3.5.3 using quick response or residential sprinklers.

**(Add) 32.3.3.5.2.**

In buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 31.3.5.1, properly zoned sprinkler heads may be substituted for the required heat detectors of the fire alarm system.

**(Amd) 32.3.5**

Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in all new residential board and care occupancies in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

**CHAPTER 33  
EXISTING RESIDENTIAL BOARD AND CARE OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 33.2.3.4.1 Fire Alarm Systems.**

Every existing residential board and care occupancy, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Delete) 33.2.3.4.1.1**

**(Delete) 33.2.3.4.1.2**

**(Amd) 33.2.3.4.3.1 Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.**

In addition, every existing residential board and care occupancy shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition.

**(Add) 33.2.3.5.1**

All facilities shall be protected throughout by an approved, automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with 33.2.3.5. through 33.2.3.5.6 using quick response or residential sprinklers.

**(Amd) 33.2.3.5.2.**

In buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 33.3.5.1, properly zoned sprinkler heads may be substituted for the required heat detectors of the fire alarm system.

**(Amd) 33.2.3.5.2.6**

In buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 33.3.5.1, properly zoned sprinkler heads may be substituted for the required heat detectors of the fire alarm system.

**(Add) 33.3.3.2.2.1** Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 33.3.3.4.1 Fire Alarm Systems.**

Every existing residential board and care occupancy, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Add) 33.3.3.4.7 Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.**

In addition, every existing residential board and care occupancy shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72, and NFPA 720, 2003 edition.

**(Add) 33.3.3.5.1**

All facilities shall be protected throughout by an approved, automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with 33.2.3.5. through 33.2.3.5.6 using quick response or residential sprinklers.

**(Amd) 33.2.3.5.2.**

In buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 33.3.5.1, properly zoned sprinkler heads may be substituted for the required heat detectors of the fire alarm system.

**(Amd) 33.3.5**

Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in all existing residential board and care occupancies in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

**CHAPTER 34  
RESERVED**

**CHAPTER 35  
RESERVED**

**CHAPTER 36  
NEW MERCANTILE OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 36.3.4.1 General.**

Every new Class A mercantile occupancy, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Amd) 36.3.4.1 Initiation.**

Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Amd) 36.3.4.4**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 36.3.5.4.**

In buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 36.3.5.1, properly zoned sprinkler heads may be substituted for the required heat detectors of the fire alarm system.

**(Amd) 36.4.4.4.1.1**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 36.4.5.4.1.1**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 37**  
**EXISTING MERCANTILE OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 37.3.4.1 General.**

Every existing Class A mercantile occupancy, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Amd) 37.3.4.1.1**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 37.3.4.2 Initiation.**

Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Add) 37.3.5.1**

Every mercantile occupancy, built, or converted to, on or after June 4, 1976, which is more than two stories in height above the basement and which is not constructed of better than a (2) two hour fire rating, shall be protected by an approved system of automatic sprinklers in accordance with section 9.7 of this Code.

**CHAPTER 38**  
**NEW BUSINESS OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 38.3.4.1 General.**

Every new business occupancy, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code.

**(Amd) 38.3.4.2 Initiation.**

Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be in accordance with amended Section 9.6 and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Amd) 38.3.4.4**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Add) 38.3.5.1**

Every new business occupancy which is more than two stories in height above the basement and which is not constructed of better than a (2) two hour fire rating, shall be protected by an approved system of automatic sprinklers in accordance with section 9.7 of this Code.

## **CHAPTER 39 EXISTING BUSINESS OCCUPANCIES**

### **(Amd) 39.3.4.1 General.**

Every existing business occupancy, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

### **(Amd) 39.3.4.2 Initiation.**

Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

### **(Amd) 39.3.4.4**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

### **(Add) 39.3.5.1**

Every business occupancy, built, or converted to, on or after June 4, 1976, which is more than two stories in height above the basement and which is not constructed of better than a (2) two hour fire rating, shall be protected by an approved system of automatic sprinklers in accordance with section 9.7 of this Code.

## **CHAPTER 40 INDUSTRIAL OCCUPANCIES**

### **(Amd) 40.3.4.1 General.**

Every industrial occupancy, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

### **(Amd) 40.3.4.2 Initiation.**

Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

### **(Amd) 40.3.4.4**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

### **(Amd) 40.3.5 Extinguishing Requirements.**

**(Add) 40.3.5.1**

Every industrial occupancy, built, or converted to, on or after June 4, 1976, which is more than two stories in height above the basement and which is not constructed of better than a (2) two hour fire rating, shall be protected by an approved system of automatic sprinklers in accordance with section 9.7 of this Code.

**CHAPTER 41  
RESERVED**

**CHAPTER 42  
STORAGE OCCUPANCIES**

**(Amd) 42.3.4.1 General.**

Every storage occupancy, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Delete) 42.3.4.1.1**

**(Delete) 42.3.4.1.2**

**(Delete) 42.3.4.1.3**

**(Amd) 42.3.4.2 Initiation.**

Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code.

**(Amd) 42.3.4.4**

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this Code and Chapter 13, as amended, of the Rhode Island Fire Prevention Code, shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the strictest combined requirements as determined by the AHJ.

**(Amd) 42.3.5 Extinguishing Requirements.**

**(Add) 42.3.5.1**

Every storage occupancy, built, or converted to, on or after June 4, 1976, which is more than two stories in height above the basement and which is not constructed of better than a (2) two hour fire rating, shall be protected by an approved system of automatic sprinklers in accordance with section 9.7 of this Code.

FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 9  
REHABILITATION BUILDING AND FIRE CODE  
FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

The Rhode Island Rehabilitation Building and Fire Code for Existing Buildings and Structures, previously adopted by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, is hereby re-adopted, in full as FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 9 with the following amendment reflecting a mandate of the 2003 Comprehensive Fire Safety Act:

**(Add) 101.1.4**

Any existing building or structure, subject to the provisions of the rehabilitation building and fire code for existing buildings and structures, shall also comply with the existing occupancy provisions of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code (Section 8 of the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code) addressing the current or proposed occupancy.

Please Note: The members of the Joint Committee on the Rehabilitation Building and Fire Code for Existing Buildings and Structures shall review the Rehabilitation Code in light of the above mandate. The Rehabilitation Board shall provide both the Fire Board and the Building Board with recommended changes to simplify the Rehabilitation Code in light of this mandate. Upon receipt and acceptance of the recommended changes, a new simplified Rehabilitation Code should be proposed, by both the Building and Fire Boards, in 2004.

FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 10  
(RESERVED)

FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 11  
(RESERVED)

FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 12  
(RESERVED)

FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 13  
(RESERVED)

FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 14  
(RESERVED)

FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 15  
(RESERVED)