

FIRE SAFETY CODE DEDICATION

The Rhode Island Fire Safety Code, as outlined herein, is hereby dedicated, in loving memory to Fire Board Chairman Rene Coutu, to Fire Alarm Superintendent Martin Ballou, and to the Victims, Survivors and Families of the Station Nightclub Fire. May they be at peace with the knowledge that their sacrifices have significantly contributed to the establishment of Rhode Island as an international model for fire safety guiding not only other states but countries such as Argentina and China in the development of fire safety programs for the protection of their citizens.

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.

FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 2 CONSOLIDATION OF RHODE ISLAND 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 Rhode Island Fire Safety Code. The most recent amendments to the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code were posted on October 25, 2012 and scheduled for public hearing on November 27, 2012. Unless otherwise specified herein, the effective date of the most recent amendments to the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code shall be January 1, 2013.

Notwithstanding any provision in the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code to the contrary, any building or structure that is in compliance with the 2003 editions of NFPA 1 and 101, under the 2003 Fire Safety Act as amended, shall not be required to comply with the 2012 editions of NFPA 1 and 101 until December 31, 2015 where such compliance would require additional expenditures. The aforementioned compliant buildings and/or structures shall also not be required to comply with the 2010 edition of NFPA 72, as amended, until December 31, 2015. However, the above compliance exceptions shall not apply to any expenditures for the continued testing and maintenance of fire detection, protection and suppression systems, approved under the 2003 Fire Safety Act, provided those systems remain required under this Rhode Island Fire Safety Code.

RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 3

The provisions of the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code sections 1 to 15 (Hereinafter also referred to as “Fire Safety Code” or “This Code”) are adopted pursuant to R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-3, and R.I. Public Laws Chapter 12-337, 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. The provisions of this code shall be interpreted consistently, with all current General Laws and Executive Orders, by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review (Hereinafter also referred to as the “Fire Board” or “Board”). The provisions of this Code shall further be enforced consistently, with all current General Laws and Executive Orders, by the Office of the State Fire Marshal and its affiliates.

RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 4 DEFINITIONS

Abatement or to Abate a condition. Abatement, or to abate a condition, is the reduction, decrease, or diminution of a hazardous condition that presents immediate danger to life. The term "immediate" denotes that action is or must be taken either instantly or without any considerable loss of time. The condition may be singular or may be a set of conditions that in combination present an “immediate danger to life”. Such conditions, that present an “immediate danger to life”, shall include improper management or use of flammable and combustible materials, liquids and gases, pyrotechnics, fireworks or explosives, malfunctioning automatic sprinklers, fire alarms and emergency lighting, malfunctioning heating and electrical systems, blocked or inadequate exits or means of egress, the overcrowding of assembly occupancies and such other conditions as may be established by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review.

Authority Having Jurisdiction (Enforcement). Unless specifically defined to the contrary in this code, the authority having jurisdiction for the enforcement of this code shall be the state fire marshal. The state fire marshal may delegate this enforcement authority to any deputy state fire marshal or assistant deputy state fire marshal that he or she certifies and appoints pursuant to RIGL 23-28.2-1 et seq. However, as a condition of their continued certification, all such appointed deputy state fire marshals and assistant deputy state fire marshals shall apply the code, consistently and uniformly across the state, under the guidance of the state fire marshal.

Bed and Breakfast Home. An owner and/or innkeeper occupied building that provides sleeping accommodations for up to sixteen (16) guests. Every “Bed and Breakfast Home” must further have originated as a private home and must have at least 300 square feet of common space (i.e., dining room, living room, etc.) for guest use, and must further

provide breakfast. Finally, the owner and/or innkeeper must occupy the building twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, while guests are utilizing the facility. The owner and/or innkeeper of the Bed and Breakfast Home shall have a plan of action, approved by the local official, to assure the safety of the guests in the event the owner or innkeeper is required to temporarily leave the facility unsupervised for limited periods during the day.

Certificate of Occupancy. After the building official inspects the building or structure and, after consultation with the AHJ enforcing the provisions of this code, finds no violations of the provisions of this code or other laws that are enforced by the department of building safety, the building official issues an official document known as a “certificate of occupancy” that generally contains the following:

1. The building permit number.
2. The address of the structure.
3. The name and address of the owner.
4. A description of that portion of the structure for which the certificate is issued.
5. A statement that the described portion of the structure has been inspected for compliance with the requirements of this code for the occupancy and division of occupancy and the use for which the proposed occupancy is classified.
6. The name of the building official.
7. The edition of the code under which the permit was issued.
8. The use and occupancy, in accordance with the provisions of the State Building Code.
9. The type of construction as defined in the State Building Code.
10. The design occupant load.
11. If an automatic sprinkler system is provided, whether the sprinkler system is required.
12. Any special stipulations and conditions of the building permit.

Citation System. A system of enforcement outlined in R.I.G.L. 23-28.2-14.

Code. The term "code" means this Fire Safety Code established under the provisions of § 23-28.1-1.

Compliance Order. For the purposes of this Code, a compliance order is defined as a command or direction authoritatively given to a building owner or occupant to provide conformance with the Fire Safety Code. A compliance order takes effect when a building owner or occupant, after proper notice, has exhausted his/her administrative appeals or has failed to avail himself/herself of appropriate administrative appeals within a reasonable period of time after receiving proper notice.

Emergency Shelter Occupancy. An occupancy or portion thereof used on a temporary and/or seasonal basis to provide sleeping accommodations for transient individuals who have no other shelter arrangements during periods of severe life-threatening weather or other natural or manmade disaster.

Family Day Care Home. The term "family day care home" means any home other than the child's home in which child day care in lieu of parental care and/or supervision is offered at the same time to at least four (4) but not more than eight (8) children who are not relatives of the care giver, and which is licensed by the state department of children, youth, and families and subject to the department's regulations.

Funeral Establishment. An assembly occupancy, as defined by RIGL 5-33-2-1(k) as a "fixed place, establishment or premises, licensed by the department of health, devoted to the activities which are incident, convenient, or related to the care and preparation, arrangement, financial and otherwise, for the funeral, transportation, burial or other disposition of human bodies and including, but not limited to, a suitable room with all instruments and supplies used for the storage and/or preparation of dead human bodies for burial or other disposition".

Nightclub. A place of public accommodation, which in general is characterized by all of the following:

(i) Provides entertainment by a live band or recorded music generating above normal sound levels.

(ii) Has as its primary source of revenue, in general, the sale of beverages of any kind for consumption on the premises and/or cover charges. Food, if served, is considered a secondary attraction.

(iii) Has an occupant load in total or in any single area or room of at least 100 patrons.

Nothing in this definition shall be construed to include any place of public accommodation or any event within a place of public accommodation, which is in its nature distinctly private.

Organized Dining Facility. A place of public accommodation which is characterized as a facility where private events are held and where the primary source of revenue, in general, is derived from rental charges for use of the facility and service of food. Such a facility shall not provide for cover charges or have as a primary attraction any event where entertainment is provided by a live band or recorded music. Such a facility primarily provides for organized banquets, private parties, fund raisers, wedding receptions, ceremonial events and the like.

Place of Worship. A building or structure, or an area thereof, the occupancy of which is for the religious rites and services and communal functions of a congregation, and which shall include sanctuaries, gathering halls, meeting rooms and offices and related facilities of the congregation, which may be located in the same, in connected, or in proximate structures.

Suspended Ceiling. A ceiling system consisting of a grid of channels or "T-bars" suspended from the structure above for readily removable acoustical tiles or lay-in panels.

Temporary Certificate of Occupancy. The building official may issue a temporary certificate of occupancy before the completion of the entire work covered by the permit, provided that such portion or portions shall be occupied safely. The building official shall set a time period during which the temporary certificate of occupancy is valid.

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 for the installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in three family apartment buildings.

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

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is an agency within the Executive Department administratively assigned to the Department of Administration. The Governor appoints all eleven (11) members with the advice and consent of the Senate. Of the members of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & 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 provided that one shall be an officer, partner or proprietor of a Rhode Island company that is a small business as defined by the United States Small Business Administration. The Governor also designates a chairperson for a two (2) year term.

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction for administration and the State Fire Marshal is the sole authority having jurisdiction for enforcement of the Fire Safety Code.

Except as outlined below, the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction to grant variances, waivers 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. Notwithstanding the above, the State Fire Marshal and his or her designees are hereby authorized to approve dimensional relief within the egress systems of any existing building in accordance with NFPA 101 and its annexes. Such dimensional relief shall be known as "AHJ modifications". All "AHJ modifications" must be in writing and submitted to the State Fire Marshal's Office for recording. Once recorded by the State Fire Marshal's Office, the "AHJ modification" shall remain as permanent relief for the building as long as the use and/or occupancy of the building remains the same. Any change of use and/or occupancy shall subject the building to review under the relevant codes and reconsideration of the "AHJ modification" in light of the new use or occupancy.

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & 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.

**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. The authority having enforcement jurisdiction may grant an “AHJ modification” covering dimensional relief within the egress system of an existing building as outlined in Fire Safety Code Section 5. An AHJ modification becomes effective once it is submitted to, and recorded by, the State Fire Marshal. In all other 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 & 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 & 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 the Board of Appeal & Review for review of the initial interpretation. Review of the initial interpretation may be formal or informal at the sole discretion of the Board. In cases of widespread interest, the Board may choose to publish its interpretation.
- 6-1-4 The Board of Appeal & 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 as outlined above.
- 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 & 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 verify the approximate 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 signed by the State Fire Marshal and/or local fire marshal accompanied by a filing fee and written inspection report, plan review report, interpretation or other related documentation generated by the authority having enforcement jurisdiction unless this requirement is waived by the Board.
- 6-1-9 Filing fees for applications involving specific existing or proposed buildings shall be set in accordance with the schedule outlined in R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-5(b)(1)&(2). Filing fees for all other appeals shall be set in accordance with the provisions of R.I.G.L. 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 the chairperson, upon consultation with the State Fire Marshal and/or local fire marshal, when, in the opinion of the executive director and the chairperson, 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 & Review with a letter of authorization signed by the owner of the subject facility unless this requirement is waived by the Board.
- 6-1-12 Any of the above application procedures may be modified, by formal vote of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review where such modification would allow for the streamlining or upgrading of the application process. This would include, but not be limited to, allowing for the electronic filing of applications and/or the payment of fees, participating in departmental or multi-agency expedited construction programs, and/or participating in programs established for the purpose of coordinating “one stop shopping” multi-agency services for the public.

II. HEARINGS AND COURT APPEALS

- 6-2-1 The Board of Appeal & 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. The filing of a fire board administrative appeal

shall automatically stay further enforcement action by the AHJ and the building shall be considered in compliance with the code while on appeal, until the case is heard or abatement procedures are implemented. However, where the AHJ advises that such an automatic stay would endanger the public and/or the owner's tenants or employees, the chairman of the board, or his or her designee may, for such good cause shown, suspend the automatic stay pending review by the full board.

- 6-2-2 Completed applications shall be scheduled, as far as practicable, in the order they were received by the Board of Appeal & 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. Requests for expedited hearings, as outlined in subsection 6-2-3 below, shall be given priority.
- 6-2-3 For good cause shown, a completed application may be scheduled for an expedited hearing by the executive director and the chairman, upon the request of the applicant and/or the AHJ, any state or municipal official and/or a court of competent jurisdiction.
- 6-2-4 For the purposes of section 6-2-3, some 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 funding, 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 & Review to conduct a hearing and take testimony from the petitioner.
- 6-2-6 A subcommittee shall consist of three or more Board of Appeal & Review members accompanied by the executive director.
- 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, along with any tape recordings, 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 a good faith effort to submit its 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 R.I.G.L. 42-35-9 of the Administrative Procedures Act. Failure of the Applicant to either attend a scheduled hearing, or send an authorized representative in his or her place, shall result in automatic dismissal of the variance application, unless the Board determines that there is good cause to reschedule the hearing.
- 6-2-11 If during a hearing, it becomes apparent to the Board that there may be personality or other non-fire-code issues between the applicant and the AHJ, the Board shall have the discretion to table the case and request that the State Fire Marshal's Office conduct an investigation as to these non-fire-code issues, prior to the re-commencement of the hearing.
- 6-2-12 A draft Decision shall be prepared by the Executive Director and submitted to the person who chaired the particular hearing (either the Chairperson, or the Vice Chairperson, or the Board Member chairing the particular hearing as Acting Chairperson) for review and approval.
- 6-2-13 The draft Decision shall be reviewed by the person who chaired the particular hearing and then either be returned to the Executive Director with proposed modifications or with that person's approval and signature.
- 6-2-14 A copy of any non-emergency Decision signed by the person who chaired the hearing and the Executive Director, shall then be available for review by the members of the Fire Board for a period of not less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the Decision being mailed. Any emergency Decision, as designated by the Chairperson and/or Executive Director may be issued and mailed immediately and corrected, if necessary, pursuant to section 6-2-15.

- 6-2-15 Any time 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 a Board Member, 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.
- 6-2-16 Any time after the final decision is mailed, the Board may, at the request of either a Board Member, 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”.
- 6-2-17 Unless otherwise specified in the Decision, all listed timeframes shall be deemed to commence upon the listed mailing date of the Decision also identified therein as “the date of this Decision”.
- 6-2-18 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, as outlined in R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-6, for review of the decision. Upon formal notification by the State Fire Marshal’s Office that this case has been appealed, the Board shall take no action on any case that is currently pending before the Rhode Island District Court, until such time as a decision has been rendered by the court, or the case has been remanded back to the Board from the District Court for additional action by the Board.
- 6-2-19 The findings of the Board of Appeal & Review shall be conclusive unless clearly erroneous.
- 6-2-20 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 R.I.G.L. 42-35-16.
- 6-2-21 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)]
- 6-2-22 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.

6-2-23 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. If the Board, in its sole discretion, determines that there is good cause shown to rehear a case in which the time frame has been exceeded, the Board, after rehearing the case, may reinstate any variances it deems to be appropriate.

6-2-24 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. If the use or occupancy of the facility changes, or the General Assembly adopts new standards covering all existing occupancies, the variances shall then be considered voided unless preserved by statute and/or Board directive.

6-2-25 In the event the use or occupancy classification of the subject facility is changed, as outlined in R.I.G.L. 23-28-1-6, all variances granted under the original use or occupancy are void and the facility shall be reviewed under the provisions of the State Fire Safety Code and/or the Rehabilitation Building and Fire Code for Existing Buildings and Structures (Rehabilitation Code) covering the newly created use or occupancy.

6-2-26 Any of the above administrative procedures may be modified, by formal vote of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, where such modification would allow for the implementation of any statutory revision to either the Administrative Procedures Act (RIGL 42-35-1 et seq.), the Comprehensive Fire Safety Act (23-28.01-1 et seq.) and/or any other provision of the Rhode Island General Laws.

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 R.I.G.L. 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 deletions to the State Fire Safety Code.
- 6-3-3 The standing rules and regulations subcommittee shall be chaired by the vice chairperson of the Board of Appeal & Review.
- 6-3-4 The chairperson and executive director shall be permanent members of the rules and regulations subcommittee along with any additional board members appointed by the chairperson.
- 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, may 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 Chairperson of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.
- 6-4-3 The review of a request for interpretation may be formal or informal at the sole discretion of the Board. If the Board determines that a formal interpretation is appropriate, the chairperson, 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 formal interpretation. The final formal interpretation, agreed upon by the full Board, shall be issued and numbered under a separate filing system for Board Interpretations.
- 6-4-5 Effective January 1, 2013, and within forty-eight (48) hours, exclusive of weekends and holidays, of the chairperson's execution of every written blanket variance and/or formal interpretation issued thereafter, copies of the blanket

variance and/or formal interpretation shall be placed on the Fire Safety Code Board's website and the State Fire Marshal shall take all steps necessary to immediately disseminate the blanket variance and/or formal interpretation to all assistant deputy state fire marshals.

6-4-6 There shall be no filing fee charged for Board Interpretations.

V. ABATEMENT

6-5-1 The State Fire Marshal, or his or her designee within the division, or a non-salaried assistant deputy state fire marshal in accordance with guidelines established by the State 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 gases, 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 & 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. Any such order to vacate the premises shall be either pre-approved in writing 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.

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 chairperson or his or her designee, with appeal to the Fire Board.

6-5-3 The chairperson, on an emergency basis, or the Fire Board, on an expedited basis, may uphold, modify or vacate any order issued pursuant to section 6-5-1. Any such action by the chairperson may be appealed to the Fire Board. Any such action by the board may be appealed to the District Court.

RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 7
RHODE ISLAND NFPA 1 - FIRE CODE
OF THE RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE

Pursuant to Public Laws Chapter 12-337, the NFPA 1 - Fire Code of the National Fire Protection Association, Inc., 2012 edition, with annexes, 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 NFPA 1 – Fire Code, as outlined in section 7 herein, is hereby adopted by reference as the Rhode Island NFPA 1 - Fire Code. Copies of NFPA 1 – Fire Code, 2012 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 NFPA 1 -Fire Code, 2012 edition, have also been made available to the state-operated libraries in Rhode Island.

Electronic 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 on the Fire Board’s website at www.fsc.ri.gov. Copies shall subsequently be available from LexisNexis/Matthew Bender & Co., 1275 Broadway, Albany, N.Y. 12204-2694. The LexisNexis telephone number is 1-800-446-3410.

The State Fire Marshal is the sole authority having jurisdiction for the strict enforcement of the Rhode Island NFPA 1- Fire Code. The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction for administration of the Rhode Island NFPA 1- Fire Code.

Except as outlined below, the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction to grant variances, waivers, 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 NFPA 1 - Fire Code and all referenced standards therein. Notwithstanding the above, the State Fire Marshal and his or her designees are hereby authorized to approve dimensional relief within the egress systems of any existing building in accordance with NFPA 101 and its annexes. Such dimensional relief shall be known as “AHJ modifications”. All “AHJ modifications” must be in writing and recorded by the State Fire Marshal's Office. Once recorded by the State Fire Marshal's Office, the “AHJ modification” shall remain as permanent relief for the building as long as the use and/or occupancy of the building remains the same. Any change of use and/or occupancy shall subject the building to review under the relevant codes and reconsideration of the “AHJ modification” in light of the new use or occupancy.

For the purposes of uniform administration, and with the exception of “AHJ modifications” as outlined above, all other exceptions listed in the Rhode Island NFPA 1 - 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 NFPA 1 - 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 was issued on or after January 1, 2013, shall be subject to the provisions of the Rhode Island Fire Code addressing the new occupancy unless this requirement is specifically modified by the issuance of a blanket variance by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review to allow a grace period for plans, submitted after the above date, to be reviewed under the prior Code.

All existing buildings and structures, and those buildings and structures for which a building permit was issued prior to January 1, 2013, shall be subject to the provisions of the Rhode Island Fire Code addressing the existing occupancy.

Any existing required 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 Code addressing the current or proposed occupancy.

All other fire safety requirements, along with the regulation of hazards and processes, listed in the original Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code, became effective on January 1, 2004 and shall be superseded by the Rhode Island NFPA 1 – Fire Code on January 1, 2013.

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. Non-required systems shall either be maintained, have the devices removed or marked in such a manner to immediately notify the public of the lack of fire protection. Prior to the removal or marking of any non-required system, the system's owner must first comply with the procedures outlined in the Rhode Island Life Safety Code, "(NFPA 101) 2012 Edition, Section 4.6.12.2.1. The above marking of any deactivated system shall be at the direction and to the satisfaction of the State Fire Marshal or his or her designee.

The effective date of the occupancy sections of the "Rhode Island Fire Code was February 20, 2004 and these occupancy sections shall be superseded by the Rhode Island NFPA 1 – Fire Code on January 1, 2013.

The effective date of the remaining sections of the "Rhode Island Uniform Fire Code", regulating all other hazards and processes, was January 1, 2004 and these remaining sections shall be superseded by the Rhode Island NFPA 1 – Fire Code on January 1, 2013.

The provisions of NFPA 1, 2012 edition, as amended and referenced below, and incorporated herein as the “Rhode Island NFPA 1 - Fire Code”, shall be preceded by the acronym “RIFC”. All of the remaining provisions of NFPA 1, 2012 edition, adopted as the “Rhode Island NFPA 1- Fire Code”, but not specifically addressed below, shall likewise be identified by the acronym “RIFC” preceding it. (Accordingly, “Chapter 1” below would be identified as “RIFC 1”. Likewise, “Section 1.1.2” below would be identified as “RIFC 1.1.2”.)

CHAPTER 1 ADMINISTRATION

(Amd) 1.1.2 Title.

The title of this Code shall be the “Rhode Island NFPA 1- Fire Code” and may be cited as such.

(Add) 1.1.3

The “Rhode Island NFPA 1 - Fire Code” is hereby adopted pursuant to R.I. Public Laws Chapter 12-337.

(Add) 1.3.3.3

When a conflict between the language of the original 2012 Edition of NFPA 1 – Fire Code and any specific Rhode Island amendment occurs, the Rhode Island amendment shall apply exclusively.

(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 as nearly equivalent fire safety as practical.

(Amd) 1.4.3 Modifications.

The State Fire Marshal and his or her designees are hereby authorized to approve dimensional relief within the egress systems of any existing building in accordance with NFPA 101 and its annexes. Such dimensional relief shall be known as “AHJ modifications”. All “AHJ modifications” must be submitted to the State Fire Marshal's Office for recording. Once recorded by the State Fire Marshal's Office, the “AHJ modification” shall remain as permanent relief for the building as long as the use and/or occupancy of the building remains the same. Any change of use and/or occupancy shall subject the building to review under the relevant codes and reconsideration of the “AHJ modification” in light of the new use or occupancy.

(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 in accordance with its records retention schedule. A written comprehensive Decision shall be signed by both the Chairperson, or the Board member who chaired the hearing, and the Executive Director 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

Approval. The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review may approve such alternative construction systems, materials, or methods of design when it is substantiated that the standards of this Code are at least comparable. If, in the opinion of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review, the standards of this Code shall not be made comparable by the alternative requested, the requested relief shall not be granted. Consideration shall also 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. All such deputy state fire marshals and assistant deputy state fire marshals maintain their certification at the pleasure of the State Fire Marshal. 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.

(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 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. With the exception of “AHJ Modifications” as outlined in section 1.4.3 above, all other 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) 1.7.3.1 The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority to render interpretations of this Code and to make rules and supplemental regulations in order to carry out the application and intent of its provisions.

(Amd) 1.7.5 Delegation of Authority.

The State Fire Marshal may delegate to his or her Deputy State Fire Marshals, 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) 1.7.6.1

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 shall automatically stay the State Fire Marshal's order. However, where the State Fire Marshal, or his or her designee, advises that such an automatic stay would endanger the public and/or the owner's tenants or employees, the chairperson of the board, or his or her designee, may, for such good cause shown, suspend the automatic stay of the State Fire Marshal's order pending review by the full Board.

(Amd) 1.7.6.2 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, has the authority to summarily abate any condition which presents immediate danger to life. The conditions that present an "immediate danger to life" are outlined under the definition of "abatement or to abate a condition" found in fire safety code section 4. 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. Any such order to vacate the premises shall be approved in writing by either 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) 1.7.6.2.1 Appeal of Abatement.

Any person subject to the abatement procedure as outlined in section 1.7.6.2, 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 Chairperson of the Board, or his or her designee, may, for good cause shown, stay the order of the State Fire Marshal pending review by the full Board.

(Res) 1.7.15 Imminent Danger (The Fire Board hereby reserves section 1.7.15 and its subsections 1.7.15.1, 1.7.15.2 and 1.7.15.3 for further study.)

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

(Amd) 1.10.1

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review was originally created in 1966 as the Fire Safety Code Commission and is currently authorized and maintained pursuant to R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-2.

(Amd) 1.10.1.1.1

The members of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review are appointed pursuant to R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-2(a) and Fire Safety Code Section 5.

(Amd) 1.10.1.1.2

The current composition of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is outlined in R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-2(a) and Fire Safety Code Section 5.

(Amd) 1.10.1.1.2.1

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 6-1-12.

(Amd) 1.10.1.1.3

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 6-2-25.

(Amd) 1.10.1.1.4

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) 1.10.1.1.5

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 6-4-6.

(Amd) 1.10.1.1.5.1

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., and all relevant advisory opinions and/or decisions rendered by the Rhode Island Ethics Commission.

(Amd) 1.10.1.1.6

Members of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review shall be selected and appointed pursuant to R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-2.

(Amd) 1.10.1.1.7

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 or has a potential conflict of interest. If the actual interest of the member is unclear, the member should not participate, abstain from voting, and then request an advisory opinion from State Ethics Commission prior to participating in comparable cases in the future.

(Amd) 1.10.1.1.8

The Governor shall designate one member as Chairperson pursuant to R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-2. The Chairperson shall then designate one member as Vice Chairperson subject to confirmation by the Board.

(Amd) 1.10.3.4

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review shall have the authority to waive any requirement(s) of the code pursuant to a comprehensive plan of action as outlined in a written Decision after a hearing and vote on the matter.

(Amd) 1.10.4.1

Any building owner or operator of any regulated process or hazardous activity may request a variance from the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review in accordance with R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-5 and its referenced standards.

(Amd) 1.10.4.2

An appeal shall be submitted 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) 1.10.4.3

Any documentation that either the Applicant or the AHJ wishes to rely upon during their scheduled hearing shall be submitted to the Fire Board, and the opposing side, at least seven calendar (7) days prior to their scheduled Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review hearing. This requirement may be either shortened or waived by the Fire Board for good cause shown.

(Amd) 1.10.5.1

Depending upon its case load, 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.)

(Amd) 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 at One Regan Court (Varley Building #46) Cranston, Rhode Island. The time and location of the meetings are subject to change in the future. Accordingly, please consult our website at www.fsc.ri.gov for specific public notice and any additional information regarding the formal weekly hearings. Hearings are also posted on the Rhode Island Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ri.gov.

(Amd) 1.10.5.4

The Fire Board of Appeal & Review shall keep records of its examinations, correspondence, files, meeting minutes, decisions and other official actions in accordance with its approved Records Retention Schedule,

(Amd) 1.10.5.6

A quorum of the Board shall consist of not less than five (5) members.

(Amd) 1.10.5.7

In varying the application of any provision of this *Code*, or in modifying an order of the AHJ, a majority vote by members with at least five (5) members in accord shall be required.

(Amd) 1.10.6.4

Copies of the Decision shall be sent by mail or delivered in person to the Applicant, the State Fire Marshal's Office, and the local fire marshal or department having territorial jurisdiction over the subject property or process.

(Amd) 1.11.1

The State Fire Marshal shall maintain a properly indexed record of all variances, issued on or after January 1, 2004, 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.

(Add) 1.11.2.1

Enforcement powers of deputy state fire marshals and assistant deputy state fire marshals shall be exercised in such a manner as to avoid duplication of effort by the building owner. The deputy state fire marshals and assistant deputy state fire marshals shall

provide the building owner with a single written inspection report detailing the fire safety requirements necessary to bring the building into full compliance with the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code. If a building owner receives an initial written inspection report listing all of the cited fire safety deficiencies in the building, and new non-abatable deficiencies are detected within the subsequent twelve (12) months, upon written notification thereof, the building owner is urged to correct such deficiencies as soon as practical, but shall have a period of twelve (12) months from the original inspection report to correct said newly detected deficiencies. The above time extension shall not apply to the issuance of “citations” pursuant to R.I.G.L. 23-28.2-14 or issues being addressed by the abatement procedure outlined in section 1.7.6.2

(Add) 1.11.2.2

Effective January 1, 2013, the state fire marshal shall make quarterly continuing educational programs available to all assistant deputy state fire marshals who shall be required to annually attend a minimum of two (2) such continuing educational programs in order to maintain their assistant deputy state fire marshal status. The above quarterly continuing educational programs shall be in addition to any training sessions deemed mandatory by the state fire marshal. The quarterly continuing educational programs may be conducted by outside groups with the approval of the state fire marshal.

(Add 1.11.2.3)

Effective January 1, 2013, the state fire marshal shall provide all assistant deputy state fire marshals with sufficient copies of a brochure explaining the inspection process and outlining the obligations and rights, including all appeal rights, of building owners under the state fire code. The assistant deputy state fire marshal shall provide the building owner, or onsite representative, with a copy of this brochure during the initial inspection of the building. A second copy of the brochure shall accompany the initial written inspection report generated as a result of the above building inspection.

(Add) 1.12.6.1

Only the State Fire Marshal, and those deputies and assistant deputy state fire marshals specifically authorized by the office of the State Fire Marshal, shall be granted the authority to issue the permits listed under this *Code*. The State Fire Marshal shall not be required to issue any of the permits listed under this *Code* unless he or she first determines that listed permit is necessary and that there are sufficient fiscal and personnel resources available for the uniform and consistent administration of the specific permit program.

(Amd) 1.14.1

Construction documents shall be submitted, reviewed, and approved for all new construction, modification, or rehabilitation, projects prior to the start of such work as

provided in Section 1.14, unless any or all of these requirements are specifically waived herein. These requirements may also be waived by the AHJ.

(Amd) 1.14.2

Unless specifically waived in writing by the AHJ, the applicant shall be responsible to ensure that the following conditions are met:

- (1) The construction documents include all of the fire protection requirements.
- (2) The shop drawings are correct and in compliance with the applicable codes and standards.
- (3) The contractor maintains an approved set of construction documents on site.
- (4) Up to five (5) sets of paper drawings and a project manual shall be submitted to the AHJ unless this requirement is specifically waived by the State Fire Marshal's Office.
- (5) An additional set of drawings and a project manual shall also be submitted in an electronic format approved by the State Fire Marshal's Office.
- (6) Upon completion of the project, an "as built" set of drawings and project manual, in the approved electronic format, shall be submitted to the AHJ for archival purposes.

(Amd) 1.14.3

Applications for plan review shall be made on the forms designated by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Add) 1.14.3.1

The Application for plan review by the State Fire Marshal's Office shall be accompanied by a plan review fee in accordance with either section 1.14.3.2 for one (1), two (2), and three (3) family homes or 1.14.3.3 for commercial projects.

(Add) 1.14.3.2

Plan review and inspection for the installation of smoke detector and/or carbon monoxide detection in any new and existing private dwelling occupied by one (1), two (2), and three (3) families shall charge no more than a seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) fee for a one (1) family unit, a hundred twenty-five dollar (\$125.00) fee for a two (2) family unit, and a one hundred seventy-five dollar (\$175.00) fee for a three (3) family unit for the smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector plan review together with any subsequent detection inspections.

(Add) 1.14.3.3

Every request for plan review by the State Fire Marshal's Office, under the provisions of the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code, shall be accompanied by the fee prescribed in accordance with R.I.G.L. 23-28.2-26.

(Add) 1.14.3.3.1

All fees collected by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to section 1.14.3.2 or 1.14.3.3 shall be deposited as outlined in R.I.G.L. 23-28.2-26.

(Add) 1.14.3.4

Plan review fees, not exceeding the amounts listed in sections 1.14.3.2 and 14.3.3, may be collected by the Assistant Deputy Fire Marshals of the municipal fire departments and/or fire districts, pursuant to municipal ordinance, only upon their completion of the plan review process. All such fees shall be utilized exclusively for supporting the operations of the municipal fire prevention bureau. Nothing herein shall preclude an AHJ, performing an inspection, pursuant to either section 24.6.3.1.3.1 or 25.2.2.3.1, from being paid at the time of that inspection.

(Add) 1.14.3.5

At the request of either the applicant of the AHJ, a preliminary meeting shall be held with the applicant and the AHJ at the time of the submittal. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the scope of the project, check that the correct codes were used, check that the plans have been stamped, and to ensure that all necessary paperwork is included with the submittal. At this time, if all of the above are not correct, the plans shall not be accepted by the AHJ and the AHJ shall immediately advise the applicant in writing of the specific deficiencies which must be addressed prior to re-submittal.

(Amd) 1.14.4

The AHJ shall either approve or render a written report to the applicant stating all of the reason(s) why the submitted construction documents cannot be approved within the following timeframes:

(Add) 1.14.4.1

One (1), two (2), and three (3) family homes shall be completed within 15 business days of receipt.

(Add) 1.14.4.2

All fire alarm plans shall be reviewed and either approved or disapproved, with full explanation, within fifteen (15) business days of submission of the plans. Fire alarm plans for existing buildings shall be limited to that portion of the building either under construction or renovation unless the State Fire Marshal specifically approves, in writing, an expanded scope of plan review. If the plans are not reviewed and approved within the above fifteen (15) business day period the project shall be allowed to proceed. The AHJ shall immediately submit written notification to the building official overseeing the project and advise that a building permit should issue pursuant to the understanding that the owner and/or contractor may proceed with the project at his or her own risk.

(Add) 1.14.4.3

Projects meeting all the requirements of 1.14.4.3(1) through 1.14.4.3(5) shall be completed within 20 business days of receipt:

- (1) Overall construction cost of under \$500,000;
- (2) No change in occupancy;
- (3) No change in square footage of the building or occupant load;
- (4) Renovations not affecting egress routes and/or exits;
- (5) Life safety systems are compliant with no major alterations proposed.

(Add) 1.14.4.3.1

For purposes of section 1.14.4.3(5) a compliant fire alarm system is defined as a system allowed to be maintained in the facility pursuant to RILSC Chapter 9.6 and its referenced standards.

(Add) 1.14.4.3.2

For purposes of section 1.14.4.3(5) major alterations are defined as:

- (1) Twenty (20) or more sprinkler heads being added or moved;
- (2) Ten (10) or more fire alarm devices being added;
- (3) Ceiling heights being reconfigured.

(Add) 1.14.4.4

Projects that have an overall cost of construction of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) or more but less than ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) shall be completed within thirty (30) business days of receipt.

(Add) 1.14.4.5

All other projects, not meeting sections 1.14.4.1, 1.14.4.2, 1.14.4.3 or 1.14. 4.4, shall be completed within forty (40) business days of receipt.

(Add) 1.14.4.6

When required by the AHJ, revised construction documents or shop drawings shall be prepared and submitted for review and approval to illustrate corrections as required by the written report in 1.14.4. The corrections shall be re-reviewed by the AHJ within 10 business days of receipt.

(Add) 1.14.4.7

For good cause shown, the State Fire Marshal may extend any of the timelines, outlined in sections 1.14.4.1 through 1.14.4.6, provided that such an extension is reduced to writing and issued to both the applicant and the AHJ. In the absence of such an extension, the project shall be allowed to proceed once the above applicable time limit for plan review has been reached. Specifically, at the conclusion of the above applicable time limit, the AHJ shall immediately submit written notification to the building official overseeing the project and advise that a building permit should issue pursuant to the understanding that the owner and/or contractor may proceed with the project at his or her own risk.

(Add) 1.14.4.8

Review and approval by the AHJ, or default submission to the building official pursuant to section 1.14.4.2 or section 1.14.4.7, shall not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of full compliance with this Code and/or any other codes or regulations which must be met by the applicant prior to the completion of the project.

(Add) 1.14.4.9

The AHJ shall have the discretion to waive the examination and approval of drawings when plans for the erection or alteration of a building, or its fire protection systems, are prepared by a professional engineer or registered architect who is either licensed or registered by the State of Rhode Island, and the professional engineer or architect has stated in writing that he or she has supervised the preparation of all design and technical documents and that he or she will review and approve all work drawings for the construction, and that the document shall, to the best of his or her knowledge, conform to all provisions of this code and all rules and regulations adopted under its provisions. In such a case, where the AHJ chooses to waive examination of the plans, the AHJ shall immediately submit written notification to the building official overseeing the project and advise that a building permit should be issued pursuant to the understanding that the owner and/or contractor may proceed with the project at his or her own risk as outlined above.

(Add) 1.14.4.10

The AHJ may waive the detailed department field inspection when the above-described professional engineer or architect certifies that the construction work will be built under his or her field observations and in accordance with the approved contract documents, and that he or she will certify to the best of his or her knowledge, Information and belief that the construction is in compliance with the approved plans and the code.

(Amd) 1.14.5

When required by the AHJ, revised construction documents or shop drawings shall be prepared and submitted for review and approval to illustrate corrections or modifications necessitated by field conditions or other revisions to approved plans.

(Add) 1.14.6

Where phased approval or approval in part is sought by the applicant pursuant to SBC-1 §106.3.3 or other applicable sections of the Building Code, a plan review letter of approval shall not be required for a fire protection system in order to obtain phased approval status from the Building Code Official. However, plans or shop drawings shall be submitted, reviewed, and approved prior to the start of work on those fire protection systems. The holder of a phased approval permit for the foundation or other parts of a building or structure shall proceed at the holder's own risk with the building operation and without assurance that a permit or plan review approval for fire code compliance will be granted. Phased approval shall not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of providing such temporary fire protection as may be required by other sections of the State Fire Safety Code.

(Add) 1.14.7

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. In this case, if a written plan review is not currently available, the state or local fire marshal shall not be required to submit written documentation for the case to proceed.

(Amd) 1.15.1

Where pre-approved by the State Fire Marshal, the AHJ shall be permitted to require a review by an approved independent third party with expertise in the matter to be reviewed at the submitter's expense.

(Res) 1.16.5

Reserved for future consideration by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review.

**CHAPTER 2
REFERENCED PUBLICATIONS**

(Amd) 2.2

NFPA 5000 shall not be considered a referenced publication of this Code. Pursuant to the ongoing agreement of the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review and the Building Code Standards Committee, all references to *NFPA 5000, Building Construction and Safety Code*, 2012 Edition, in this Code shall be understood to reference the comparable current provisions of the Rhode Island State Building Code adopted pursuant RIGL 23-27.3-100.1 et seq. and 42-35-1 through 8; and all references to the *International Fire Code*, in the Rhode Island State Building Code shall be understood to reference the comparable current provisions of this Code adopted pursuant to the provisions of R.I.G.L. 23-28.3-3 and 42-35-1 through 8. The AHJ, having enforcement jurisdiction, shall not enforce the provisions of NFPA 5000.

(Add) 2.2.1 Additional NFPA Referenced Publications.

NFPA 720, Standard for Installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detection and Warning Equipment, 2012 edition.

**CHAPTER 3
DEFINITIONS**

(Add) 3.5 Rhode Island Specific Definitions:

(Add) 3.5.1 Abatement or to Abate a condition: Abatement, or to abate a condition, is the reduction, decrease, or diminution of a hazardous condition that presents immediate danger to life. The term "immediate" denotes that action is or must be taken either instantly or without any considerable loss of time. The condition may be singular or may be a set of conditions that in combination present an "immediate danger to life". Such conditions, that present an "immediate danger to life", shall include improper management or use of flammable and combustible materials, liquids and gases, pyrotechnics, fireworks or explosives, malfunctioning automatic sprinklers, fire alarms and emergency lighting, malfunctioning heating and electrical systems, blocked or inadequate exits or means of egress, the overcrowding of assembly occupancies and such other conditions as may be established by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review.

(Add) 3.5.2 Authority Having Jurisdiction (Enforcement). Unless specifically defined to the contrary in this code, the authority having jurisdiction for the enforcement of this code shall be the state fire marshal. The state fire marshal may delegate this enforcement authority to any deputy state fire marshal or assistant deputy state fire marshal that he or she certifies and appoints pursuant to RIGL 23-28.2-1 et seq. However, as a condition of their continued certification, all such appointed deputy state fire marshals and assistant deputy state fire marshals shall apply the code, consistently and uniformly across the state, under the guidance of the state fire marshal.

(Add) 3.5.3 Bed and Breakfast Home.: An owner and/or innkeeper occupied building that provides sleeping accommodations for up to sixteen (16) guests. Every “Bed and Breakfast Home” must further have originated as a private home and must have at least 300 square feet of common space (i.e., dining room, living room, etc.) for guest use, and must further provide breakfast. Finally, the owner and/or innkeeper must occupy the building twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, while guests are utilizing the facility. The owner and/or innkeeper of the Bed and Breakfast Home shall have a plan of action, approved by the local official, to assure the safety of the guests in the event the owner or innkeeper is required to temporarily leave the facility unsupervised for limited periods during the day.

(Add) 3.5.4 Certificate of Occupancy.: After the building official inspects the building or structure and, after consultation with the AHJ enforcing the provisions of this code, finds no violations of the provisions of this code or other laws that are enforced by the department of building safety, the building official issues an official document known as a “certificate of occupancy” that generally contains the following:

1. The building permit number.
2. The address of the structure.
3. The name and address of the owner.
4. A description of that portion of the structure for which the certificate is issued.
5. A statement that the described portion of the structure has been inspected for compliance with the requirements of this code for the occupancy and division of occupancy and the use for which the proposed occupancy is classified.
6. The name of the building official.
7. The edition of the code under which the permit was issued.
8. The use and occupancy, in accordance with the provisions of the State Building Code.
9. The type of construction as defined in the State Building Code.
10. The design occupant load.
11. If an automatic sprinkler system is provided, whether the sprinkler system is required.
12. Any special stipulations and conditions of the building permit.

(Add) 3.5.5 Citation System: A system of enforcement outlined in R.I.G.L. 23-28.2-14.

(Add) 3.5.6 Code: The term "Code" means this Fire Safety Code established under the provisions of § 23-28.1-1.

(Add) 3.5.7 Compliance Order: For the purposes of this Code, a compliance order is defined as a command or direction authoritatively given to a building owner or occupant to provide conformance with the Fire Safety Code. A compliance order takes effect when a building owner or occupant, after proper notice, has exhausted his/her administrative appeals or has failed to avail himself/herself of appropriate administrative appeals within a reasonable period of time after receiving proper notice.

(Add) 3.5.8 Emergency Shelter Occupancy: An occupancy or portion thereof used on a temporary basis to provide sleeping accommodations for transient or displaced individuals who have no other shelter arrangements during periods of severe weather or during the aftermath of a natural or man-made disaster.

(Add) 3.5.9 Family Day Care Home: The term "family day care home" means any home other than the child's home in which child day care in lieu of parental care and/or supervision is offered at the same time to at least four (4) but not more than eight (8) children who are not relatives of the care giver, and which is licensed by the state department of children, youth, and families and subject to the department's regulations.

(Add) 3.5.10 Funeral Establishment: An assembly occupancy, as defined by RIGL 5-33.2-1(k) as a "fixed place, establishment or premises, licensed by the department (of health), devoted to the activities which are incident, convenient, or related to the care and preparation, arrangement, financial and otherwise, for the funeral, transportation, burial or other disposition of human bodies and including, but not limited to, a suitable room with all instruments and supplies used for the storage and/or preparation of dead human bodies for burial or other disposition".

(Add) 3.5.11 Organized Dining Facility: A place of public accommodation which is characterized as a facility where private events are held and where the primary source of revenue, in general, is derived from rental charges for use of the facility and service of food. Such a facility shall not provide for cover charges or have as a primary attraction any event where entertainment is provided by a live band or recorded music. Such a facility primarily provides for organized banquets, private parties, fund raisers, wedding receptions, ceremonial events and the like.

(Add) 3.5.12 Nightclub: A place of public accommodation, which in general is characterized by all of the following:

(i) Provides entertainment by a live band or recorded music generating above normal sound levels.

(ii) Has as its primary source of revenue, in general, the sale of beverages of any kind for consumption on the premises and/or cover charges. Food, if served, is considered a secondary attraction.

(iii) Has an occupant load in total or in any single area or room of at least 100 patrons.

Nothing in this definition shall be construed to include any place of public accommodation or any event within a place of public accommodation, which is in its nature distinctly private.

(Add) 3.5.13 Place of Worship: A building or structure, or an area thereof, the occupancy of which is for the religious rites and services and communal functions of a congregation, and which shall include sanctuaries, gathering halls, meeting rooms and offices and related facilities of the congregation, which may be located in the same, in connected, or in proximate structures.

(Add) 3.5.14 Suspended Ceiling: A ceiling system consisting of a grid of channels or “T-bars” suspended from the structure above for readily removable acoustical tiles or lay-in panels.

(Add) 3.5.15 Temporary Certificate of Occupancy: The building official may issue a temporary certificate of occupancy before the completion of the entire work covered by the permit, provided that such portion or portions shall be occupied safely. The building official shall set a time period during which the temporary certificate of occupancy is valid.

(Add) 3.5.16 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 for the installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in three family buildings.

CHAPTER 4 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

CHAPTER 5 PERFORMANCE-BASED OPTIONS

CHAPTER 6 RESERVED

CHAPTER 7 RESERVED

CHAPTER 8 RESERVED

**CHAPTER 9
RESERVED**

**CHAPTER 10
GENERAL FIRE SAFETY**

**CHAPTER 11
BUILDING SERVICES**

**CHAPTER 12
FEATURES OF FIRE PROTECTION**

**CHAPTER 13
FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS**

High-rise modifications

(Amd) 13.3.2.26.2

Existing high-rise buildings, including those containing student occupied assembly occupancies, shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with this chapter, 13.3.2.26.2.1, through 13.3.2.26.2.3.

(Amd) 13.3.2.26.2.3

The entire building shall be required to be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system, installed pursuant to the provisions of NFPA 13, as applicable, on or before January 1, 2016. The applicable version of NFPA 13 shall be that version in force and effect at the time plans for the installation of the system are approved by the AHJ or as outlined in section 1-14-3. (Note: This mandate was originally adopted in 2004 as outlined in Section 7 (Amend) 13.3.2.22.2.3.)

(Add) 13.6.7.1.1

All fire extinguisher administrative programs, rules and procedures, adopted pursuant to The Comprehensive Fire Safety Act of 2003, in force and effect within the Office of the State Fire Marshal on December 31, 2012, as outlined in Annex H, including but not limited to all Rhode Island specific permits, fees, testing and certification programs for fire extinguishers, shall continue in full force and effect on and after January 1, 2013 and remain fully enforceable by the State Fire Marshal.

(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

Sections 13.7.1 through 13.7.4.7.7 are hereby reserved by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review. Fire Alarm requirements have been transferred to the Rhode Island Life Safety Code (Section 8 of the Rhode Island Fire Code) Chapter 9.6 and Chapters 12-42 as applicable.

**CHAPTER 14
MEANS OF EGRESS**

**CHAPTER 15
FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICE DELIVERY
CONCURRENCY EVALUATION
(RESERVED)**

**CHAPTER 16
SAFEGUARDING CONSTRUCTION,
ALTERATION, AND DEMOLITION OPERATIONS**

**CHAPTER 17
WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE**

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

**CHAPTER 19
COMBUSTIBLE WASTE AND REFUSE**

**CHAPTER 20
OCCUPANCY FIRE SAFETY**

**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,
TENTS AND MEMBRANE STRUCTURES**

(Add) 25.7 Permitting of Tents

(Add) 25.7.1 All tents, exceeding one hundred twenty square feet (120 sq. ft.), shall further conform to the mandates of R.I.G.L. 23-28.19-1 et. seq.

(Add) 25.7.2 The AHJ having enforcement jurisdiction shall have the authority to re-approve the licensing of tents, covered under R.I.G.L. 23-28.19-1, for successive thirty (30) day periods provided he or she is satisfied that the tent continues to be properly operated and maintained in accordance with the provisions of R.I.G.L. 23-28.19-1 et. seq.

**CHAPTER 26
LABORATORIES USING CHEMICALS**

**CHAPTER 27
MANUFACTURED HOME AND
RECREATIONAL VEHICLE SITES**

**CHAPTER 28
MARINAS, BOATYARDS, MARINE TERMINALS,
PIERS, AND WHARVES**

(Amd) 28.1.5

No requirement in this chapter is to be construed as reducing applicable building, fire and electrical codes. For the purpose of plan review and inspection compliance, storage occupancies will be treated as industrial occupancies if there is mixed or intermingled use within the building. Designated high hazard areas in industrial buildings will be protected with localized fire suppression and one-hour separation.

(Amd) 28.1.6.2.1.3*

In existing facilities, considering water supply availability and adequacy, and the size of the facility, where clearly impracticable for economic or physical conditions, the Authority Having Enforcement Jurisdiction shall either exempt the building from this requirement or assist the owner in the development of reasonable alternative protection for the building. Such alternative protection may involve the use of the natural water source, on which the marina is located, as the fire department and/or suppression system water supply.

(Amd) 28.1.6.2.2.2*

In existing facilities, considering water supply availability and adequacy, and the size of the facility, where clearly impracticable for economic or physical conditions, the Authority Having Enforcement Jurisdiction shall either exempt the building from this requirement or assist the owner in the development of reasonable alternative protection for the building. Such alternative protection may involve the use of the natural water source, on which the marina is located, as the fire department and/or suppression system water supply.

(Amd) 28.1.6.2.3.4*

In existing facilities, considering water supply availability and adequacy, and the size of the facility, where clearly impracticable for economic or physical conditions, the Authority Having Enforcement Jurisdiction shall either exempt the building from this requirement or assist the owner in the development of reasonable alternative protection for the building. Such alternative protection may involve the use of the natural water source, on which the marina is located, as the fire department and/or suppression system water supply.

(Add) 28.1.6.2.3.5

Where sprinkler system installation is required, or installed at the discretion of the building owner, the Office of the State Fire Marshal will review the plans for consistency of enforcement in cooperation with the AHJ. Alternative suppression systems shall be subject to approval by the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

(Add) 28.1.6.2.3.6

An approved water supply shall be provided within 100 ft (30.5 m) of the pier/land intersection or fire department connection serving fire protection systems. Access between water supplies and pier/land intersections or fire department connections shall be by roadway acceptable to the AHJ. In existing facilities, considering water supply availability and adequacy, and the size of the facility, where clearly impracticable for economic or physical conditions, the Authority Having Enforcement Jurisdiction shall either exempt the owner from this requirement or assist the owner in the development of

reasonable alternative protection for the building. Such alternative protection may involve the use of the natural water source, on which the marina is located, as the fire department and/or suppression system water supply.

(Amd) 28.1.6.5

Hydrants and Water Supplies. Except as outlined below, hydrants and water supplies for fire protection in marinas and boatyards shall be provided in accordance with Section 13.2, Section 13.3, and 13.5.1. Notwithstanding the above, the marina management of existing facilities may provide supplemental water supply access for responding firefighters with an approved performance designed alternative system,. to include dry hydrants, at existing facilities, subject to the approval of the local AHJ.

(Add) 28.1.7.2.1.8.4

Marina management shall work with local fire officials to provide and maintain emergency access to all facility structures and to the onsite water supply.

(Add) 28.1.7.2.1.8.5

Marina management shall work with local fire departments to maintain adequate fire department access for exterior winter boat storage.

(Add) 28.1.7.2.2.6

Marina management will provide a floor plan, signage and marking for interior boat storage areas that provide for acceptable access to exterior exits subject to the approval of the local AHJ.

**CHAPTER 29
PARKING GARAGES**

**CHAPTER 30
MOTOR FUEL DISPENSING FACILITIES
AND REPAIR GARAGES**

**CHAPTER 31
FOREST PRODUCTS**

**CHAPTER 32
MOTION PICTURE AND TELEVISION
PRODUCTION STUDIO SOUNDSTAGES
AND APPROVED PRODUCTION FACILITIES**

**CHAPTER 33
OUTSIDE STORAGE OF TIRES**

**CHAPTER 34
GENERAL STORAGE**

**CHAPTER 35
ANIMAL HOUSING FACILITIES
(RESERVED)**

**CHAPTER 36
TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES AND
INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT**

**CHAPTER 37
FIXED GUIDEWAY TRANSIT AND
PASSANGER RAIL SYSTEMS**

**CHAPTER 38
RESERVED**

**CHAPTER 39
RESERVED**

**CHAPTER 40
DUST EXPLOSION PREVENTION**

**CHAPTER 41
WELDING CUTTING AND OTHER HOT WORK**

(Add) 41.1.3 (8) All blacksmith operations, forging and related historical practices.

**CHAPTER 42
REFUELING**

**CHAPTER 43
SPRAYING, DIPPING, AND COATING
USING FLAMMABLE OR COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS**

**CHAPTER 44
SOLVENT EXTRACTION**

**CHAPTER 45
COMBUSTIBLE FIBERS**

**CHAPTER 46
RESERVED**

**CHAPTER 47
RESERVED**

**CHAPTER 48
RESERVED**

**CHAPTER 49
RESERVED**

**CHAPTER 50
COMMERCIAL COOKING EQUIPMENT**

(Amd) 50.5.2.8 Certificates of inspection and maintenance shall be forwarded to the AHJ within ten (10) business days.

(Amd) 50.5.6.15 Certificates of inspection and cleaning and reports of areas not cleaned shall be forwarded to the AHJ within ten (10) business days.

**CHAPTER 51
INDUSTRIAL OVENS AND FURNACES**

**CHAPTER 52
STATIONARY STORAGE BATTERY SYSTEMS**

**CHAPTER 53
MECHANICAL REFRIGERATION**

**CHAPTER 54
OZONE GAS-GENERATING EQUIPMENT**

**CHAPTER 55
(RESERVED)**

**CHAPTER 56
(RESERVED)**

**CHAPTER 57
(RESERVED)**

**CHAPTER 58
(RESERVED)**

**CHAPTER 59
(RESERVED)**

**CHAPTER 60
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

**CHAPTER 61
AEROSOL PRODUCTS**

**CHAPTER 62
RESERVED**

**CHAPTER 63
COMPRESSED GASES & CRYOGENIC FLUIDS**

**CHAPTER 64
CORROSIVE SOLIDS AND LIQUIDS**

**CHAPTER 65
EXPLOSIVES, FIREWORKS AND MODEL ROCKETRY**

(Add) 65.1.1.1

All Explosives, Fireworks and Model Rocketry administrative programs, rules and procedures, adopted pursuant to The Comprehensive Fire Safety Act of 2003, in force and effect within the Office of the State Fire Marshal on December 31, 2012, as outlined in Annex I, including but not limited to all Rhode Island specific permits, fees, testing and certification programs for Explosives, Fireworks and Model Rocketry, shall continue in full force and effect on and after January 1, 2013 and remain fully enforceable by the State Fire Marshal. In addition to all statutory requirements outlined in R.I.G.L 23-28.11-3 et seq., and all regulations adopted there under shall remain in force and effect. Any conflict between the regulations outlined in Annex I, and the above statute, shall be resolved in favor of the statute.

**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.

(Add) 69.1.3

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

(Add) 69.1.4

All permits must be renewed annually.

(Add) 69.1.5 Permit fee.

Each annual application for a permit hereunder shall be accompanied by a permit fee of seventy-five (\$75.00) dollars, by check or money order made payable to the State of Rhode Island.

(Add) 69.1.6 Expiration of permits.

All permits hereunder shall expire on the date specifically noted on the permit.

(Add) 69.1.7 Revocation.

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

(Add) 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 of the permit holder.

(Add) 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 first shall further comply with earthquake protection standards outlined in NFPA 59, 2012 edition, 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, 2009 edition, 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**

**CHAPTER 74
AMMONIUM NITRATE**

**CHAPTER 75
ORGANIC PEROXIDE SOLIDS
AND LIQUIDS**

ANNEX A

ANNEX B

ANNEX C

ANNEX D

ANNEX E

ANNEX F

ANNEX G

ANNEX H

H.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.

H.13.6.7.1 General

H.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.

H.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.

H.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.

H.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. Pre-engineered fixed fire extinguishing systems: same as "b" above.

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

H.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.

H.13.6.7.2 License/Permits

H.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.

H.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.

H.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.

H.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.

H.13.6.7.2.5

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

H.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.

H.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.

H.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.

H.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.

H.13.6.7.2.10 Renewal Of Licenses Or Certificates

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

H.13.6.7.3 Fees

H.13.6.7.3.1

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

H.13.6.7.3.2

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

H.13.6.7.3.3

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

H.13.6.7.3.4

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

H.13.6.7.3.5

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

H.13.6.7.3.6

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

H.13.6.7.3.7

Renewal of Journeyman Licenses is \$50.00 annually.

H.13.6.7.3.8

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

H.13.6.7.3.9

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

H.13.6.7.4. Administrative

H.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.

H.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.

H.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.

H.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.

H.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:

H.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.

H.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.

H.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.

H.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.

H.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

H.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.

H.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.

H.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.

ANNEX I

EXPLOSIVES, FIREWORKS AND MODEL ROCKETRY

I.65.2.3 Permits.

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

I.65.2.3.1 Application For Permits

I.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.

I.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 or her designee of the city, town, district or municipality in which the display is to be held.

I.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 the names of the persons who will be assisting him or her.
- 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.

I.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 or her designee shall endorse the Application,

stating that he or she approves the display as being in conformance with all parts of the law and with these regulations.

I.65.2.3.1.5

The Chief of the Fire Department, or his or her 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.

I.65.2.3.2 Conduct of Display

I.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.

I.65.2.3.3 Qualification of Operators.

I.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 certified operator shall be able-bodied, at least 18 years of age and capable of reading, writing, speaking, and understanding the English language.

I.65.2.3.3.2

There shall be at all times no fewer than two (2) operators of the display constantly on duty during the discharge, at least one of whom shall be certificated.

I.65.2.3.4 General

I.65.2.3.4.1

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

I.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 or her 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 firefighters shall be paid by the permittee.

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.2.3.5 Additional Requirements

I.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.

I.65.3.3 Permits.

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

I.65.4.2 Permits.

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

I.65.5.2 Permits.

Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.2.3.5.1 of this Code.

I.65.6.1 Rockets

I.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 decent to the ground so that the structure shall not 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.

I.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.

I.65.6.2 Solid Propellant Rocket Motors

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.6.3 Location For Operation

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.6.4 Launching

I. 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.

I.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.)

I.65.6.4.3

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

I.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.

I.65.6.4.5

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

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.6.4.8

All personnel conducting or assisting in the launching shall remain at least fifteen (15) feet from models containing motors totaling 30 Newton-seconds or less of total impulse and at least thirty (30) feet 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 (100) feet from the launching device.

I.65.6.5 Test and Experiments

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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 (5) feet 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.

I.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).

I.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.

I.65.6.6. Permits

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.6.6.12

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

I.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.

I.65.7.2 Permits.

Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.6.1 et seq. of this Code.

I. 65.8.2 Permits.

Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.6.1 et seq. of this Code.

I.65.9.2 Permits.

Permits shall comply with the provisions of section 65.9.3.1 et seq. of this Code.

I.65.9.3 General Provisions

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.9.3.3

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

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.9.3.6

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

I.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 (1½) mile radius of radios, transmitters, or high tension power lines.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.9.4. Use Of Explosives:

I.65.9.4.1

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

I.65.9.4.2

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

I.65.9.4.3

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

I.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.

I.65.9.4.5

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

I.65.9.4.6

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

I.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.

I.65.9.4.9

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

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.9.4.18

There shall be no smoking, matches, or any source of fire or flame within one hundred (100) feet 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.

I.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.

I.65.9.4.20

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

I.65.9.4.21

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

I.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.

I.65.9.4.23

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

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.9.4.26

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

I.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 (2) feet.

I.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.

I.65.9.4.29

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

I.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.

I.65.9.4.31

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

I.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 re-fired before work proceeds.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.9.4.37

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

I.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.

I.65.9.4.39

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

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.9.4.42

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

I.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.

I.65.9.4.44

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

I.65.9.4.45

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

I.65.9.4.46

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

I.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.

I.65.9.5. Storage Of Explosives On Land:

I.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.

I.65.9.5.2

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

I.65.9.5.3

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

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.9.5.7

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

I.65.9.6. Transportation Of Explosives:

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.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.

I.65.9.6.6

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

I.65.9.6.7

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

I.65.9.6.8

Radio transmitters shall be shut off on vehicles transporting explosives.

I.65.9.6.9

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

I.65.9.7 Additional Requirements

I.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.

I.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.

Note: Sections 65.11.2 through 65.11.12.7 were reserved due to the fact that the retail sale of consumer fireworks was a prohibited activity in the State of Rhode Island.

RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 8
RHODE ISLAND LIFE SAFETY CODE
OF THE RHODE ISLAND FIRE SAFETY CODE

Pursuant to Rhode Island Public Laws Chapter 12-337, the Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection Association, Inc., Standard 101 (NFPA 101), 2012 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, 2012 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 NFPA 101, 2012 edition, have also been made available to state-operated libraries in Rhode Island.

Electronic 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 on the Fire Board's website at www.fsc.ri.gov. Copies shall subsequently be available from LexisNexis/Matthew Bender & Co., 1275 Broadway, Albany, N.Y. 12204-2694. The LexisNexis telephone number is 1-800-446-3410.

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.

Except as outlined below, the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review is the sole authority having jurisdiction to grant variances, waivers 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. Notwithstanding the above, the State Fire Marshal and his or her designees are hereby authorized to approve dimensional relief within the egress systems of any existing building in accordance with NFPA 101 and its annexes. Such dimensional relief shall be known as "AHJ modifications". All "AHJ modifications" must be in writing and submitted to the State Fire Marshal's Office for recording. Once recorded by the State Fire Marshal's Office, the "AHJ modification" shall remain as permanent relief for the building as long as the use and/or occupancy of the building remains the same. Any change of use and/or occupancy shall subject the building to review under the relevant codes and reconsideration of the "AHJ modification" in light of the new use or occupancy.

For the purposes of uniform administration, and with the exception of “AHJ Modifications” as outlined above, all other 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 was issued on or after January 1, 2013, shall be subject to the provisions of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code addressing the new occupancy unless this requirement is specifically modified by the issuance of a blanket variance by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review to allow a grace period for plans, submitted after the above date, to be reviewed under the prior Code.

All existing buildings and structures, and those buildings and structures for which a building permit was issued prior to January 1, 2013, 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 required protection systems, such as sprinklers, fire alarms, emergency lighting and exit signs, installed in existing buildings, shall continue to be properly maintained. Non-required systems shall either be maintained, have the devices removed, or marked, to the satisfaction of the AHJ, so as to notify the public as the absence of these systems. Prior to the removal or marking of any non-required system, the system’s owner must first comply with the procedures outlined in Section 4.6.12.2.1 of this Code. The above marking of any de-activated system shall be at the direction and to the satisfaction of the State Fire Marshal or his or her designee

The effective date of the “Rhode Island Life Safety Code” is January 1, 2013. The provisions of NFPA 101, 2012 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, 2012 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 “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, 2012 Edition, as amended) and the “Rhode Island Fire Code ”(NFPA 1, 2012 Edition, as amended) comprise the “Rhode Island Fire Safety Code ”as mandated R.I. Public Laws Chapter 12-337.

The “Rhode Island Life Safety Code” is the major component of the “Rhode Island 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 and 23-28.1-2.

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 was issued on or after January 1, 2013, 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 January 1, 2013, 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. All such deputy state fire marshals and assistant deputy state fire marshals maintain their certification at the pleasure of the State Fire Marshal. 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) 1.6.1.1 Modifications.

The State Fire Marshal and his or her designees are hereby authorized to approve dimensional relief within the egress systems of any existing building in accordance with NFPA 101 and its annexes. Such dimensional relief shall be known as “AHJ modifications”. All “AHJ modifications” must be in writing and submitted to the State Fire Marshal's Office for approval and recording. Once approved and recorded by the State Fire Marshal's Office, the “AHJ modification” shall remain as permanent relief for the building as long as the use and/or occupancy of the building remains the same. Any change of use and/or occupancy shall subject the building to review under the relevant codes and reconsideration of the “AHJ modification” in light of the new use or occupancy.

(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 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 6-1-12.

(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 6-2-25.

(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 6-4-6.

(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 shall automatically stay the State Fire Marshal's order. However, where the State Fire Marshal, or his or her designee, advises that such an automatic stay would endanger the public and/or the owner's tenants or employees, the chairperson of the board, or his or her designee, may, for such good cause shown, suspend the automatic stay of the State Fire Marshal's order 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, has the authority to summarily abate any condition which presents immediate danger to life. The conditions that present an "immediate danger to life" are outlined under the definition of "abatement or to abate a condition" found in fire safety code section 4. 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. Any such order to vacate the premises shall be either approved in writing 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

When a conflict between the language of the original 2012 Edition of NFPA 101 – Life Safety Code and any specific Rhode Island amendment occurs, the conflict shall initially be resolved by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

**CHAPTER 2
REFERENCED PUBLICATIONS**

**CHAPTER 3
DEFINITIONS**

(Amd) 3.3.36.3 Apartment Building.

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

(Add) 3.4 Rhode Island Specific Definitions

(Add) 3.4.1 Abatement or to Abate a condition: Abatement, or to abate a condition, is the reduction, decrease, or diminution of a hazardous condition that presents immediate danger to life. The term "immediate" denotes that action is or must be taken either instantly or without any considerable loss of time. The condition may be singular or may be a set of conditions that in combination present an "immediate danger to life". Such conditions, that present an "immediate danger to life", shall include improper management or use of flammable and combustible materials, liquids and gases, pyrotechnics, fireworks or explosives, malfunctioning automatic sprinklers, fire alarms and emergency lighting, malfunctioning heating and electrical systems, blocked or inadequate exits or means of egress, the overcrowding of assembly occupancies and such other conditions as may be established by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review.

(Add) 3.4.2 Adult Day-Care. A building or portion thereof used for less than 24 hours per day to house more than three adults requiring supportive care, maintenance, and supervision by other than their relatives.

(Add) 3.4.3 Authority Having Jurisdiction (Enforcement). Unless specifically defined to the contrary in this code, the authority having jurisdiction for the enforcement of this code shall be the state fire marshal. The state fire marshal may delegate this enforcement authority to any deputy state fire marshal or assistant deputy state fire marshal that he or she certifies and appoints pursuant to RIGL 23-28.2-1 et seq. However, as a condition of their continued certification, all such appointed deputy state fire marshals and assistant deputy state fire marshals shall apply the code, consistently and uniformly across the state, under the guidance of the state fire marshal.

(Add) 3.4.4 Bed and Breakfast Home.: An owner and/or innkeeper occupied building that provides sleeping accommodations for up to sixteen (16) guests. Every "Bed and Breakfast Home" must further have originated as a private home and must have at least 300 square feet of common space (i.e., dining room, living room, etc.) for guest use, and must further provide breakfast. Finally, the owner and/or innkeeper must occupy the building twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, while guests are utilizing the facility. The owner and/or innkeeper of the Bed and Breakfast Home shall have a plan of action, approved by the local official, to assure the safety of the guests in the event the owner or innkeeper is required to temporarily leave the facility unsupervised for limited periods during the day.

(Add) 3.4.5 Certificate of Occupancy.: After the building official inspects the building or structure and, after consultation with the AHJ enforcing the provisions of this code, finds no violations of the provisions of this code or other laws that are enforced by the department of building safety, the building official issues an official document known as a "certificate of occupancy" that generally contains the following:

1. The building permit number.
2. The address of the structure.
3. The name and address of the owner.
4. A description of that portion of the structure for which the certificate is issued.
5. A statement that the described portion of the structure has been inspected for compliance with the requirements of this code for the occupancy and division of occupancy and the use for which the proposed occupancy is classified.
6. The name of the building official.
7. The edition of the code under which the permit was issued.
8. The use and occupancy, in accordance with the provisions of the State Building Code.
9. The type of construction as defined in the State Building Code.
10. The design occupant load.
11. If an automatic sprinkler system is provided, whether the sprinkler system is required.
12. Any special stipulations and conditions of the building permit.

(Add) 3.4.6 Citation System: A system of enforcement outlined in R.I.G.L. 23-28.2-14.

(Add) 3.4.7 Code: The term "code" means this Fire Safety Code established under the provisions of § 23-28.1-1.

(Add) 3.4.8 Compliance Order: For the purposes of this Code, a compliance order is defined as a command or direction authoritatively given to a building owner or occupant to provide conformance with the Fire Safety Code. A compliance order takes effect when a building owner or occupant, after proper notice, has exhausted his/her administrative appeals or has failed to avail himself/herself of appropriate administrative appeals within a reasonable period of time after receiving proper notice.

(Add) 3.4.9 Emergency Shelter Occupancy: An occupancy or portion thereof used on a temporary basis to provide sleeping accommodations for transient or displaced individuals who have no other shelter arrangements during periods of severe weather or during the aftermath of a natural or man-made disaster.

(Add) 3.4.10 Family Day Care Home: The term "family day care home" means any home other than the child's home in which child day care in lieu of parental care and/or supervision is offered at the same time to at least four (4) but not more than eight (8) children who are not relatives of the care giver, and which is licensed by the state department of children, youth, and families and subject to the department's regulations.

(Add) 3.4.11 Funeral Establishment: An assembly occupancy, as defined by RIGL 5-33.2-1(k) as a "fixed place, establishment or premises, licensed by the department of health, devoted to the activities which are incident, convenient, or related to the care and preparation, arrangement, financial and otherwise, for the funeral, transportation, burial or other disposition of human bodies and including, but not limited to, a suitable room

with all instruments and supplies used for the storage and/or preparation of dead human bodies for burial or other disposition”.

(Add) 3.4.12 Organized Dining Facility: A place of public accommodation which is characterized as a facility where private events are held and where the primary source of revenue, in general, is derived from rental charges for use of the facility and service of food. Such a facility shall not provide for cover charges or have as a primary attraction any event where entertainment is provided by a live band or recorded music. Such a facility primarily provides for organized banquets, private parties, fund raisers, wedding receptions, ceremonial events and the like.

(Add) 3.4.13 Nightclub: A place of public accommodation, which in general is characterized by all of the following:

(i) Provides entertainment by a live band or recorded music generating above normal sound levels.

(ii) Has as its primary source of revenue, in general, the sale of beverages of any kind for consumption on the premises and/or cover charges. Food, if served, is considered a secondary attraction.

(iii) Has an occupant load in total or in any single area or room of at least 100 patrons.

Nothing in this definition shall be construed to include any place of public accommodation or any event within a place of public accommodation, which is in its nature distinctly private.

(Add) 3.4.14 Place of Worship: A building or structure, or an area thereof, the occupancy of which is for the religious rites and services and communal functions of a congregation, and which shall include sanctuaries, gathering halls, meeting rooms and offices and related facilities of the congregation, which may be located in the same, in connected, or in proximate structures.

(Add) 3.4.15 Suspended Ceiling: A ceiling system consisting of a grid of channels or “T-bars” suspended from the structure above for readily removable acoustical tiles or lay-in panels.

(Add) 3.4.16 Temporary Certificate of Occupancy: The building official may issue a temporary certificate of occupancy before the completion of the entire work covered by the permit, provided that such portion or portions shall be occupied safely. The building official shall set a time period during which the temporary certificate of occupancy is valid.

(Add) 3.4.17 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 for the installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in three family apartment buildings.

CHAPTER 4 GENERAL

(Add) 4.6.9.3

The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for the enforcement of this code may approve the issuance of a temporary certificate of occupancy (TCO) by the building official provided the major life safety systems (sprinkler, fire alarm, approved egress system, etc.) are operational in the area of the building to be so occupied. The AHJ is further authorized to require any additional safeguards he or she deems necessary to ensure the life safety of the temporary occupants.

(Add) 4.6.12.2.1 Existing fire protection systems, or portions thereof, shall only be removed in accordance with the following procedure:

- (1) The building owner shall request that the State Fire Marshal or local AHJ conduct a full inspection of the facility to determine whether the fire protection system is currently required and if there are any other fire code deficiencies in the subject facility. All such deficiencies must be corrected before removing or modifying the fire protection system.
- (2) The State Fire Marshal or the local AHJ conducting the full inspection shall further advise the owner if any variances, previously granted, would be voided in the absence of the fire protection system. If such variances were granted, the owner must either correct the underlying deficiencies, or secure additional relief from the Fire Board, before removing or modifying the fire protection system.

CHAPTER 5 PERFORMANCE-BASED OPTIONS (No Modifications)

CHAPTER 6 CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPANCY AND HAZARD OF CONTENTS

(Add) 6.1.14.4.5

Sections 6.1.14.4.1 through 6.1.14.4.4 above shall not be construed as to require that any or all occupancies be separated. These sections simply establish the separation requirements necessary if a building owner chooses to have a portion of the building not comply with the most restrictive requirements of the occupancies involved. All non-separated occupancies are mixed occupancies, as defined in section 6.1.14.2.2, and must comply with the provisions of this code covering mixed occupancies.

CHAPTER 7 MEANS OF EGRESS

(Add) 7.2.8.9 Maintenance

(Add) 7.2.8.9.1 All fire escape stairs shall be maintained in good physical repair and remain useable at all times.

(Add) 7.2.8.9.2 Maintenance of fire escape stairs shall include:

- (1) Exit access shall remain clear and unobstructed at all times.
- (2) All moving parts shall remain operable at all times.
- (3) All structural members including landings, railings, stair components, handrails, guards, and support or mounting components shall be free of rust and corrosion.
- (4) All surfaces subject to corrosion shall be painted.

(Add) 7.2.8.9.3 Fire escape stairs that are not properly maintained and show signs of structural instability shall be repaired prior to continued use. All repairs shall be inspected by a person or firm acceptable to the State Fire Marshal.

(Add) 7.2.9.4 Maintenance

(Add) 7.2.9.4.1 All fire escape ladders shall be maintained in good physical repair and remain useable at all times.

(Add) 7.2.9.4.2 Maintenance of fire escape ladders shall include:

- (1) Exit access shall remain clear and unobstructed at all times.
- (2) All moving parts shall remain operable at all times.
- (3) All structural members including landings, railings, stair components, handrails, guards, and support or mounting components shall be free of rust and corrosion.
- (4) All surfaces subject to corrosion shall be painted.

(Add) 7.2.9.4.3 Fire escape ladders that are not properly maintained and show signs of structural instability shall be repaired prior to continued use. All repairs shall be inspected by a person or firm acceptable to the State Fire Marshal.

CHAPTER 8
FEATURES OF FIRE PROTECTION
(No Modifications)

CHAPTER 9
BUILDING SERVICE AND FIRE
PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

(Amd) 9.1.3.2

New generator controllers shall be monitored by the fire alarm system, where provided, or at an attended location approved by the AHJ, for the following conditions:

- (1) Generator running
- (2) Generator fault
- (3) Generator switch in non-automatic position

Exception: A generator remote annunciator may be installed adjacent to the fire alarm control panel or fire alarm remote annunciator with the approval of the AHJ to satisfy this requirement.

(Add) 9.1.3.3 Where a building fire alarm system is provided, existing emergency generators shall be monitored by the fire alarm system for generator running.

Exception: A generator remote annunciator may be installed adjacent to the fire alarm control panel or fire alarm remote annunciator with the approval of the AHJ to satisfy this requirement.

(Add) 9.2.4.5 Where a building fire alarm system is provided, it shall be interconnected to the building's heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) line voltage controls so that the fan(s) supplying 2,000 ft³/min. (cfm) (56.63 m³/min.) or greater capacity of any ventilating system not used for pressurization of a fire safe area shall automatically shut down any time, other than drills or when testing, that any initiating device connected to the fire alarm system is activated as provided in 9.6.5.2 (6).

(Add) 9.2.4.6 The requirements of 9.2.4.5 may be omitted in areas where shut down may interfere with clean room operations, temperature controlled environments protecting sensitive equipment, or other building operations as approved by the authority having jurisdiction.

(Amd) 9.4.2.1

Except as modified herein, new elevators, escalators, dumbwaiters, and moving walks shall be in accordance with the requirements of ASME A17.1/CSA B44, *Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators* and the Rhode Island Elevator Safety Code.

(Amd) 9.4.2.2

Except as modified herein, existing elevators, escalators, dumbwaiters, and moving walks shall conform to the requirements of ASME A17.3, *Safety Code for Existing Elevators and Escalators* and the Rhode Island Elevator Safety Code.

(Amd) 9.4.2.3

Elevators in accordance with ASME A17.1/CSA B44.7, *Performance-Based Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators*, shall be deemed to comply with ASME A17.1/CSA B44, *Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators*, or ASME A17.3, *Safety Code for Existing Elevators and Escalators* and the Rhode Island Elevator Safety Code.

(Amd) 9.4.3.2

All existing elevators shall conform to the Fire Fighters' Emergency Operations requirements of ASME A17.3, *Safety Code for Existing Elevators and Escalators* and the Rhode Island Elevator Safety Code.

(Amd) 9.4.6.1

Elevators shall be subject to periodic inspections and tests as specified in ASME A17.1/CSA B44, *Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators* and the Rhode Island Elevator Safety Code.

(Amd) 9.4.6.2

All elevators equipped with fire fighters' emergency operations in accordance with 9.4.3 shall be subject to a monthly operation with a written record of the findings made and kept on the premises as required by ASME A17.1/CSA B44, *Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators* and the Rhode Island Elevator Safety Code.

(Amd) 9.4.6.3 The elevator inspections and tests required by 9.4.6.1 shall be performed at frequencies complying with the Rhode Island Elevator Safety Code.

(Add) 9.6.1.1.1

The Authority having jurisdiction (AHJ), for the purpose of enforcing the Rhode Island Life Safety Code, Section 9.6 shall be the state fire marshal or his or her designee and those parties certified by the state fire marshal as prescribed by R.I.G.L. 23-28.2-6.

(Amd) 9.6.1.3*

Where required, a fire alarm system shall be installed, tested, and maintained in accordance with the applicable requirements of this Chapter, *NFPA 70, National Electrical Code*, and *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*. Any conflicts between the provisions of this Chapter, as amended and *NFPA 72* shall be resolved in favor of the provisions of this chapter as determined by the State Fire Marshal.

(Amd) 9.6.1.4

All systems and components shall be approved for the purpose for which they are installed, and listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.

(Amd) 9.6.1.6 Where a required fire alarm system is out of service for more than 4 hours in a 24-hour period for repair, maintenance or testing , the authority having jurisdiction shall be notified, and the building shall be evacuated, or an approved fire watch shall be provided for all parties left unprotected by the shutdown, until the fire alarm system has been returned to service.

(Add) 9.6.1.6.1 With the written approval of, and subject to any additional safeguards mandated by the AHJ, the fire alarm systems, or portions thereof may be temporarily disabled for events or other occasions where environmental, mechanical or human factors would lead to unnecessary nuisance, accidental or intentional false alarms.

(Amd) 9.6.1.8.1* Automatic smoke detection shall be installed to provide notification of fire at the following locations:

- (1) Each fire alarm control unit
- (2) Notification appliance circuit power extenders
- (3) Supervising station transmitting equipment

(Res.) 9.6.1.8.1.1

(Add) 9.6.2.2.1

Manual fire alarm boxes shall be double-action, colored red, key locked and shall be keyed the same as the fire alarm control panel unit door lock. Manual fire alarm boxes shall be installed in accordance with *NFPA 72*.

(Add) 9.6.2.2.2

Manual fire alarm boxes, new and existing, used in systems not intended for emergency forces notification shall be marked "*In case of emergency, pull handle, then call 9-1-1*".

(Amd) 9.6.2.8 Where a sprinkler system provides automatic detection and alarm system initiation, it shall be provided with an approved alarm initiation device that operates within 90 seconds when the flow of water is equal to or greater than that from a single automatic sprinkler.

(Amd) 9.6.2.9 Where a total (complete) coverage fire alarm system is required by another section of this *Code*, automatic detection shall be provided as follows:

(1) Automatic detection shall be located in all areas of the building as required by *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, for total (complete) coverage;

(2) The detection required by 9.6.2.9 (1) shall include automatic smoke detectors in all common corridors, top of all stairwells, stairwell landings at each floor level, elevator machine rooms and machine spaces, and all elevator landings; and

(3) Areas of the building not identified in 9.6.2.9 (2), but requiring detection based on 9.6.2.9 (1), shall be permitted to be protected by automatic heat detectors or an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system.

(Amd) 9.6.2.11 Where required by Chapters 11 through 43, an automatic fire detection system for initiation of the signaling system shall be provided in accordance with all of the following:

(add) (1) Smoke detectors installed in accordance with *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, shall be provided in all common corridors, lobbies, top of all stairwells, stairwell landings at each floor level, elevator machine rooms and machine spaces, and all elevator landings.

(add) (2) Combination rate of rise and one hundred thirty-five degrees (135°) F to one hundred forty degrees (140°) F fixed temperature heat detectors installed in accordance with *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, shall be provided in kitchens within dwelling units, storage rooms greater than 24 square feet, utility rooms, electrical rooms, mechanical equipment rooms, maintenance shops, locker rooms, projection booths, above stage areas, below accessible stage areas, integral or attached garages and elevator hoistways.

(add) (3) Combination rate of rise and one hundred thirty-five degrees (135°) F to one hundred forty degrees (140°) F fixed temperature heat detectors installed in accordance with *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, shall be provided in spaces of twenty four inches (0.61 m) or more above suspended ceilings.

(add) (4) Automatic fixed temperature heat detectors with a rating of one hundred ninety degrees (190°) F to two hundred degrees (200°) F installed in accordance with *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, shall be provided in kitchens with cooking equipment, boiler or furnace rooms, common laundry rooms and accessible attics.

(Add) (5) Spaces twenty-four inches (0.61m) or more above suspended ceilings shall be exempt from the requirements of 9.6.2.11 (3) if the space is built of non-combustible construction and the space contains only wiring, ductwork and fixtures, properly installed under this Code or the State Building Code.

(Add) 9.6.2.12

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 if the type or temperature rating of the device is unsuitable due to environmental or structural conditions unique to that location or where multiple nuisance alarms have occurred.

(Add) 9.6.2.13 Where a specific temperature rating or type of heat detector is specified elsewhere in this code, rate anticipation detectors, line-type detectors, beam detectors or other type detectors listed for the application may be installed where approved by the AHJ.

(Res) 9.6.3.2.1

(Amd) 9.6.3.2.2 Where 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.

(Res) 9.6.3.2.3

(Res) 9.6.3.5.3

(Res) 9.6.3.5.4

(Amd) 9.6.3.9 Automatically transmitted or approved live voice evacuation or relocation instructions shall be permitted to be used to notify occupants and shall comply with either 9.6.3.9.1 or 9.6.3.9.2.

(Amd) 9.6.3.9.1 Automatically transmitted or approved live voice evacuation or relocation instructions shall be in accordance with *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*

(Amd) 9.6.3.9.2* Where permitted by Chapters 11 through 43 and subject to the approval of the authority having jurisdiction, automatically transmitted or live voice announcements shall be permitted to be made via a voice communication or public address system that complies with the following:

- (1) Occupant notification, either live or recorded, shall be initiated at a constantly attended receiving station by personnel trained to respond to an emergency.

- (2) An approved secondary power supply shall be provided for other than existing, previously approved systems.
- (3) The system shall be audible above the expected ambient noise level.
- (4) Emergency announcements shall take precedence over any other use.

(Amd) 9.6.4.2 Where emergency forces notification is required by this Code and 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 signal within the building will be automatically transmitted to the community's public fire service communications center.

(Add) 9.6.4.2.1 Systems installed in buildings in a city, town, or fire district not having a municipal alarm system shall be connected to the community public fire service communications center via a supervised leased telephone line, transmitters, remote stations or other method in a manner approved by the AHJ so that any fire alarm signal within the building will be automatically transmitted to the community's public fire service communications center.

(Res) 9.6.4.3

(Add) 9.6.4.4 All fire alarm control panels (FACP) connected to the local Public Fire Alarm Reporting System shall be configured to restore the circuit when an alarm signal is silenced or acknowledged.

(Add) 9.6.4.5 Multiple-zone signaling from the protected premises shall be provided in any jurisdiction capable of receiving multiple-zone signals and shall be provided as required by the AHJ.

(Add) 9.6.4.6 In complexes consisting of multiple building clusters, a single means of connection in accordance with 9.6.4.2 may be used to accomplish emergency forces notification provided that each building is clearly identified visually on site in a manner approved by the AHJ (*i.e.: strobe lights, etc.*)

(Amd) 9.6.5.2 Where required by another section of this *Code*, the following functions shall be actuated:

- (1) Release of hold-open devices for doors or other opening protective's
- (2) Stairwell or elevator shaft pressurization
- (3) Smoke management or smoke control systems
- (4) Unlocking of doors
- (5) Elevator recall and shutdown
- (6) HVAC shutdown
- (7) Operation of exterior horn/strobe notification appliances

(Add) 9.6.5.3 Where the functions identified in 9.6.5.2 (5), 9.6.5.2 (6) or 9.6.5.2 (7) are provided, they shall be actuated upon the initiation of any manual fire alarm box, automatic fire detector or extinguishing system operation installed within the building.

(Add) 9.6.5.4 A manual override for each fire safety function identified in 9.6.5.2 shall be provided at the fire alarm control unit for drills and testing of the fire alarm system.

(Add) 9.6.7.2.1 A directory or zone map as required by the AHJ shall be provided for every fire alarm system. Fire alarm annunciator location shall meet the requirements of the AHJ. The map shall be mounted in a location deemed proper by the AHJ.

(Amd) 9.6.7.3 For the purposes of alarm annunciation, each floor of the building shall be considered as not less than one zone, unless otherwise permitted by 9.6.7.4.4, 9.6.7.4.6 or another section of this *Code*.

(Amd) 9.6.7.4.3 Where a building is protected by an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1 (1), any alarm originating from a sprinkler or a Class II or Class III standpipe connection shall provide two (2) separate indications on the system annunciator, one to indicate “sprinkler/standpipe” and one to indicate the activated zone

(Amd) 9.6.7.4.5 Where a building is protected by an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1 (3), any alarm originating from a sprinkler or a Class II or Class III standpipe connection shall provide two (2) separate indications on the system annunciator, one to indicate “sprinkler/standpipe” and one to indicate the activated zone

(Add) 9.6.7.4.6 Where an existing building that is not classified as a high-rise is protected by an existing sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1 (1) or 9.7.1.1 (3), the sprinkler system shall be permitted to be annunciated on the fire alarm system as a single zone.

(Add) 9.6.7.6.1 Supervisory signals, including the operation of valve supervisory switches or duct type smoke detectors, shall be permitted to annunciate as a trouble signal on existing fire alarm systems.

(Add) 9.6.7.8 In complexes consisting of multiple building clusters without emergency forces notification, each building shall be clearly identified visually on site in a manner approved by the AHJ (*i.e.: strobe lights, etc.*).

(Add) 9.6.8 Equipment

(Add) 9.6.8.1 The fire alarm system owner shall provide a 24-hour emergency telephone number of the owner or owner’s representative for the fire department to call in the event of an alarm or trouble condition. This telephone number shall be conspicuously posted at the fire alarm control unit.

(Add) 9.6.8.2 Where emergency forces notification is provided in accordance with 9.6.4.2, the fire alarm system shall be provided with a standby battery source capable of supplying the entire system for sixty (60) hours.

(Add) 9.6.8.3 Where emergency forces notification is not provided in accordance with 9.6.4.2, a weather-proof horn/strobe shall be installed on the exterior of the building at a location approved by the AHJ.

(Add) 9.6.8.4 The provisions of 9.6.8.3 shall not apply to residential board and care occupancies equipped with a weather-proof strobe notification appliance installed on the exterior of the building at a location approved by the AHJ.

(Add) 9.6.8.5 Fault isolation modules or bases shall be installed on all signaling line circuits to prevent a wire-to-wire short circuit fault from disabling more than twenty-five (>25) devices on the circuit.

(Add) 9.6.8.6 When a common signaling line circuit 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 remainder of the SLC on any other floor.

(Add) 9.6.8.7 When control and/or signaling modules are used for the activation of notification appliance circuits or to initiate emergency forces notification, fault isolation modules shall be installed on each side of the control or signaling module.

(Add) 9.6.8.8 Low-Power Radio

(Add) 9.6.8.8.1 Low-Power Radio (Wireless) Systems shall comply with all provisions of this Chapter. All systems shall be UL listed as a commercial or industrial fire alarm system – systems listed only for household or residential applications shall not be permitted.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.2 Wireless components of the system shall not be required to comply with section 9.6.9; however, any hard-wired component(s) of the system including initiating device circuits, notification appliance circuits, signaling line circuits or auxiliary circuits shall fully comply with 9.6.8.4.2.1 through 9.6.8.4.2.3.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.2.1 Wiring between wireless control panel(s) and remote annunciation may be #18 AWG solid unlimited footage if installed in conduit or type MC Cable.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.2.2 Wiring between wireless control panel(s) and remote receiver(s) may be #18 AWG solid unlimited footage if installed in conduit or type MC Cable.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.2.3 Wiring from a transmitter to a single device shall be limited to twenty feet (20') and may be #18 AWG solid if installed in either the cavity of the wall or in conduit or type MC Cable.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.3 If there is interference to the system causing multiple false alarms or numerous trouble indications that cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the AHJ, the wireless system shall be removed and a hard-wired system installed in compliance with the Code. The contractor shall notify the owner of this requirement in writing prior to the installation of the wireless system.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.4 The Control Panel shall have the capability of acknowledging an alarm and restoring the municipal connection while maintaining all other functions, if a municipally connected system as described in 9.6.4.4.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.4.1 The Control panel shall have its means of acknowledgement, silence, activation, reset, or any other functions which require manual intervention to be performed by either key switches or other controls secured behind a key-locked cover to prevent unauthorized operation.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.4.2 The maximum allowable response delay from activation of an initiating device to activation of required alarm functions shall be ten (10) seconds.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.5 Low-Power Radio (Wireless) Repeater/Receiver The Repeater(s) and/or Receiver(s) shall be UL Listed 864 (UOXX), Control Unit Accessories/Systems and must comply with the provisions of NFPA 72.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.5.1 The repeater/receiver shall be listed for use with the listed control panel.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.5.2 When repeaters and/or receivers are used, the system must provide for a Class “A” signaling as defined in NFPA 72 *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code* (2010), Chapter 10. An alternative communications path shall exist between the wireless control panel and peripheral devices used to establish initiation, indication, control, and annunciation.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.5.3 When the means of transmission to a wireless control panel is accomplished by means other than air, such as through wiring, the requirements of the Installation and Wiring section of this chapter shall apply. A redundant path must be established requiring the installation of a second repeater in order to establish a redundant communication path back to the control panel.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.5.4 Reception of an unwanted (interfering) signal, which is continuous for a period of twenty (20) seconds or more, shall cause the repeater to report this condition to the control panel at intervals not exceeding two hundred (200) seconds.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.5.5 Loss of primary AC power to a repeater shall cause a distinct indication at the control panel and shall latch until a normal condition is restored.

(Add) 9.6.8.8.6 Low-Power Radio (Wireless) Smoke Detector, Heat Detector, Supervised Normally-Open Monitor Modules, and Manual Fire Alarm Boxes shall operate as follows:

- (1) shall be listed for use with the listed control panel.
- (2) shall have the ability to send initial and repeat alarms.
- (3) shall have a minimum battery life of one (1) year under normal operation.
- (4) In the event of a low battery, the device must be able to remain operable for a minimum of seven (7) days and this condition must be displayed at the control panel indicating a low battery signal and the exact device.
- (5) Low battery signals shall be sent no less than once every four (4) hours for a minimum of seven (7) days.
- (6) All devices shall be supervised for tamper (removal). This signal shall be sent to the control panel and indicate a tamper condition and the exact device. This condition must continue to report no less than every two hundred (200) seconds or latch until restored.
- (7) Devices installed on a removable ceiling tile must have the ability to indicate the removal of the tile through a tamper indication.
- (8) Devices shall send test signals not less than once every ninety (90) minutes.

(Add) 9.6.9 Installation and Wiring

(Add) 9.6.9.1 Transponders, Data Gathering Panels, Nodes, etc. shall communicate with the Central Processing Unit (CPU) via a Class "X" Signaling Line Circuit (SLC) meeting the requirements as described in NFPA 72.

(Add) 9.6.9.2 Signaling line circuits (SLC), initiating device circuits (IDC) and notification appliance circuits (NAC) shall be installed utilizing Class "A" pathways meeting the requirements as described in NFPA 72.

(Add) 9.6.9.3 The requirement of 9.6.9.2 shall not apply to fire alarm systems not requiring emergency forces notification in accordance with 9.6.4.2.

(Add) 9.6.9.4

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 FPL and 2-hour fire rated for penetrations by a nationally recognized testing laboratory. Cast "LB" or "T" type connectors shall be permitted. An equipment-bonding conductor shall be provided in all flexible metallic raceways unless otherwise exempted elsewhere in this Code.

(Add) 9.6.9.5

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

(Add) 9.6.9.6

All conductors shall be minimum #16 gauge and be solid copper, type “thhn”, “thwn” or “tfn” unless otherwise recommended by the manufacturer. All wiring shall be run continuously from device to device. With the approval of the AHJ, junction points may be made due to construction hardships where a continuous run would be impractical.

(Add) 9.6.9.6.1 Junction points between devices shall be permitted on existing fire alarm systems provided the junction points are terminated on terminal strips.

(Add) 9.6.9.7

UL listed type MC cable connectors with insulated bushings and screw type cable attachments or box clamps with anti-short inserts shall be used in all MC cable installations. Connectors shall be made of steel, not the cast type.

(Add) 9.6.9.8

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

- (1) INITIATING DEVICE CIRCUIT shall be red and black. Red shall be positive and black shall be negative [IDC/SLC].
- (2) NOTIFICATION APPLIANCE CIRCUIT shall be blue and white. Blue shall be positive and white shall be negative. When speakers, bells, chimes or other audible/visual devices are used in lieu of horns, this color code shall be followed [NAC].
- (3) STROBE CIRCUIT, if a separate feed is required, shall be blue and white. Blue shall be positive and white shall be negative.
- (4) SMOKE DETECTOR CIRCUITS, if a separate power feed is required, shall be brown and violet. Violet shall be positive and brown shall be negative.
- (5) “LOCAL” SMOKE DETECTOR CIRCUITS, if an interconnect wire between sounder bases is required, shall be violet.
- (6) AUXILIARY REMOTE POWER SUPPLY CIRCUITS shall be brown and violet. Violet shall be positive and brown shall be negative.
- (7) ELECTRO-MAGNETIC DOOR HOLDBACK CIRCUITS shall be gray and gray if powered by 24 vDC or black and white if powered by 120 vAC.
- (8) MUNICIPAL MASTER BOX TRIPPING CIRCUITS shall be orange and orange. Conductors for this circuit shall be installed in a separate raceway.
- (9) ELEVATOR CAPTURE CIRCUITS shall be brown and yellow.
- (10) HVAC SHUTDOWN CIRCUITS and AUDIO/VISUAL SYSTEMS SHUTDOWN CIRCUITS shall be orange and yellow.
- (11) REMOTE ANNUNCIATOR CIRCUITS shall be violet and numbered at each end or as required by the control unit manufacturer.
- (12) MUNICIPAL FIRE ALARM LOOP from the master box to the municipal loop shall be black and white.

(Add) 9.6.9.9

Primary AC power and/or battery charger circuits shall be on a dedicated branch circuit(s). Circuit disconnecting means shall have a red marking, shall be accessible only to authorized personnel, and shall be identified as “FIRE ALARM CIRCUIT”. Where the disconnecting means is a circuit breaker located within a distribution panel, a circuit breaker lock listed for use with that breaker shall be provided. The location of the circuit disconnecting means shall be permanently identified inside the fire alarm control unit. AC and DC portions of the system shall be installed in separate raceways.

(Add) 9.6.9.10

Terminal cabinets shall be provided at all junction points. Terminal cabinets shall be red with hinged locked covers. 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 identified.

Exception: Crimp-type connectors may be used on bonding conductors.

(Add) 9.6.10 System Acceptance

(Add) 9.6.10.1 A pre-acceptance test will be held with the installer and the manufacturer's technical representative present. The pretest shall be a 100% test as follows:

- (1) Manually operate every manual fire alarm box, activate every rate of rise type heat detector and rate anticipation heat detector with heat.
- (2) Manually operate or electrically short out every non-restorable fixed temperature heat detector.
- (3) 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.
- (4) Activate all automatic extinguishing system switches.
- (5) Activate and time every water sprinkler/standpipe flow switch by a flow of water through the inspectors' test valves.
- (6) All notification appliances shall be verified as operational at the time of this test.

(Add) 9.6.10.2 Prior to the final operational acceptance test, a NFPA 72 Fire Alarm System Record of Completion shall be prepared and submitted to the fire alarm system owner and the AHJ. The contractor shall prepare and submit a single line diagram of each installation, as built, indicating wiring between equipment and locations of control units, initiating and notification devices to the owner and AHJ.

(Add) 9.6.10.3 The installing contractor shall conduct a final acceptance test including a complete functional test of the system in the presence of the AHJ and the manufacturer's authorized technical representative. During this test each circuit will be tested by class, or style or both, to assure the circuit's capability to continue to operate during specified fault condition.

(Add) 9.6.10.4 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) 9.6.11 Maintenance and Testing

(Add) 9.6.11.1 All fire alarm systems shall be tested at least once every three (3) months with twenty-five percent (25%) of all initiating devices 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 a twelve (12) months period as per NFPA 72.

(Add) 9.6.11.2 A fire alarm system with twenty-four (24) or less initiating devices shall be tested at least once every six (6) months with fifty percent (50%) of all initiating devices operated with each test so that the entire system will have been tested at the end of a twelve (12) months period as per NFPA 72.

(Add) 9.6.11.3 Certification of tests and results shall be forwarded to the AHJ and the fire alarm system owner 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 of the fire alarm shall notify the AHJ within five (5) days, in writing, after any cancellation of a testing agreement with the fire alarm owner.

(Add) 9.6.11.4 Certification of any periodic testing required by the Code shall be on Uniform Testing Report (UTR) as prescribed in NFPA 1, Section 1.13.1(3). This UTR 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) 9.6.11.5 In addition to the testing requirements, all system smoke detectors located within the protected premises shall be externally cleaned at least once every twelve (12) month period.

(Add) 9.7.2.3 Whenever any supervised automatic sprinkler supervisory signal is required to sound and be displayed at a location that is constantly attended by qualified personnel, signals that sound and are displayed in a public or common area of the building shall be deemed to be in compliance.

CHAPTER 10
INTERIOR FINISH, CONTENTS, AND FURNISHINGS
(No Modifications)

CHAPTER 11
SPECIAL STRUCTURES AND HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS

(Add) 11.8.4.3 Emergency voice/alarm communication systems shall also be provided with standby amplifiers equal to the amount of amplification required for the complete system operation.

(Add) 11.8.4.4 Smoke detectors shall be installed in stairwells at the first floor, every third floor thereafter and at the top of every stairwell.

(Add) 11.8.4.5 Stairwell smoke detector activation shall not cause an evacuation signal to be sounded; however; emergency forces notification shall occur.

CHAPTER 12
NEW ASSEMBLY OCCUPANCIES

(Amd) 12.3.4.1.1 Assembly occupancies shall be provided with an approved fire alarm system in accordance with 9.6.1 and 12.3.4, unless otherwise permitted by 12.3.4.1.2 or 12.3.4.1.3.

(Add) 12.3.4.1.3 Places of worship with a calculated occupant load of seventy four (74) or less occupants and no more than one (1) story above grade shall not be required to be provided with a fire alarm system.

(Amd) 12.3.4.2.1 Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Res) 12.3.4.2.2

(Res) 12.3.4.2.3

(Add) 12.3.4.2.4 A manual fire alarm box shall be installed on every stage, near any fixed lighting control panel and in any projection booth.

(Add) 12.3.4.2.5 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, refreshment stands, ticket booths or other areas attended by permanent staff.

(Amd) 12.3.4.3 Notification. Occupant notification by both audible and visible means shall be provided automatically in accordance with Section 9.6.3.

(Amd) 12.3.4.3.3 Audible occupant notification in places of assembly classified as theaters shall be by means of voice announcements in accordance with 9.6.3.9.

(Res) 12.3.4.3.4

(Amd) 12.3.4.3.6 Evacuation or relocation instructions shall be permitted to be made via a voice communication or public address system in accordance with 9.6.3.9.2.

(Res) 12.3.4.3.7

(Add) 12.3.4.3.8 Upon the activation of any fire alarm system in any nightclub place of assembly or theater, 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.

(Add) 12.3.4.3.9 Emergency forces notification shall be provided in accordance with 9.6.4 where one of the following conditions exists:

- (1) The place of assembly has a total occupant load of three hundred one (301) or greater.
- (2) The place of assembly is classified as a nightclub place of assembly and has an occupant load of one hundred fifty (150) or greater.
- (3) The place of assembly is classified as a theater.

(Add) 12.3.4.4 Detection

(Add) 12.3.4.4.1 Where a fire alarm system is required, a fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Add) 12.3.4.4.2 In any assembly occupancy where the exemption to the requirement for automatic sprinklers is utilized, the fire alarm system shall meet the requirements for total (complete) coverage.

Exception: Places of Worship.

(Res) 12.4.7.5

(Add) 12.4.11 Nightclubs

(Add) 12.4.11.1

All nightclubs, as defined in section 3.4.13, shall comply with the requirements of 12.4.11.2 through 12.4.11.4 and shall be inspected annually by the AHJ.

(Add) 12.4.11.2

Each stage area, within a nightclub, shall be provided with two fire extinguishers maintained in accordance with NFPA 10, *Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers* and approved by the AHJ.

(Add) 12.4.7.11.3

The responsible management of each nightclub shall provide an audible announcement of the location of emergency exits prior to each act or set.

(Add) 12.4.7.11.4

The responsible management of each nightclub 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) 12.7.1.4

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) 12.7.3.1

The use of open flame devices or pyrotechnic devices, outlined in 12.7.3, 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 fire alarm system providing emergency forces notification.

Exception: Places of Worship.

(Amd) 12.7.6 Crowd Management

(Amd) 12.7.6.2

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.

(Add) 12.7.6.2.1

The crowd manager(s) identified in 12.7.6.1 shall be in addition to the detail fire fighter(s) identified in 12.7.6.4 through 12.7.6.10.

(Add) 12.7.6.3 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) 12.7.6.4

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 chief of the department.

(Add) 12.7.6.5

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 chief of the department.

(Add) 12.7.6.6

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 chief of the department except as provided under 12.7.6.7.

(Add) 12.7.6.7

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 chief of the department unless this requirement is specifically waived in writing for each such event.

(Add) 12.7.6.8

The cost of all fire fighters on duty under 12.7.6.4 through 12.7.6.7 shall be borne by the management of the facility.

(Add) 12.7.6.9

Fire fighter(s) assigned a detail pursuant to 12.7.6.4 through 12.7.6.7 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) 12.7.6.10

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 12.7.6.4 through 12.7.6.7.

(Add) 12.7.6.11

Any building owner or occupant may request a partial or full exemption from the mandates of sections 12.7.6.2 through 12.7.6.10 by the State Fire Marshal and/or the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

**CHAPTER 13
EXISTING ASSEMBLY OCCUPANCIES**

(Add) 13.1.8 Places of Worship

A Place of Worship is defined as a building or structure, or an area thereof, the occupancy of which is for the religious rites and services and communal functions of a congregation, and which shall include sanctuaries, gathering halls, meeting rooms, rooms used on a limited basis for religious education, offices and related facilities of the congregation, which may be located in the same, in connected, or in proximate structures.

In areas where there are incidental uses such as non-licensed day care or nurseries the provisions of the Rhode Island Fire Alarm Code, NFPA 72, as amended, also shall apply.

Any one, two or three family residential building that comes under the classification of a Place of Worship that is utilized as a rectory, parsonage, convent or other residence used exclusively for religious personnel, shall only be required to be protected by approved hardwired smoke detectors. In addition, approved carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed when these CO units would be otherwise required under the fire code provisions covering one, two and three family homes.

Any religious-related business office use of a portion of a one, two or three family residential building, or a place of worship, as outlined above, that is confined to a space of less than one thousand square feet of that building, shall not be required to maintain a fire alarm system provided that the above required smoke and/or CO detection system is operational and maintained. Larger business office space, up to the square footage threshold for fire alarm coverage as outlined in this code, may be exempted from fire alarm coverage if it is properly separated from the remainder of the residential building, by approved “acceptable separation”, as outlined in 10-5-1 through 10-5-1.5 of Fire Safety Code Section 10 (Rhode Island Fire Alarm Code).

(Add) 13.1.8.1 Approved existing Places of Worship.

Any place of worship, existing as of January 1, 2008, shall be deemed in compliance with the provisions of this Chapter 13, upon meeting the following fifteen requirements within the time frames provided in this code. The owners and/or operators of any such existing Place of Worship shall not be required to comply with any additional assembly occupancy requirements. The owners and/or operators of any such existing Place of Worship shall be given one year, from the AHJ’s issuance of an inspection report or plan review approval, to bring the existing Place of Worship into compliance with the fifteen requirements outlined below. The AHJ is hereby authorized to extend this time period in light of good faith efforts by the above owners and/or operators. The above owners and/or operators may also seek an additional time extension from the Fire Board.

(1) The building maintains a fire alarm system that complies with the provisions of Section 9.6 and Chapter 13 of this Code to the satisfaction of the state fire marshal, deputy state fire marshal and/or the assistant deputy state fire marshal (hereinafter the “AHJ”);

(2) Buildings that provide licensed nursery or licensed day care services shall maintain an approved system of either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with NFPA 72, 2010 edition, and NFPA 720, 2012 edition and any additional requirements of these occupancies;

(3) The building maintains emergency lighting approved by the AHJ. Buildings with an occupant load less than three hundred (300) persons and used solely for worship shall not be required to meet this section. In addition, one story buildings used only during daylight hours shall not be required to meet this section;

(4) The building maintains approved exit signage, if so required by the AHJ;

(5) The building shall maintain egress calculated for its maximum occupancy with a minimum of two means of egress. The egress doors within a Place of Worship may be allowed to swing opposite to the direction of exit travel provided that these doors are held in an open position, to the satisfaction of the AHJ, by either hold-open devices, during all hours when the Place of Worship is occupied as a place of assembly or by trained ushers

as outlined below. The AHJ may further approve a plan of action allowing trained ushers to open these doors during an evacuation of the Place of Worship.

(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. The AHJ is hereby authorized to accept the existing hard wood or other substantial construction of a sanctuary and/or fellowship or parish hall and not require these materials to be coated with a Class A or B flame spread material. Religious banners, cloth coverings, flowers and other limited vegetation, in reasonable amounts, shall be permitted. The AHJ is authorized to approve the temporary placement of a freshly cut natural Christmas tree in accordance with an approved plan addressing the care, maintenance and eventual removal of the fresh-cut Christmas tree.

(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;

(8) The existing dimensions of the egress system appear to adequately support the rapid evacuation of the building, in the opinion of the AHJ and the internal means of egress may contain winding stairs;

(9) There shall be no smoking allowed in Places of Worship;

(10) Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ;

(11) 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 an enclosure maintaining an approximate one hour rating or protected by domestically-supplied sprinkler head(s) to the satisfaction of the AHJ;

(12) Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code;

(13) Automatic sprinkler coverage, only if specifically required by the State Fire Marshal in accordance with Rhode Island General Law § 23-28.6-24.

(14) Any commercial cooking equipment shall be protected in accordance with NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*, 2001 edition. Provided however, this requirement shall not apply where the cooking equipment is used only to reheat or warm food and there is the absence of smoke or grease-laden vapors. In cases where there is an intermittent use of commercial cooking equipment used for actual cooking, not exceeding two (2) hours per week as an

annual average, this requirement shall be waived by the AHJ provided that a plan of action is approved by the AHJ for each use.

The management of a Place of Worship shall not allow the operation, within the facility, of a commercial deep fat fryer unit, such as a “fry-o-lator”, without first providing that potentially hazardous commercial deep fat fryer unit with approved ventilation control and fire protection, in accordance with the referenced edition of NFPA 96, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ. The above requirement shall be waived if the deep fat frying unit is currently protected by a properly maintained ventilation control and fire protection system that had been previously approved by an AHJ.

(15) The use of any open flame(s) shall be in accordance with 101:13.7.3.

Any new construction, renovations, alterations, reconstruction and/or additions to an existing Place of Worship, covered by the above fifteen-point plan, shall comply with the applicable fire codes covering those activities in an existing place of assembly. Notwithstanding the above, the existing portions of a Place of Worship shall not be required to be sprinkled unless they are not separated, from any new addition proposed for assembly occupancy, by approximately one hour fire rated separation. In the absence of an approximate one hour fire separation between an existing and a new assembly occupancy, the merged existing and new assembly occupancies shall be calculated on the basis of fifteen square feet per person to determine whether sprinklers are to be required.

(Add) 13.1.8.2 Time Table for Compliance by Places of Worship:

All existing occupancies, falling under the definition of Places of Worship, as defined in section 13.1.8 above, are hereby granted relief, by a time variance as outlined below, from bringing their facilities into compliance with the current provisions of the State Fire Code as follows:

Exception: Any residential occupancy falling under the definition of Places of Worship shall be equipped with hardwired smoke and CO detectors if required, on or before January 1, 2013.

- (1) All existing Places of Worship shall be inspected by the State Fire Marshal, or designee, and comprehensive written reports shall be issued on or before December 31, 2013.
- (2) All existing Places of Worship shall be brought into compliance with all fire code requirements on or before December 31, 2014.

Places of Worship containing other regulated occupancies, such as licensed Daycare, etc., shall bring only those portions of the building into compliance with the fire codes covering that regulated occupancy, at the direction and to the satisfaction of, and within a reasonable timetable established by, the State Fire Marshal or his or her designee.

(Amd) 13.3.4.1.1 Assembly occupancies shall be provided with an approved fire alarm system in accordance with 9.6.1 and 13.3.4, unless otherwise permitted by 13.3.4.1.2 or 13.3.4.1.5.

(Res) 13.3.4.1.3

(Res) 13.3.4.1.4

(Add) 13.3.4.1.5 Places of worship with a calculated occupant load of seventy four (74) or less occupants and no more than one (1) story above grade shall not be required to be provided with a fire alarm system.

(Amd) 13.3.4.2.1 Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1)
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Res) 13.3.4.2.2

(Res) 13.3.4.2.3

(Add) 13.3.4.2.4 A manual fire alarm box shall be installed on every stage, near any fixed lighting control panel and in any projection booth.

(Add) 13.3.4.2.5 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, refreshment stands, ticket booths or other areas attended by permanent staff.

(Amd) 13.3.4.3 Notification. Occupant notification by both audible and visible means shall be provided automatically in accordance with Section 9.6.3.

(Amd) 13.3.4.3.3 Audible occupant notification in places of assembly classified as theaters shall be by means of voice announcements in accordance with 9.6.3.9.

(Res) 13.3.4.3.4

(Amd) 13.3.4.3.6 Evacuation or relocation instructions shall be permitted to be made via a voice communication or public address system in accordance with 9.6.3.9.2.

(Res) 13.3.4.3.7

(Add) 13.3.4.3.8 Upon the activation of any fire alarm system in any nightclub place of assembly or theater, 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.

(Add) 13.3.4.3.9 Emergency forces notification shall be provided in accordance with 9.6.4 where one of the following conditions exists:

- (1) The place of assembly has a total occupant load of three hundred one (301) or greater.
- (2) The place of assembly is classified as a nightclub place of assembly and has an occupant load of one hundred fifty (150) or greater.
- (3) The place of assembly is classified as a theater.

(Add) 13.3.4.4 Detection

(Add) 13.3.4.4.1 Where a fire alarm system is required, a fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Add) 13.3.4.4.2 In any existing place of worship where the exemption to the requirement for automatic sprinklers is utilized, the fire alarm system shall not be required to meet the requirements for total (complete) coverage.

(Amd) 13.3.5.1

Unless exempted by another provision of this chapter, all existing places of assembly shall be completely protected by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system installed and maintained in accordance with 9.7.1.1(1).

(Add) 13.3.5.1.1

The requirements of 13.3.5.1 shall not apply to the following:

(1) Any place of assembly of less concentrated use, such as an organized dining facility, with 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 nightclub as outlined in section 3.4.12.

(3) Any place of assembly of concentrated use, meeting the definition of a nightclub, as outlined in section 3.4.12, with a posted maximum occupancy of less than 150 people.

(4) Any existing building used exclusively as a place of worship as defined in 13.1.8. (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. 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 AHJ in accordance with an approved plan of action. Denial of this permission may be appealed to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.)

(5) Existing fully alarmed performance theaters, with occupancies of less than five hundred (500) patrons, equipped with operational stages, as defined in section 3.3.262 of NFPA 101, 2012 edition; provided that the theater maintains double the required remotely located egress calculated for the theater's maximum occupancy, and further provided that the theater's patrons discharge through code compliant exit doors directly to grade; and finally provided that the stage, and other potentially hazardous areas, are protected by an approved properly engineered system of sprinkler heads, on or before January 1, 2013..

(6). All existing licensed "funeral establishments", having an occupancy capacity of five hundred (500) or fewer persons, shall not be required to be sprinkled provided they install and maintain a full coverage fire alarm system, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the state or local fire marshal with jurisdiction.

As a further condition of the above relief, the Board directs that there shall be no smoking in all licensed "funeral establishments" and there shall be no open flame with the exception of approved gas log fireplaces having glass doors. Additionally, the Rhode Island Funeral Directors' Association and the State Fire Marshal's office will coordinate crowd management training for the owners and operators of all licensed "funeral establishments".

The chemical storage in all embalming rooms shall comply with NFPA 1 – RIFC, 2012 edition and its referenced codes and standards. Additionally, all crematoriums shall be suitably separated and shall further comply with all Federal and State fire, mechanical, building and health code standards.

Any attached garage(s), not suitably separated in the opinion of the state or local fire marshal with jurisdiction, shall be further protected with approved heat detection connected to the fire alarm system protecting the facility. Existing boiler rooms may utilize properly engineered, domestically-supplied, sprinkler head(s), installed in accordance with local water board requirements (if any), in lieu of the enclosure requirements. All such facilities shall have egress approved for their maximum occupant load. Finally, any existing dimensional issue, determined to be a structural hardship by the state or local fire marshal with jurisdiction, may be granted a modification by that state or local fire marshal in accordance with the procedure outlined in 1.6.1.1.

(Add) 13.3.5.5

The occupancy of any place of assembly without a required fire alarm system and/or sprinkler system, 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 13.3.5.6 by requiring a fire fighter on duty, as outlined in section 13.7.6.6, during all hours of occupancy or by complying with an alternative plan of action approved by the AHJ. However, the occupancy re-adjustment with the required firefighter shall not alter the January 1, 2013 deadline for the installation of sprinklers.

(Add) 13.4.4.1 Existing high-rise buildings shall be provided with a detection, alarm and communication system in accordance with 11.8.4 and an emergency command center complying with 11.8.6.

(Add) 13.4.11 Nightclubs

(Add) 13.4.11.1

All nightclubs, as defined in section 3.4.13, shall comply with the requirements of 13.4.11.2 through 13.4.11.4 and shall be inspected annually by the AHJ.

(Add) 13.4.11.2

Each stage area, within a nightclub, shall be provided with two fire extinguishers maintained in accordance with NFPA 10, *Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers* and approved by the AHJ.

(Add) 13.4.7.11.3

The responsible management of each nightclub shall provide an audible announcement of the location of emergency exits prior to each act or set.

(Add) 13.4.7.11.4

The responsible management of each nightclub 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) 13.7.1.4

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) 13.7.3.1

The use of open flame devices or pyrotechnic devices, outlined in 13.7.3, 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 fire alarm system providing emergency forces notification.

Exception: Places of worship.

(Amd) 13.7.6 Crowd Management

(Amd) 13.7.6.2

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 January 1, 2013.

(Add) 13.7.6.2.1

The crowd manager(s) identified in 13.7.6.1 shall be in addition to the detail fire fighter(s) identified in 13.7.6.4 through 13.7.6.10.

(Add) 13.7.6.3 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) 13.7.6.4

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) 13.7.6.5

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) 13.7.6.6

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 13.7.6.7.

(Add) 13.7.6.7

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) 13.7.6.8

The cost of all fire fighters on duty under 13.7.6.4 through 13.7.6.7 shall be borne by the management of the facility.

(Add) 13.7.6.9

Fire fighter(s) assigned a detail pursuant to 13.7.6.4 through 13.7.6.7 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) 13.7.6.10

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 13.7.6.4 through 13.7.6.7.

(Add) 13.7.6.11

Any building owner or occupant may request a partial or full exemption from the mandates of sections 13.7.6.2 through 13.7.6.10 by the State Fire Marshal and/or the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

CHAPTER 14
NEW EDUCATIONAL OCCUPANCIES

(Amd) 14.1.2.3 In cases where instruction is incidental to some other occupancy, the section of this *Code* governing the other occupancy shall apply. Sunday schools or church schools that are not used for daily classes throughout the week shall comply with the section of this Code dealing with places of worship.

(Amd) 14.3.4.2.1 Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.

(Res) 14.3.4.2.2

(Res) 14.3.4.2.3

(Res) 14.3.4.2.3.1

(Res) 14.3.4.2.3.2

(Add) 14.3.4.4 Detection

(Add) 14.3.4.4.1 Where a fire alarm system is required, a total (complete) coverage fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.9 shall be provided.

(Add) 14.3.4.4.2 The requirement of 14.3.4.4.1 shall not apply to educational occupancies equipped throughout with an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1. (1) and an automatic smoke detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 (1).

(Add) 14.3.4.5

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Add) 14.7.3.4 Annual Inspections

All educational occupancies shall be inspected annually by the AHJ.

CHAPTER 15
EXISTING EDUCATIONAL OCCUPANCIES

(Amd) 15.1.2.3 In cases where instruction is incidental to some other occupancy, the section of this *Code* governing the other occupancy shall apply. Sunday schools or church schools that are not used for daily classes throughout the week shall comply with the section of this Code dealing with places of worship.

(Amd) 15.3.4.2.1 Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.

(Res) 15.3.4.2.2

(Res) 15.3.4.2.3

(Res) 15.3.4.2.3.1

(Res) 15.3.4.2.3.2

(Amd) 15.3.4.3.2.1 Emergency Forces Notification shall be in accordance with 9.6.4.2

(Res) 15.3.4.3.2.2.

(Add) 15.3.4.4 Detection

(Add) 15.3.4.4.1 Where a fire alarm system is required, a total (complete) coverage fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.9 shall be provided.

(Add) 15.3.4.4.2 The requirement of 15.3.4.4.1 shall not apply to educational occupancies equipped throughout with an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1. (1) and an automatic smoke detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 (1).

(Add) 15.3.4.5

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Amd) 15.4.2 High-Rise Buildings. High-rise buildings shall comply with 11.8.1 and be provided with a detection, alarm and communication system in accordance with 11.8.4 and an emergency command center complying with 11.8.6.

(Add) 15.7.3.4 Annual Inspections

All educational occupancies shall be inspected annually by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 16
NEW DAY-CARE OCCUPANCIES**

(Amd) 16.1.4.2 Special Definitions. A list of special terms used in this chapter follows:

- (1) **Day-Care Home.** See 3.3.140.1.
- (2) **Flexible Plan and Open Plan Educational or Day-Care Building.** See 3.3.36.6.
- (3) **Self-Preservation (Day-Care Occupancy).** See 3.3.240.
- (4) **Separate Atmosphere.** See 3.3.26.2.
- (5) **Adult Day Care.** See 3.4.2.

(Add) 16.2.2.2.3.4 It shall be recognized that, in buildings, or portions thereof, housing certain clients who exhibit behavior that is harmful to themselves or others, it might be necessary to lock egress doors to confine and protect building inhabitants.

(Add) 16.2.2.2.3.5 Buildings, or sections thereof, that primarily house clients who, in the opinion of the governing body of the facility, the governmental licensing agency, or authority having jurisdiction, are incapable of self-preservation under emergency conditions shall be permitted to have locking arrangements complying with the provisions of RILSC Section 18.2.2.2.5.

(Add) 16.2.2.2.3.6 The requirements of 16.2.2.2.3.5 shall only apply when staff is available in all secured client-occupied areas to perform certain fire safety functions as required in RILSC Sections 18.2.2.2.5 through 18.2.2.2.5.2, and 18.7.

(Amd) 16.3.4.1. General. Day-care occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with Section 9.6.

(Amd) 16.3.4.2 Initiation. Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.9.

(Add) 16.3.4.4.1 Emergency forces notifications shall not be required for day care occupancies with less than nineteen (19) clients, under 3,000 ft² (278.71 m²) and located on a ground floor.

(Amd) 16.3.4.5 Detection. Where a fire alarm system is required, a total (complete) coverage fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.9 shall be provided.

(Add) 16.3.4.5.1 In addition to the requirements of 9.6.2.9 (2), smoke detectors shall be installed in all lounges, recreation areas and sleeping rooms within the day-care occupancy.

(Add) 16.3.4.6 Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms. Every child day-care occupancy shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with the referenced editions of NFPA 72 and NFPA 720. Local smoke alarms shall not be required in areas protected by system smoke detectors.

(Add) 16.3.4.7

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Add) 16.6.3.4.6. Carbon Monoxide Alarms.

Day-care homes shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with the referenced editions of and NFPA 720.

CHAPTER 17 EXISTING DAY-CARE OCCUPANCIES

(Amd) 17.1.4.2 Special Definitions. A list of special terms used in this chapter follows:

- (1) **Day-Care Home.** See 3.3.140.1.
- (2) **Flexible Plan and Open Plan Educational or Day-Care Building.** See 3.3.36.6.
- (3) **Self-Preservation (Day-Care Occupancy).** See 3.3.240.
- (4) **Separate Atmosphere.** See 3.3.26.2.
- (5) **Adult Day Care.** See 3.4.2.

(Add) 17.2.2.2.3.4 It shall be recognized that, in buildings, or portions thereof, housing certain clients who exhibit behavior that is harmful to themselves or others, it might be necessary to lock egress doors to confine and protect building inhabitants.

(Add) 17.2.2.2.3.5 Buildings, or sections thereof, that primarily house clients who, in the opinion of the governing body of the facility, the governmental licensing agency, or authority having jurisdiction, are incapable of self-preservation under emergency conditions shall be permitted to have locking arrangements complying with the provisions of RILSC Section 18.2.2.2.5.

(Add) 17.2.2.2.3.6 The requirements of 16.2.2.2.3.5 shall only apply when staff is available in all secured client-occupied areas to perform certain fire safety functions as required in RILSC Sections 18.2.2.2.5 through 18.2.2.2.5.2, and 18.7.

(Amd) 17.3.4.1. General. Day-care occupancies shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with Section 9.6.

(Amd) 17.3.4.2 Initiation. Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.9.

(Amd) 17.3.4.4.1 Emergency forces notification shall be accomplished in accordance with 9.6.4.

(Amd) 17.3.4.4.2 Emergency forces notifications shall not be required for day care occupancies with less than nineteen (19) clients, under 3,000 ft² (278.71 m²) and located on a ground floor.

(Amd) 17.3.4.5 Detection. Where a fire alarm system is required, a total (complete) coverage fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.9 shall be provided.

(Add) 17.3.4.5.1 In addition to the requirements of 9.6.2.9 (2), smoke detectors shall be installed in all lounges, recreation areas and sleeping rooms within the day-care occupancy.

(Add) 17.3.4.6 Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms. Every child day-care occupancy shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with the referenced editions of NFPA 72 and NFPA 720. Local smoke alarms shall not be required in areas protected by system smoke detectors.

(Add) 17.3.4.7

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Add) 17.6.3.4.5. Carbon Monoxide Alarms.

Day-care homes shall be provided with either hardwired or wireless carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with the referenced editions of and NFPA 720.

CHAPTER 18 NEW HEALTH CARE OCCUPANCIES

(Amd) 18.3.4.5.1 General. A total (complete) coverage fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.9 shall be provided.

(Res) 18.3.4.5.3

(Add) 18.3.4.6

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

**CHAPTER 19
EXISTING HEALTH CARE OCCUPANCIES**

(Res) 19.3.4.2.3

(Amd) 19.3.4.5.1 A total (complete) coverage fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.9 shall be provided, unless otherwise permitted by 19.3.4.5.3.

(Add) 19.3.4.5.3 Health care occupancies built or converted prior to January 1, 2005 shall be permitted to have a fire detection system complying with 9.6.2.11.

(Add) 19.3.4.6

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Amd) 19.4.2.1 All high-rise buildings containing health care occupancies shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with the RIFC, NFPA 1, as amended.

(Res) 19.4.2.2

(Add) 19.4.2.3 High-rise buildings shall be provided with a detection, alarm and communication system in accordance with 11.8.4 and an emergency command center complying with 11.8.6.

**CHAPTER 20
NEW AMBULATORY HEALTH CARE OCCUPANCIES**

(Amd) 20.3.4.1 General. Ambulatory health care facilities shall be provided with fire alarm systems in accordance with Section 9.6, except as modified by 20.3.4.2 through 20.3.4.5.

(Amd) 20.3.4.2 Initiation. Initiation of the required fire alarm systems shall be by manual means in accordance with 9.6.2 and by means of any required sprinkler system waterflow alarms, detection devices or detection systems.

(Add) 20.3.4.5 Detection. A total (complete) coverage fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.9 shall be provided.

(Add) 20.3.4.6

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

**CHAPTER 21
EXISTING AMBULATORY HEALTH CARE OCCUPANCIES**

(Amd) 21.3.4.1 General. Ambulatory health care facilities shall be provided with fire alarm systems in accordance with Section 9.6, except as modified by 21.3.4.2 through 21.3.4.5.

(Amd) 21.3.4.2 Initiation. Initiation of the required fire alarm systems shall be by manual means in accordance with 9.6.2 and by means of any required sprinkler system waterflow alarms, detection devices or detection systems.

(Add) 21.3.4.5 Detection.

(Add) 21.3.4.5.1 A total (complete) coverage fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.9 shall be provided, unless otherwise permitted by 21.3.4.5.2.

(Add) 21.3.4.5.2 Ambulatory health care occupancies built or converted prior to January 1, 2005 shall be permitted to have a fire detection system complying with 9.6.2.11.

(Add) 21.3.4.6

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

CHAPTER 22
NEW DETENTION AND CORRECTIONAL OCCUPANCIES

(Res) 22.3.4.2.2

(Amd) 22.3.4.3.2.1. Fire department notification shall be accomplished in accordance with 9.6.4.

(Res) 22.3.4.3.2.2.

(Amd) 22.3.4.4 Detection. An approved fire detection system, including a smoke detection system throughout all resident sleeping areas and adjacent day rooms, activity rooms, or contiguous common spaces, shall be in accordance with 9.6.2.11 as modified by 22.3.4.4.1 through 22.3.4.4.5-

(Add) 22.3.4.5.

Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Amd) 22.4.3 High-Rise Buildings. High-rise buildings shall comply with 11.8.3, 11.8.4 and 11.8.6.

(Amd) 22.4.4.9 Detection, Alarm, and Communications Systems (Nonsprinklered Buildings). A fire alarms system in accordance with 22.3.4 and 9.6 shall be provided.

(Res) 22.4.4.9.1

(Res) 22.4.4.9.2

CHAPTER 23
EXISTING DETENTION AND CORRECTIONAL OCCUPANCIES

(Amd) 23.4.2.1. Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by manual means in accordance with 9.6.2 and by means of any required sprinkler system water flow alarms, detection devices, or detection systems, unless otherwise permitted by the following:

- (1) Manual fire alarm boxes shall be permitted to be locked, provided that staff is present within the area when it is occupied and staff has keys readily available to unlock the boxes.

(2) Manual fire alarm boxes shall be permitted to be located in a staff location, provided that both of the following criteria are met:

- (a) The staff location is attended when the building is occupied.
- (b) The staff attendant has direct supervision of the sleeping area.

(Res) 23.3.4.2.2.

(Amd) 23.3.4.3.2.1. Fire department notification shall be accomplished in accordance with 9.6.4.

(Res) 23.3.4.3.2.2.

(Amd) 22.3.4.4 Detection. An approved fire detection system, including a smoke detection system throughout all resident housing areas, shall be in accordance with 9.6.2.11 as modified by 23.3.4.4.1 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 shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Add) 23.4.3.1 Existing high-rise buildings shall comply with 11.8.4 and 11.8.6.

CHAPTER 24 ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS

24.1.1 Application

(Amd) 24.1.1.1

The Rhode Island Fire Code's application to one and two family dwellings is strictly limited to the installation of smoke and carbon monoxide smoke detection as outlined in sections 24.6.1 through 24.6.3.1.7 as outlined below. Sections 24.1 through 24.5.1.2 may therefore only be otherwise utilized by the AHJ if they are specifically referenced by, and mandated under, a separate occupancy section of this code.

(Add) 24.6.1

Compliance with State Building and Minimum Housing Codes.

(Add) 24.6.1.1

All one and two family dwellings shall remain subject to, and comply with, the State Building Code, SBC-2, adopted pursuant to RIGL 23-27.3 et seq.

(Add) 24.6.1.2

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

(Add) 24.6.2.1

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, 2010 edition, and NFPA 720, 2012 edition, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ.

(Add) 24.6.2.1.1

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

(Add) 24.6.2.1.2

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

(Add) 24.6.2.1.3

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) 24.6.2.1.4

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) 24.6.2.1.5

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) 24.6.2.1.5.1

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 fifty dollars (\$50.00), and the tenant may deduct from his or her rent the actual reasonable cost of repairs not to exceed fifty (\$50.00).

(Add) 24.6.2.1.5.2

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) 24.6.3 Installation of Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms-Existing Buildings

(Add) 24.6.3.1

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, 2010 edition, and NFPA 720, 2012 edition, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ.

(Add) 24.6.3.1.1

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

(Add) 24.6.3.1.2

The above smoke and carbon monoxide detectors may be either battery operated, hardwired or low power radio units approved by the AHJ. Plug-in type carbon monoxide detectors shall not be acceptable.

(Add) 24.6.3.1.3

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) 24.6.3.1.3.1

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 sixty dollar (\$60.00) 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) 24.6.3.1.4

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 one hundred twenty (120) 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. Neither the 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) 24.6.3.1.4.1

Transfers of real property are exempt from compliance with the provisions of sections 24.6.2 and 24.6.3 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 for the property being transferred;
- (3) The property being transferred currently maintains the smoke and carbon monoxide detection systems, as certified by the local AHJ, in accordance 24.6.3.1.3.1;
- (4) The property being transferred is uninhabitable without the issuance of a certificate of use and occupancy;
- (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 be 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) 24.6.3.1.5

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) 24.6.3.1.5.1

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 fifty dollars (\$50.00), and the tenant may deduct from his or her rent the actual reasonable cost of repairs not to exceed fifty (\$50.00).

(Add) 24.6.3.1.6

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

(Add) 24.6.3.1.7

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 24.6 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, 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

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, 2010 edition, and NFPA 720, 2012 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

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 sixty dollar (\$60.00) 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 one

hundred twenty (120) 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 for the property being transferred;
- (3) The property being transferred currently maintains the smoke and carbon monoxide detection systems, as certified by the local AHJ, in accordance with 25.2.2.3.1;
- (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 fifty dollars (\$50.00), and the tenant may deduct from his or her rent the actual reasonable cost of repairs not to exceed fifty (\$50.00).

(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.

(Add) 25.2.2.8

The State Fire Marshal is hereby authorized to consult with the Chief Judge of the Rhode Island Family Court to develop and implement a plan of action, addressing the installation appropriate limited smoke and carbon monoxide detection for the immediate safe temporary placement of children, supervised by the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families, in properties covered under this chapter.

**CHAPTER 26
LODGING OR ROOMING HOUSES**

(Amd) 26.1.1.1

The requirements of this chapter shall apply to buildings that provide sleeping accommodations for 16 or fewer persons on either a transient or permanent basis, with or without meals, but without separate cooking facilities for individual occupants, except as provided in Chapter 24 and/or Sections 26.1.1.1.1 through 26.1.1.1.7 (Bed and Breakfast Homes) as outlined below.

(Add) 26.1.1.1.1

A “Bed and Breakfast Home” is defined as an owner and/or innkeeper occupied building that provides sleeping accommodations for up to sixteen guests. Every “Bed and Breakfast Home” must further have originated as a private home and must have at least 300 square feet of common space (i.e. dining room, living room, etc.) for guest use, and must further provide breakfast. Finally, the owner and/or innkeeper must occupy the building twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, while guests are utilizing the facility. The owner and/or innkeeper of the Bed and Breakfast Home shall have a plan of action, approved by the local official, to assure the safety of the guests in the event the owner or innkeeper is required to temporarily leave the facility unsupervised for limited periods during the day.

(Add) 26.1.1.1.2

A “No Smoking” policy, throughout the building, shall be strictly enforced.

(Add) 26.1.1.1.3

With the exception of fireplaces and/or wood stoves, approved by local fire department and/or the local mechanical inspector, there shall be no open flame in the bedrooms of these facilities. Specifically, candles, incense or similar materials shall not be allowed in the bedrooms. All approved fireplaces and/or wood stoves shall further be provided with approved metal screens or glass doors. Any fireplace or wood stove located in the common areas shall also be approved by local fire department and/or the local mechanical inspector with the above safeguards.

(Add) 26.1.1.1.4

All “Bed and Breakfast Homes” require hardwired, interconnected smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with the regulations and standards covering a new single family residence. There shall be approved detection in each bedroom.

(Add) 26.1.1.1.5

All “Bed and Breakfast Homes” with a capacity of between four (4) and six (6) guests shall meet the following requirements for this occupancy:

Hardwired or low power radio wireless interconnected smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 72, 2010 edition, and NFPA 720, 2012 edition.

Emergency lighting shall be installed in any corridors and/or stairways greater than eight (8) feet in length.

Externally illuminated exit signs shall be installed.

An evacuation plan, containing alternative emergency egress routes, shall be presented to the local fire authority for approval.

The owner and/or innkeeper shall receive comprehensive fire extinguisher training.

It is recommended that the facility be annually inspected by the local fire authority. Any existing curtains, bedding, rugs or similar flammable materials, shall only be replaced, in the future, by fire retardant materials, manufactured and/or treated to the satisfaction of the local fire authority.

Any existing fire detection and/or suppression system shall be maintained as a required system.

(Add) 26.1.1.1.6

All “Bed and Breakfast Homes” with a capacity of between seven (7) and sixteen (16) guests shall meet the following requirements for this occupancy:

A fire alarm system installed in accordance with 26.3.3.5 shall be provided.

Hardwired or low power radio wireless interconnected smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 72, 2010 edition, and NFPA 720, 2012 edition. (May be incorporated into the above fire alarm system).

Solid core doors, maintaining an approximate fire rating of twenty (20) minutes, shall be installed in the existing egress system door jambs with spring-loaded hinges. The local fire authority may approve an alternative plan of action allowing historically significant doors, with an approved Class-A flame-spread finish and spring loaded hinges, to be retained.

Emergency lighting shall be installed in any corridors and/or stairways greater than eight (8) feet in length.

Externally illuminated exit signs shall be installed.

An evacuation plan, containing alternative emergency egress routes, shall be presented to the local fire authority for approval.

The owner and/or innkeeper shall receive comprehensive fire extinguisher training.

The facility shall be annually inspected by the local fire authority. Any existing curtains, bedding, rugs or similar flammable materials, shall only be replaced, in the future, by fire retardant materials, manufactured and/or treated to the satisfaction of the local fire authority.

Any existing fire detection and/or suppression system shall be maintained as a required system.

(Add) 26.1.1.1.7

Any building complying with the above “Bed and Breakfast Home” guidelines, with a capacity in excess of sixteen (16) guests, shall be required comply with the requirements for a “Hotel and Dormitory” occupancy as outlined in the provisions of Chapters 28 or 29, as applicable (new or existing), of the Rhode Island Life Safety Code.

(Amd) 26.3.4.1.1

Lodging and rooming houses shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with Section 9.6.

(Res) 26.3.4.1.2

(Amd) 26.3.4.2 Initiation. Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by manual means in accordance with 9.6.2, a fire detection system required by 23.3.4.4, and by alarm initiation in accordance with 9.6.2.1(3) in buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 26.3.6.

(Amd) 26.3.4.4 Detection. A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Amd) 26.3.4.5.1 Approved single-station smoke alarms shall be installed in accordance with 9.6.2.10 in every sleeping room.

(Res) 26.3.4.5.3

(Amd) 26.3.4.6.1 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.8 and 26.3.4.6 shall be provided in lodging or rooming houses where either of the following conditions exists:

- (1) Lodging or rooming houses with communicating attached garages, unless otherwise exempted by 26.3.4.6.3
- (2) Lodging or rooming houses containing fuel-burning appliances

(Res) 26.3.4.7

(Add) 26.3.4.8 Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Amd) 26.3.6.1.

All new lodging or rooming houses shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 26.3.6.3.

(Amd) 26.3.6.2.

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 26.3.6.3.

(Add) 26.3.6.4

Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

(Add) 26.5.2.3

Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

**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 unless a greater number of occupants is specifically approved by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review.

(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) 27.1.1.3

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 or upper 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 through 26.2.3 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 26.3.4. All such facilities shall also be in compliance with section 26.3.4 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**

(Amd) 28.3.4.4 Detection A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Add) 28.3.4.7 Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(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.

(Add) 28.3.5.9 Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in all new hotel occupancies in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

(Add) 28.5.2.3 Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

**CHAPTER 29
EXISTING HOTELS AND DORMITORIES**

(Amd) 29.3.4.1 General. A fire alarm system in accordance with Section 9.6, except as modified by 29.3.4.2 through 29.3.4.5, shall be provided.

(Amd) 29.3.4.3.3 Guest rooms and guest suites specifically required and equipped to accommodate hearing impaired individuals shall be provided with a visible notification appliance.

(Amd) 28.3.4.3.4 In areas subject to occupancy, other than guest rooms and guest suites, visible notification appliances shall be provided.

(Amd) 29.3.4.3.6 Emergency forces notification shall be accomplished in accordance with 9.6.4.

(Res) 29.3.4.3.7

(Amd) 29.3.4.4 Detection. A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Add) 29.3.4.4.1 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, other than sleeping rooms equipped with an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 28.3.5.3.

(Add) 29.3.4.6 Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detection Systems.

(Add) 29.3.4.6.1 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.8 and 29.3.4.6 shall be provided in hotels and dormitories where either of the following conditions exists:

- (1) Guest rooms or guest suites with communicating attached garages, unless otherwise exempted by 29.3.4.6.3
- (2) Guest rooms or guest suites containing a permanently installed fuel-burning appliance

(Add) 29.3.4.6.2 Where required by 29.3.4.6.1, carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in the following locations:

- (1) Outside of each separate guest room or guest suite sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms
- (2) On every occupiable level of a guest room and guest suite

(Add) 29.3.4.6.3 Carbon monoxide alarms and carbon monoxide detectors as specified in 29.3.4.6.1(1) shall not be required in the following locations:

- (1) In garages
- (2) Within guest rooms or guest suites with communicating attached garages that are open parking structures as defined by the building code
- (3) Within guest rooms or guest suites with communicating attached garages that are mechanically ventilated in accordance with the mechanical code

(Add) 29.3.4.6.4 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be provided in areas other than guest rooms and guest suites in accordance with Section 9.8, as modified by 29.3.4.6.5

(Add) 29.3.4.6.5 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's published instructions in the locations specified as follows:

- (1) On the ceilings of rooms containing permanently installed fuel-burning appliances
- (2) Centrally located within occupiable spaces adjacent to a communicating attached garage

(Add) 29.3.4.7 Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(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 of construction types III,

IV and V, as outlined in NFPA 220, 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.

(Add) 29.3.5.8 Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in all existing hotel occupancies in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

(Amd) 29.4.1.1 High-rise buildings shall comply with 29.3.5.1, 11.8.4 and 11.8.6.

(Add) 29.5.2.3

Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

CHAPTER 30 NEW APARTMENT BUILDINGS

(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, except as modified by 30.3.4.2 through 30.3.4.5

(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 and 30.3.4.6.

(Amd) 30.3.4.2.1 Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Res) 30.3.4.2.2

(Res) 30.2.4.2.3

(Res) 30.3.4.3.3

(Res) 30.3.4.3.4

(Add) 30.3.4.3.5 Emergency forces notification shall not be required for apartment occupancies containing less than twelve (12) dwelling units between fire barriers (see Section 8.3). The above fire barriers shall have a fire resistance rating of not less than two (2) hours.

(Amd) 30.3.4.4 Detection. A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Add) 30.3.4.7 Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Add) 30.3.5.13 Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in all new apartment occupancies in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

(Add) 30.3.5.13.1 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.

(Add) 30.5.2.3 Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

(Amd) 30.6 All apartment buildings, used as housing for elderly or disabled people, shall be inspected annually by the AHJ.

CHAPTER 31 EXISTING APARTMENT BUILDINGS

(Amd) 31.1.1.1 The requirements of this chapter shall apply to existing buildings or portions thereof currently occupied as apartment occupancies. In addition, the building shall meet the requirements of one of the following options:

- (1) Option 1, buildings previously inspected and deemed compliant with 31.1.1.5.
- (2) Option 2, buildings provided with a complete approved automatic fire detection and notification system in accordance with 31.3.4.4
- (3) Option 3, buildings provided with approved automatic sprinkler protection in selected areas, as described in 31.3.5.8
- (4) Option 4, buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system

(Add) 31.1.1.5 Approved apartment buildings.

Any existing apartment building, that was originally converted to this occupancy from an existing one, two, or three family dwelling, shall be deemed in full 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 31.3.4 and Section 9.6; and

- (2) The building maintains an approved system of either hardwired or lower power radio wireless smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed in accordance with the referenced edition of NFPA 72 and NFPA 720, 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 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, with approved spring loaded hinges, to the satisfaction of the AHJ; and
- (11) Existing 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 RILSC, 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 two (2) hours, built or converted to this occupancy, on or after June 29, 1990 shall be provided with sprinkler coverage, at the direction and to the satisfaction of the AHJ, in accordance with the standards outlined in the referenced editions of NFPA 13 or NFPA 13R where applicable.

The AHJ shall provide the building owner a reasonable time, pursuant to guidelines established by the State Fire Marshal's Office, to bring the building into full compliance with the above Fifteen Point Plan, after the owner is officially notified of any deficiencies in writing. Any emergency or life threatening items shall be addressed through the abatement procedures as outlined in the RIFC, Section 1.7.6 et seq.

(Amd) 31.3.4.2.1 Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Res) 31.3.4.2.2

(Res) 31.3.4.2.3

(Res) 31.3.4.2.4

(Res) 31.3.4.2.5

(Res) 31.3.4.3.2

(Res) 31.3.4.3.3

(Res) 31.3.4.3.4

(Add) 31.3.4.3.5.1 Emergency forces notification shall be not required for apartment occupancies containing less than twelve (12) dwelling units between fire barriers (see Section 8.3). The above fire barriers shall have a fire resistance rating of not less than two (2) hours.

(Amd) 31.3.4.4.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Res) 31.3.4.4.2

(Amd) 31.3.4.5.1* Smoke alarms shall be installed in accordance with 9.6.2.10 outside every sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms and on all levels of the dwelling unit, including basements.

(Res) 31.3.4.5.2

(Res) 31.3.4.5.3

(Res) 31.3.4.5.4

(Add) 31.3.4.6 Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detection Systems.

(Add) 31.3.4.6.1 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.8 and 31.3.4.6 shall be provided apartment buildings where either of the following conditions exists:

- (1) Dwelling units with communicating attached garages, unless otherwise exempted by 31.3.4.6.3
- (2) Dwelling units containing a permanently installed fuel-burning appliance

(Add) 31.3.4.6.2 Where required by 31.3.4.6.1, carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in the following locations:

- (1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms
- (2) On every occupiable level of a dwelling unit

(Add) 31.3.4.6.3 Carbon monoxide alarms and carbon monoxide detectors as specified in 31.3.4.6.1(1) shall not be required in the following locations:

- (1) In garages
- (2) Within dwelling units with communicating attached garages that are open parking structures as defined by the building code
- (3) Within dwelling units with communicating attached garages that are mechanically ventilated in accordance with the mechanical code

(Add) 31.3.4.6.4 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be provided in areas other than dwelling units in accordance with Section 9.8, as modified by 31.3.4.6.5

(Add) 31.3.4.6.5 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's published instructions in the locations specified as follows:

- (1) On the ceilings of rooms containing permanently installed fuel-burning appliances
- (2) Centrally located within occupiable spaces adjacent to a communicating attached garage

(Add) 31.3.4.7 Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(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 shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 31.3.5.2.

(Amd) 31.3.5.12 Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in all existing apartment occupancies in accordance with section 9.7.4.1 of this Code.

(Amd) 31.3.5.12.1 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) 31.4.1.1 High-rise buildings shall comply with 31.2.11.1 and 31.3.5.11 and 11.8.4. and 11.8.6.

(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 General. Every residential board and care occupancy shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code.

(Amd) 32.2.3.4.1.1 Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Add) 32.2.3.4.4 Detection. A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Add) 32.2.3.4.5 Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detection Systems.

(Add) 32.2.3.4.5.1 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.8 and 32.2.3.4.5.2 shall be provided residential board and care occupancies where either of the following conditions exists:

- (1) Living areas with communicating attached garages, unless otherwise exempted by 32.2.3.4.5.3
- (2) Living areas containing a permanently installed fuel-burning appliance

(Add) 32.2.3.4.5.2 Where required by 32.2.3.4.5.1, carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in the following locations:

- (1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms
- (2) On every occupiable level of a living area

(Add) 32.2.3.4.5.3 Carbon monoxide alarms and carbon monoxide detectors as specified in 32.2.3.4.5.1(1) shall not be required in the following locations:

- (1) In garages
- (2) Within living areas with communicating attached garages that are open parking structures as defined by the building code
- (3) Within living areas with communicating attached garages that are mechanically ventilated in accordance with the mechanical code

(Add) 32.2.3.4.5.4 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be provided in areas other than living areas in accordance with Section 9.8, as modified by 32.2.3.4.5.5

(Add) 32.2.3.4.5.5 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's published instructions in the locations specified as follows:

- (1) On the ceilings of rooms containing permanently installed fuel-burning appliances
- (2) Centrally located within occupiable spaces served by the first supply air register from a permanently installed, fuel burning HVAC system

(3) Centrally located within occupiable spaces adjacent to a communicating attached garage

(Add) 32.2.3.4.6 Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(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.

(Res) 32.2.3.5.2

(Add) 32.2.5.2.4 Any furnace or boiler in the building shall be equipped with an approved remote shutoff switch approved by the AHJ.

(Amd) 32.3.3.4.8 Detection.

(Amd) 32.3.3.4.8.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Add) 32.3.3.4.9 Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detection Systems.

(Add) 32.3.3.4.9.1 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.8 and 32.3.3.4.9.2 shall be provided residential board and care occupancies where either of the following conditions exists:

- (1) Living areas with communicating attached garages, unless otherwise exempted by 32.3.3.4.9.3
- (2) Living areas containing a permanently installed fuel-burning appliance

(Add) 32.3.3.4.9.2 Where required by 32.3.3.4.9.1, carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in the following locations:

- (1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms
- (2) On every occupiable level of a living area

(Add) 32.3.3.4.9.3 Carbon monoxide alarms and carbon monoxide detectors as specified in 32.3.3.4.9.1(1) shall not be required in the following locations:

- (1) In garages
- (2) Within living areas with communicating attached garages that are open parking structures as defined by the building code
- (3) Within living areas with communicating attached garages that are mechanically ventilated in accordance with the mechanical code

(Add) 32.3.3.4.9.4 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be provided in areas other than living areas in accordance with Section 9.8, as modified by 32.3.3.4.9.5

(Add) 32.3.3.4.9.5 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's published instructions in the locations specified as follows:

- (1) On the ceilings of rooms containing permanently installed fuel-burning appliances
- (2) Centrally located within occupiable spaces served by the first supply air register from a permanently installed, fuel burning HVAC system
- (3) Centrally located within occupiable spaces adjacent to a communicating attached garage

(Add) 32.3.3.4.10 Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

CHAPTER 33 EXISTING RESIDENTIAL BOARD AND CARE OCCUPANCIES

(Amd) 33.2.3.4.1 General. Every residential board and care occupancy shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code.

(Amd) 33.2.3.4.1.1 Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Res) 33.2.3.4.1.2

(Res) 33.2.3.4.3.7

(Add) 33.2.3.4.4 Detection. A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Add) 33.2.3.4.5 Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detection Systems.

(Add) 33.2.3.4.5.1 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.8 and 33.2.3.4.5.2 shall be provided residential board and care occupancies where either of the following conditions exists:

- (1) Living areas with communicating attached garages, unless otherwise exempted by 33.2.3.4.5.3
- (2) Living areas containing a permanently installed fuel-burning appliance

(Add) 33.2.3.4.5.2 Where required by 33.2.3.4.5.1, carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in the following locations:

- (1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms
- (2) On every occupiable level of a living area

(Add) 33.2.3.4.5.3 Carbon monoxide alarms and carbon monoxide detectors as specified in 32.2.3.4.5.1(1) shall not be required in the following locations:

- (1) In garages
- (2) Within living areas with communicating attached garages that are open parking structures as defined by the building code
- (3) Within living areas with communicating attached garages that are mechanically ventilated in accordance with the mechanical code

(Add) 33.2.3.4.5.4 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be provided in areas other than living areas in accordance with Section 9.8, as modified by 33.2.3.4.5.5

(Add) 33.2.3.4.5.5 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's published instructions in the locations specified as follows:

- (1) On the ceilings of rooms containing permanently installed fuel-burning appliances
- (2) Centrally located within occupiable spaces adjacent to a communicating attached garage

(Add) 33.2.3.4.6 Any conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of amended Section 9.6 of this shall be resolved in favor of compliance with the most reasonable combined requirements as determined by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Amd) 33.2.3.5.1 All facilities shall be protected throughout by an approved, automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with 33.2.3.5.3 using quick response or residential sprinklers.

(Add) 33.2.5.2.4 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 General. Every residential board and care occupancy shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with amended Section 9.6 of this Code.

(Amd) 32.3.3.4.2 Initiation. The required fire alarm system shall be initiated by each of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2-
- (2) Manual fire alarm box located at a convenient central control point under continuous supervision of responsible employees
- (3) Automatic sprinkler system-
- (4) Required detection system, other than sleeping room smoke alarms

(Amd) 33.3.3.4.6.1 Emergency forces notification shall be accomplished in accordance with 9.6.4.

(Res) 33.3.3.4.6.2

(Amd) 33.3.3.4.8 Detection.

(Amd) 33.3.3.4.8.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Add) 33.3.3.4.8.1.1 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, other than sleeping rooms equipped with an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 32.2.3.5.3.

(Res) 33.3.3.4.8.2

(Add) 33.3.3.4.9 Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detection Systems.

(Add) 33.3.3.4.9.1 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with Section 9.8 and 33.3.3.4.9.2 shall be provided residential board and care occupancies where either of the following conditions exists:

- (1) Living areas with communicating attached garages, unless otherwise exempted by 33.3.3.4.9.3
- (2) Living areas containing a permanently installed fuel-burning appliance

(Add) 33.3.3.4.9.2 Where required by 33.3.3.4.9.1, carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in the following locations:

- (1) Outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping rooms
- (2) On every occupiable level of a living area

(Add) 33.3.3.4.9.3 Carbon monoxide alarms and carbon monoxide detectors as specified in 33.3.3.4.9.1(1) shall not be required in the following locations:

- (1) In garages
- (2) Within living areas with communicating attached garages that are open parking structures as defined by the building code
- (3) Within living areas with communicating attached garages that are mechanically ventilated in accordance with the mechanical code

(Add) 33.3.3.4.9.4 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be provided in areas other than living areas in accordance with Section 9.8, as modified by 33.3.3.4.9.5

(Add) 33.3.3.4.9.5 Carbon monoxide alarms or carbon monoxide detectors shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's published instructions in the locations specified as follows:

- (1) On the ceilings of rooms containing permanently installed fuel-burning appliances
- (2) Centrally located within occupiable spaces served by the first supply air register from a permanently installed, fuel burning HVAC system
- (2) Centrally located within occupiable spaces adjacent to a communicating attached garage

(Add) 33.3.3.5.1 All facilities shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 9.7, as modified by 33.3.3.5.1.1, 33.3.3.5.1.2 and 33.3.3.5.1.3.

(Res) 33.3.3.5.1.3

(Res) 33.3.3.5.5

(Amd) 33.3.4 Special Provisions

(Add) 33.3.4.1 High-rise buildings shall comply with 11.8.4 and 11.8.6.

**CHAPTER 34
RESERVED**
(No Modifications)

**CHAPTER 35
RESERVED**
(No Modifications)

CHAPTER 36
NEW MERCANTILE OCCUPANCIES

(Amd) 36.3.4.1 General

All Class A mercantile occupancies, all Class B mercantile occupancies occupying more than 3000 square feet per floor for sales purposes, and all mercantile occupancies requiring sprinkler coverage, under this Code or the State Building Code, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with Section 9.6

(Amd) 36.3.4.2 Initiation Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Amd) 36.3.4.3.1 Occupant Notification

The required fire alarm system, once initiated, shall perform one of the following functions:

- (1) It shall activate an alarm in accordance with 9.6.3 throughout the mercantile occupancy.
- (2) Positive alarm sequence in accordance with 9.6.3.4 shall be permitted.

(Amd) 36.3.4.3.2 Emergency Forces Notification

Emergency forces notification shall be provided for all Class A mercantile occupancies and all Class B mercantile exceeding 12,000 gross square feet and shall include notifying both of the following:

- (1) Fire department in accordance with 9.6.4
- (2) Local emergency organization, if provided

(Add) 36.3.4.4 Detection

(Add) 36.3.4.4.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Amd) 36.3.5.2 Automatic sprinkler systems, where required by either this Code or the Rhode Island Building Code, in either Class A or Class B mercantile occupancies shall be supervised in accordance with 9.7.2.

(Amd) 36.4.4.2 Initiation Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Amd) 36.4.4.4.3.1 Occupant Notification

The required fire alarm system, once initiated, shall perform one of the following functions:

- (1) It shall activate a general alarm in accordance with 9.6.3 throughout the mall, and positive alarm sequence in accordance with 9.6.3.4 shall be permitted.
- (2) Occupant notification shall be made via a voice communication or public address system in accordance with 9.6.3.9.2.

(Add) 36.4.4.4.5 Detection

(Add) 36.4.4.4.5.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Amd) 36.4.5.4.2 Initiation Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Amd) 36.4.5.4.3 Occupant Notification

The required fire alarm system, once initiated, shall activate an alarm in accordance with 9.6.3 throughout the mercantile occupancy, an positive alarm sequence in accordance with 9.6.3.4 shall be permitted.

(Add) 36.4.5.4.5 Detection

(Add) 36.4.5.4.5.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

**CHAPTER 37
EXISTING MERCANTILE OCCUPANCIES**

(Amd) 37.3.4.1 General

All Class A mercantile occupancies, all Class B mercantile occupancies occupying more than 3000 square feet per floor for sales purposes, and all mercantile occupancies requiring sprinkler coverage, under this Code or the State Building Code, shall be provided with a fire alarm system in accordance with Section 9.6.

(Amd) 37.3.4.2 Initiation

Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Amd) 37.3.4.3.1 Occupant Notification

The required fire alarm system, once initiated, shall perform one of the following functions:

- (1) It shall activate an alarm in accordance with 9.6.3 throughout the mercantile occupancy, and both of the following also shall apply:
 - (A) Positive alarm sequence in accordance with 9.6.3.4 shall be permitted.
 - (B) A presignal system in accordance with 9.6.3.3 shall be permitted.
- (2) Occupant notification shall be made via voice communication or public address system in accordance with 9.6.3.9.2.

(Amd) 37.3.4.3.2 Emergency Forces Notification

Emergency forces notification shall be provided for all Class A mercantile occupancies and all Class B mercantile exceeding 12,000 gross square feet and shall include notifying both of the following:

- (1) Fire department in accordance with 9.6.4
- (2) Local emergency organization, if provided

(Add) 37.3.4.4 Detection

(Add) 37.3.4.4.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Amd) 37.3.5.1 Extinguishing Requirements

Mercantile occupancies shall be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1(1) in any of the following locations:

- (1) Throughout all mercantile occupancies three or more stories in height not protected by an approved fire alarm system providing emergency forces notification.
- (2) Throughout all mercantile occupancies built or converted on or after June 4, 1976 that are more than two (2) stories in height above the basement and constructed of Type III, IV or V construction in accordance with NFPA 220.
- (3) Throughout stories below the level of exit discharge where such stories have an area exceeding 2,500 square feet (232 m²) and are used for the sale, storage, or handling of combustible goods and merchandise.

- (4) Throughout multiple occupancies protected as mixed occupancies in accordance with 6.1.14 where the conditions of 37.3.5.1(1), (2), or (3) apply to the mercantile occupancy.

(Amd) 37.3.5.2 The provisions of 37.3.5.1 (2) shall not apply to existing business occupancies with a total gross area less than 12,000 square feet (1115 m²).

(Amd) 37.3.5.4

Automatic sprinkler systems, where required by either this Code or the Rhode Island Building Code, in either Class A or Class B mercantile occupancies, shall be supervised in accordance with 9.7.2.

(Amd) 37.4.2 High-Rise Buildings. High-rise buildings shall comply with 11.8.4 and 11.8.6.

(Amd) 37.4.4.4.2 Initiation

Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Amd) 37.4.4.4.3.1 Occupant Notification

The required fire alarm system, once initiated, shall perform one of the following functions:

- (1) It shall activate a general alarm in accordance with 9.6.3 throughout the mall, and positive alarm sequence in accordance with 9.6.3.4 shall be permitted.
- (2) Occupant notification shall be made via a voice communication or public address system in accordance with 9.6.3.9.2.

(Add) 37.3.4.4.5 Detection

(Add) 37.3.4.4.5.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Amd) 37.4.5.4.2 Initiation. Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Amd) 37.4.5.4.3 Occupant Notification

The required fire alarm system, once initiated, shall perform one of the following functions:

- (1) It shall activate a general alarm in accordance with 9.6.3 throughout the mercantile occupancy, and positive alarm sequence in accordance with 9.6.3.4 shall be permitted.
- (2) Occupant notification shall be made via a voice communication or public address system in accordance with 9.6.3.9.2.

(Add) 37.4.5.4.5 Detection

(Add) 37.4.5.4.5.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

**CHAPTER 38
NEW BUSINESS OCCUPANCIES**

(Amd) 38.3.4.1 General

A fire alarm system in accordance with Section 9.6 shall be provided in all business occupancies where any one of the following conditions exists:

- (1) The building is three or more stories in height.
- (2) The occupancy is subject to 50 or more occupants above or below the level of exit discharge (5,000 Square feet).
- (3) The occupancy is subject to 300 or more total occupants (30,000 Square feet).
- (4) All business occupancies in which sprinkler coverage is required by either this Code or the Rhode Island Building Code.

(Amd) 38.3.4.2 Initiation. Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Amd) 38.3.4.3 Occupant Notification

The required fire alarm system, once initiated, shall activate a general alarm in accordance with 9.6.3 throughout the building, and positive alarm sequence in accordance with 9.6.3.4 shall be permitted.

(Add) 38.3.4.5 Detection

(Add) 38.3.4.5.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Add) 38.3.5.1

All new business occupancies shall be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1(1) in any of the following locations:

- (1) Throughout all new business occupancies three or more stories in height.
- (2) Throughout all new business occupancies exceeding 12,000 square feet (1115 m²) in area.
- (3) Throughout multiple occupancies protected as mixed occupancies in accordance with 6.1.14 where the conditions of 38.3.5.1(1) or (2) apply to the new business occupancy.

(Add) 38.3.5.2

Automatic sprinkler systems, where required by either this Code or the Rhode Island Building Code, in new business occupancies shall be supervised in accordance with 9.7.2.

**CHAPTER 39
EXISTING BUSINESS OCCUPANCIES**

(Amd) 39.3.4.1 General

A fire alarm system in accordance with Section 9.6 shall be provided in all business occupancies where any one of the following conditions exists:

- (1) The building is three or more stories in height.
- (2) The occupancy is subject to 50 or more occupants above or below the level of exit discharge (5,000 Square feet).
- (3) The occupancy is subject to 300 or more total occupants (30,000 Square feet).
- (4) All business occupancies in which sprinkler coverage is required by either this Code of the Rhode Island Building Code.

(Amd) 39.3.4.2 Initiation. Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Amd) 39.3.4.3 Occupant Notification

The required fire alarm system, once initiated, shall activate a general alarm in accordance with 9.6.3 throughout the building, and positive alarm sequence in accordance with 9.6.3.4 shall be permitted.

(Amd) 39.3.4.4 Emergency Forces Notification

Where a fire alarm is required by this code, emergency forces notification shall be provided and shall include notifying both of the following:

- (1) Fire department in accordance with 9.6.4
- (2) Local emergency organization, if provided

(Add) 39.3.4.5 Detection

(Add) 39.3.4.5.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

(Add) 39.3.5.1

All existing business occupancies shall be protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 9.7.1.1(1) in any of the following locations:

- (1) Throughout all business occupancies built or converted on or after June 4, 1976 that are more than two (2) stories in height above the basement and constructed of Type III, IV or V construction in accordance with NFPA 220.
- (2) Throughout multiple occupancies protected as mixed occupancies in accordance with 6.1.14 where the conditions of 38.3.5.1(1) or (2) apply to the existing business occupancy.

(Add) 39.3.5.2

The provisions of 39.3.5.1 shall not apply to existing business occupancies with a total gross area less than 12,000 square feet (1115 m²).

(Add) 39.3.5.3

Automatic sprinkler systems, where required by either this Code or the Rhode Island Building Code, in existing business occupancies shall be supervised in accordance with 9.7.2.

(Add) 39.4.2.4 All high-rise buildings shall comply with 11.8.4 and 11.8.6.

**CHAPTER 40
INDUSTRIAL OCCUPANCIES**

(Amd) 40.3.4.1 General

A fire alarm system in accordance with Section 9.6 shall be provided in all industrial occupancies where any one of the following conditions exists:

- (1) The total gross area exceeds 10,000 square feet.
- (2) Any one floor above or below the level of exit discharge exceeds 2,500 Square feet.
- (3) All industrial occupancies in which sprinkler coverage is required by either this Code of the Rhode Island Building Code.

(Amd) 40.3.4.2 Initiation. Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Amd) 40.3.4.3.1 Occupant Notification

The required fire alarm system, once initiated, shall activate a general alarm in accordance with 9.6.3 throughout the building,

(Add) 40.3.4.3.5 Emergency Forces Notification

In buildings where a fire alarm is required, emergency forces notification shall be provided in buildings greater than 30,000 gross square feet in area and shall include both of the following:

- (1) Fire department in accordance with 9.6.4
- (2) Local emergency organization, if provided

(Add) 40.3.4.4 Detection

(Add) 40.3.4.4.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

**CHAPTER 41
RESERVED
(No Modifications)**

CHAPTER 42 STORAGE OCCUPANCIES

(Amd) 42.3.4.1.1

Low hazard storage occupancies, and the specific non-residential farm buildings listed below, shall not be required to have a fire alarm system:

1. All non-residential, farm buildings such as barns, riding rinks, horse stables and farm stands that are not utilized as places of assembly and are not open to the general public.
2. All non-residential farm buildings such as barns, riding rinks and horse stables, that are either solely owner occupied or accessed solely by the owners of horses stabled within.
3. All non-residential farm buildings such as barns, riding rinks, horse stables and farm stands, without electricity and heat;
4. All greenhouses.

(Amd) 42.3.4.1.2

Storage occupancies with ordinary or high hazard contents not exceeding an aggregate floor area of 10,000 square feet (930 m²) shall not be required to have a fire alarm system.

(Res) 42.3.4.1.3

(Amd) 42.3.4.2 Initiation. Initiation of the required fire alarm system shall be by all of the following means:

- (1) Manual means in accordance with 9.6.2.1(1);
- (2) Where automatic sprinklers are provided, initiation of the fire alarm system by sprinkler system waterflow.
- (3) An approved fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11.

(Amd) 42.3.4.3. Occupant Notification

The required fire alarm system shall meet one of the following criteria:

- (1) It shall provide occupant notification in accordance with 9.6.3.
- (2) It shall sound an audible and visible signal in a constantly attended location for the purposes of initiating emergency action.

(Add) 42.3.4.4 Emergency Forces Notification

Where a fire alarm is required, emergency forces notification shall be provided in buildings greater than 30,000 gross square feet in area and shall include both of the following:

- (1) Fire department in accordance with 9.6.4
- (2) Local emergency organization, if provided

(Add) 40.3.4.5 Detection

(Add) 40.3.4.5.1 A fire detection system in accordance with 9.6.2.11 shall be provided.

**CHAPTER 43
Building Rehabilitation
Reserved**

The Fire Board hereby temporarily reserves Chapter 43 for further review and the eventual development of an updated Rehabilitation Code with participation from both the Rhode Island Building Commission and the Joint Committee on the Rehabilitation Building and Fire Code for Existing Buildings and Structures. Until the new updated Rehabilitation Code is adopted, the Rhode Island Rehabilitation Building and Fire Code, previously adopted by the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal and Review, and the Rhode Island Building Commission, is hereby re-adopted, in full, as FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 9.

(Add)

**CHAPTER 44
HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS
MIXED OCCUPANCIES**

(Add) 44.1

In any building where a fire alarm system is exempted due to the minimum occupant load provisions or the minimum square footage provisions of Chapters 12 through 42, a fire alarm system as prescribed in RILSC Section 9.6 may be required by the State Fire Marshal where it is proven that life safety of the occupants is compromised due to the hazard of contents, proximity of exposures, limitations to fire department vehicle access or other such hazardous conditions.

**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, and the Rhode Island Building Commission, is hereby re-adopted, in full, as FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 9 with the following amendment:

(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.

**FIRE SAFETY CODE SECTION 10
(RHODE ISLAND FIRE ALARM CODE)**

I. ADOPTION OF NFPA 72 AS THE RHODE ISLAND FIRE ALARM CODE.

10-1-1

The *National Fire Alarm & Signaling Code*, NFPA 72 2010 Edition), as amended by sections 10-1-2 and 10-1-2.1 below, is hereby adopted as the “*Rhode Island Fire Alarm Code*”. Notwithstanding any provision in the Rhode Island Fire Safety Code to the contrary, any building or structure that is in compliance with the 2003 editions of NFPA 1 and 101, under the 2003 Fire Safety Act as amended, shall not be required to comply with the 2010 edition of NFPA 72 until December 31, 2015 where such compliance would require additional expenditures. However, the above compliance exceptions shall not apply to any expenditures for the continued testing and maintenance of fire detection, protection and suppression systems approved under the 2003 Fire Safety Act that were also required to be tested and maintained by the 2003 Fire Safety Act.

10-1-2

The specific rules addressing which use and occupancy groups require fire alarm systems, any additional requirements for the installation of these systems, and designating the party or parties responsible for the approval of these systems, are outlined in *The Rhode Island Life Safety Code* Section 8 (the *Rhode Island Life Safety Code*) Chapter 9 (Building Service and Fire Protection Equipment) occupancy Chapters 12 through 42. Any conflict between the provisions of Section 8 (the *Rhode Island Life Safety Code*) and the 2010 edition of NFPA 72, as adopted by this Section 10 the Rhode Island Fire Alarm Code, shall be resolved in favor of the most stringent requirement as determined by the State Fire Marshal subject to appeal to the Fire Safety Code Board of Review.

II. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN FIRE ALARM INSTALLATION DEADLINES.

Reserved

III. ALARM UPGRADE EXEMPTION FOR ORIGINAL TIMELY COMPLIANCE.

10-3-1

Any building that is not a place of assembly, that installed the required fire alarm system pursuant to the Rhode Island Fire Code, as amended by the Comprehensive Fire Safety Act of 2003, and secured the approval of said system, by the authority having jurisdiction, shall be exempt from having to upgrade that fire alarm system until December 31, 2015.

10-3-2

Any place of assembly that installed the required fire alarm system pursuant to the Rhode Island Fire Code, as amended by the Comprehensive Fire Safety Act of 2003, and secured the approval of said system, by the authority having jurisdiction, shall be exempt from having to upgrade that fire alarm system until December 31, 2015.

IV EXEMPTION OF SMALLER BUSINESS GROUP BUILDINGS.

(Reserved)

V SEPARATION OF CERTAIN OCCUPANCIES FOR FIRE ALARM REVIEW

10-5-1

Where existing low to ordinary hazard business and/or mercantile occupancies can be separated from the remainder of a building by construction maintaining an “approved acceptable separation” as outlined herein, the fire alarm square footage calculation, for this existing separated occupancy, shall be limited to the space within the “approved acceptable separation”.

10-5-1.1

In addition to the “approved acceptable separations” listed below, any properly installed Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories listed two (2) hour fire rated assembly shall be deemed to provide proper separation of these occupancies.

10-5-1.2

For the purposes of determining whether a fire alarm system is required within a separated low to ordinary hazard business or mercantile space, a wall assembly,

consisting of double five eighth (5/8) inch type-x sheetrock over an existing wall and fastened to the structure, shall be deemed to be an “approved acceptable separation.”

10-5-1.3

For the purposes of determining whether a fire alarm system is required within a separated low to ordinary hazard business or mercantile space, a ceiling and/or floor assembly, consisting of a layer of five eighth (5/8) inch type-x sheetrock attached to the existing floor joists and separated from a second required layer of five eighth (5/8) inch type-x sheetrock, by three quarter (3/4) inch, or deeper, metal furring strip or stud, shall be deemed to be an “approved acceptable separation”.

10-5-1.4

The Board recognizes that full continuity of construction, and/or full support for the rated assemblies, may never be achieved in retrofitting an existing business and/or mercantile occupancy with an “approximate” two hour fire rated assembly. However, the authority having enforcement jurisdiction may request reasonable additional construction safeguards, such as the filling of any visible voids between wall and floor/ceiling assemblies with non-combustible materials and/or reasonable alternative structural support if necessary.

10-5-1.5

A building owner may request review of such “additional construction safeguards” to the Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review pursuant to the procedures outlined in Fire Safety Code Section 6.

**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)**

Effective date January 1, 2013