

City Of Crowley Fire Department
Fire Marshal's Office
Local Amendments to the 2015 International Fire Code



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Fire Marshal
Crowley Fire Department
2016

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Reference:

Triple asterisk (***) identifies a new or revised amendment with the 2015 code.

A double asterisk (**) at the beginning of a section identifies an amendment carried over from the 2012 edition of the code.

Single asterisk (*) identifies a new local amendment to the 2015 code.

No asterisk at the beginning of a section identifies an amendment carried over from the current City of Crowley Fire Code.

Section 101.1; change Section 101.1 to read as follows:

101.1 Title. These regulations, and the adopted local amendments, shall be known as the Fire Code of the City of Crowley Texas, hereinafter referred to as “this code”.

*****Section 102.1; change #3 to read as follows:***

3. Existing structures, facilities, and conditions when required in Chapter 11 or in specific sections of this code.

(Reason: To clarify that there are other provisions in the fire code applicable to existing buildings that are not located in Chapter 11, such as Section 505 Premises Identification.)

Section 102.13; add Section 102.13 to read as follows:

102.13 Supplemental Rules and Regulations. The Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief is authorized to render interpretations of this code and to make and enforce rules and supplemental regulations in order to carry out the application and intent of its provisions. Such interpretations, rules and regulations shall be in conformance with the intent and purpose of this code and shall be available to the public during normal business hours.

Section 103.4; delete the following:

“...member of the board of appeals...”

Section 104.1; change section 104.1 to read as follows:

[A] 104.1 General. The Fire Marshal / Fire Chief is hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this code and shall have the authority to render interpretations of this code, and to adopt policies, procedures, rules and regulations in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies, procedures, rules and regulations shall be in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and shall not have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in this code. The Fire Chief has final authority to enforce the provisions of this code and shall have the final authority to render interpretations of this code, and to adopt policies, procedures, rules and regulations in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies, procedures, rules and regulations shall be in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and shall not have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in this code.

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Section 104.7.2; add second paragraph to read as follows:

104.7.2 Technical Assistance.

The Fire Marshal is authorized to require the owner, contractor or agent to employ a third party inspection firm, without charge to the jurisdiction, to provide an inspection report as designated by the fire code official. The fire code official may also require the owner, contractor or agent to employ a third party agent to review system plans and building plans, without charge to the jurisdiction and to provide a report to the fire code official. In both cases the third party firm/agent shall be approved by the Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief.

Section 104.11.4; add Section 104.11.4 to read as follows:

104.11.4 Utilities. Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief, or any member of the Fire Department shall have the authority, in time of emergency, to order the disconnection of gas or electrical utilities to a building when deemed necessary for the public safety, without liability therefor.

Section 104.11.4; add Section 104.11.4 to read as follows:

104.11.4 Evacuation. The Fire Chief, or any member of the Fire Department shall have the authority, in time of emergency, to order the evacuation of a building or structure when deemed necessary for the safety of occupants thereof, and it shall be unlawful for any person to refuse to evacuate upon such order, or to resist or obstruct the evacuation of other persons.

Section 105.1.1.1; add Section 105.1.1.1 to read as follows:

105.1.1.1 Occupancy Permit. The occupancy permit as required by this this code shall be the Certificate of Occupancy issued by the Building Official in compliance with the provisions of the Fire Code and other related construction and health codes.

Section 105.1.1.2; add Section 105.1.1.2 to read as follows:

105.1.1.2 Other Permits. Specific permits or special permits which are unrelated to construction or health codes may be issued by the Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief when dealing with items specifically pertaining to fire prevention.

Section 105.1.1.3; add Section 105.1.1.3 to read as follows:

105.1.1.3 Penalties. Permit fees shall be tripled if a contractor has begun work without a permit. For the second and subsequent occurrence by the same contractor within two (2) years, the permit fees shall be quadrupled.

Section 105.4.1; add second paragraph to read as follows:

105.4.1 Submittals. An electronic version of the approved site plan showing fire lanes, water lines and fire hydrants; and the approved floor plan with rooms labeled as to use shall be provided prior to the issuance of the building permit for all new construction, additions and/or remodels over 30% of the building. Fire sprinkler plans and fire alarm plans shall be provided in electronic format for new construction, additions and/or remodels involving 30% of the system.

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Section 105.6; change or delete the following Sections:

105.6 Required Operational Permit

"Delete" – 105.6.5 Carnivals and fairs.
"Delete" – 105.6.12 Cutting and welding.
"Delete" – 105.6.13 Dry cleaning.
"Delete" – 105.6.14 Exhibits and trade shows.
"Delete" – 105.6.16 Fire hydrants and valves.
"Delete" – 105.6.17 Flammable and combustible liquids.
"Delete" – 105.6.18 Floor finishing.
"Delete" – 105.6.19 Fruit and crop ripening.
"Delete" – 105.6.20 Fumigation and thermal insecticidal fogging .
"Delete" – 105.6.25 Industrial ovens.

"Change" – 105.6.28 LP-gas exception to read as follows:

Exception: A permit is not required for individual containers with a one hundred twenty (120) gallon water capacity or less serving occupancies in Group R-3.

"Delete" – 105.6.29 Magnesium.

"Delete" – 105.6.30 Miscellaneous combustible storage.

"Change" – 105.6.32 Open burning to read as follows:

To conduct authorized burning operations.

Exception: Recreational fires.

"Delete" – 105.6.34 Open Flames and candles.

"Delete" – 105.6.36 Places of assembly.

"Delete" – 105.6.40 Refrigeration equipment.

"Delete" – 105.6.41 Repair garages and motor fuel-dispensing facilities.

"Delete" – 105.6.43 Spraying or dipping.

"Delete" – 105.6.44 Storage of scrap tires and tire byproducts.

"Delete" – 105.6.48 Wood products.

*****Section 105.7; add Section 105.7.19 to read as follows:***

105.7.19 Electronic access control systems. Construction permits are required for the installation or modification of an electronic access control system, as specified in Chapter 10. A separate construction permit is required for the installation or modification of a fire alarm system that may be connected to the access control system. Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered a modification and does not require a permit.

(Reason: Adds construction permit requirements for electronic access control systems affecting access and/or egress to ensure proper design and installation of such systems. These changes reflect local practices of municipalities in this region.)

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Section 105.7; add Section 105.7.20 to reads as follows:

105.7.16 Underground fire sprinkler line. A construction permit is required to install or modify the supply line to a fire sprinkler system or stand pipe system.

Section 108 Board of Appeals:

Delete this section

Section 109.4; change Section 109.4 to read as follows:

109.4 Violations penalty. Any person who:

1. Violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this code or the standards adopted hereunder.
2. Fails to comply within the time fixed herein with any order made by the Fire Marshal or authorized representative under any of the provisions of this code or the standards adopted hereunder, from which no appeal has been taken, or which has been affirmed or modified by a court of competent jurisdiction.
3. Builds in violation of any detailed statement, specifications or plans submitted and approved under the provisions of this code or the standards adopted hereunder, from which no appeal has been taken.
4. Builds in violation of any certificate or permit issued under the provisions of this code or the standards adopted hereunder, from which no appeal has been taken.
5. Permits any fire hazard to exist in or upon any occupancy, premises or vehicle under their control, operation, maintenance or possession.
6. Fails to comply with orders, notices, signs and/or tags.
7. Tampers with signs and/or tags.

Shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$2,000.00 for each violation and act of noncompliance. The imposition of one (1) penalty for any violation shall not excuse the violation or permit it to continue, and all such persons shall be required to correct or remedy such violations of defects within a reasonable time specified by the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief or authorized representative. When not otherwise specified, each day that prohibited conditions are maintained shall constitute a separate offense

Section 110.1; add Section 110.1.3 to read as follows:

110.1.3 Compliance. No person shall remain in or enter any premises, building or vehicle, which has been so posted, except that entry may be made to repair, demolish or remove the fire hazard or unsafe condition. Such entry or the destruction, defacing or removal of said notice prior to approval by the Fire Marshal or authorized representative shall be a violation of this code.

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Section 111.4; change Section 111.4 to read as follows:

111.4 Failure to comply. Any person who shall continue any work after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be liable to a fine of up to \$2000.00.

Section 202 General Definitions; add definitions to read as follows:

ADDRESSABLE FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM. Any system capable of providing identification of each individual alarm-initiating device. The identification shall be in plain English and as descriptive as possible to specifically identify the location of the device in alarm. The system shall have the capability of alarm verification.

**** [B] AMBULATORY CARE FACILITY.** Buildings or portions thereof used to provide medical, surgical, psychiatric, nursing, or similar care on a less than 24-hour basis to persons who are rendered incapable of self-preservation by the services provided. This group may include but not be limited to the following:

- Dialysis centers
- Procedures involving sedation
- Sedation dentistry
- Surgery centers
- Colonic centers
- Psychiatric centers

(Reason: to clarify the range of uses included in the definition)

ANALOG INTELLIGENT ADDRESSABLE FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM. Any system capable of calculating a change in value by directly measurable quantities (voltage, resistance, etc.) at the sensing point. The physical analog may be conducted at the sensing point or at the main control panel. The system shall be capable of compensating for long-term changes in sensor response while maintaining a constant sensitivity. The compensation shall have a preset point at which a detector maintenance signal shall be transmitted to the control panel. The sensor shall remain capable of detecting and transmitting an alarm while in maintenance alert.

**** [B] ATRIUM.** An opening connecting three or more stories other than enclosed stairways, elevators, hoist ways, escalators, plumbing, electrical, air-conditioning or other equipment, which is closed at the top and not defined as a mall. Stories, as used in this definition, do not include balconies within assembly groups or mezzanines that comply with Section 505 of the International Building Code.

(Reason: Accepted practice in the region based on legacy codes. IBC Section 1009 permits unenclosed two story stairways under certain circumstances.)

***** [B] DEFEND IN PLACE.** A method of emergency response that engages building components and trained staff to provide occupant safety during an emergency. Emergency response involves remaining in place, relocating within the building, or both, without evacuating the building.

(Reason: Added from International Building Code (IBC) definitions for consistency in interpretation of the subject requirements pertaining to such occupancies.)

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****FIRE WATCH.** A temporary measure intended to ensure continuous and systematic surveillance of a building or portion thereof by one or more qualified individuals or standby personnel when required by the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief, for the purposes of identifying and controlling fire hazards, detecting early signs of unwanted fire, raising an alarm of fire and notifying the fire department.

(Reason: Clearly defines options to the fire department for providing a fire watch.)

****FIREWORKS.** Any composition or device for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect for entertainment purposes by combustion, deflagration, or detonation, and/or activated by ignition with a match or other heat producing device that meets the definition of 1.4G fireworks or 1.3G fireworks as set forth herein.

Fireworks, 1.4G. Small fireworks devices containing restricted amounts of pyrotechnic composition designed primarily to produce visible or audible effects by combustion. Such 1.4G fireworks which comply with the construction, chemical composition and labeling regulations of the DOTn for Fireworks, UN 0336, and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission as set forth in CPSC 16 CFR Parts 1500 and 1507, are not explosive materials for the purpose of this code.

Fireworks, 1.3G. Large fireworks devices, which are explosive materials, intended for use in fireworks displays and designed to produce audible or visible effects by combustion, deflagration or detonation. Such 1.3G fireworks include, but are not limited to, firecrackers containing more than 130 milligrams (2 grains) of explosive composition, aerial shells containing more than 40 grams of pyrotechnic composition and other display pieces which exceed the limits for classification as 1.4G fireworks. Such 1.3G fireworks are also described as Fireworks, UN 0335 by the DOTn.

(Reason: Increased safety from fireworks related injuries.)

HIGH-PILED COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE: add a second paragraph to read as follows:

Any building classified as a group S Occupancy or Speculative Building exceeding 6,000 sq. ft. that has a clear height in excess of 14 feet, making it possible to be used for storage in excess of 12 feet, shall be considered to be high-piled storage. When a specific product cannot be identified, a fire protection system and life safety features shall be installed as for Class IV commodities, to the maximum pile height.

(Reason: To provide protection for worst-case scenario in flexible or unknown situations.)

HIGH-RISE BUILDING. A building with an occupied floor located more than 55 feet above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.

(Reason: Allows for additional construction safety features to be provided, based on firefighting response capabilities.)

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****REPAIR GARAGE.** A building, structure or portion thereof used for servicing or repairing motor vehicles. This occupancy shall also include garages involved in minor repair, modification and servicing of motor vehicles for items such as lube changes, inspections, windshield repair or replacement, shocks, minor part replacement, and other such minor repairs.

(Reason: To further clarify types of service work allowed in a repair garage, as well as to correspond with definition in the IBC.)

****SELF-SERVICE STORAGE FACILITY.** Real property designed and used for the purpose of renting or leasing individual storage spaces to customers for the purpose of storing and removing personal property on a self-service basis.

(Reason: To provide a definition that does not exist in the code.)

****STANDBY PERSONNEL.** Qualified fire service personnel, approved by the Fire Chief. When utilized, the number required shall be as directed by the Fire Chief. Charges for utilization shall be as normally calculated by the jurisdiction.

*****UPGRADED OR REPLACED FIRE ALARM SYSTEM.** A fire alarm system that is upgraded or replaced includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Replacing one single board or fire alarm control unit component with a newer model
 - Installing a new fire alarm control unit in addition to or in place of an existing one
 - Conversion from a horn system to an emergency voice/alarm communication system
 - Conversion from a conventional system to one that utilizes addressable or analog devices
- The following are not considered an upgrade or replacement:
- Firmware updates
 - Software updates
 - Replacing boards of the same model with chips utilizing the same or newer firmware

(Reason: This is referenced in several places, but the wording of “upgraded or replaced” is somewhat ambiguous and open to interpretation. Defining it here allows for consistent application across the region.)

*****Section 307.1.1; change Section 307.1.1 to read as follows:***

307.1.1 Prohibited Open Burning. Open burning that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous shall be prohibited.

Exception:

1. Prescribed burning for the purpose of reducing the impact of wildland fire when authorized by the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief.

(Reason: To further protect adjacent property owners/occupants from open burning and/or smoke emissions from open burning.)

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*****Section 307.2; change Section 307.2 to read as follows:***

307.2 Permit Required. A permit shall be obtained from the Fire Marshal in accordance with Section 105.6 prior to kindling a fire for recognized silvicultural or range or wildlife management practices, prevention or control of disease or pests, or open burning. Application for such approval shall only be presented by and permits issued to the owner of the land upon which the fire is to be kindled.

Examples of state or local law, or regulations referenced elsewhere in this section may include but not be limited to the following:

1. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) guidelines and/or restrictions.
2. State, County, or Local temporary or permanent bans on open burning.
3. Local written policies as established by the Fire Marshal.

(Reason: Amendments to 307.2, 307.4, 307.4.3, and 307.5 better explain current requirements and recognize that jurisdictions have local established policies that best fit their environments.)

*****Section 307.3; change Section 307.3 to read as follows:***

307.3 Extinguishment Authority. The Fire Marshal / Fire Chief or fire department office on scene is authorized to order the extinguishment by the permit holder, another person responsible or the fire department of open burning that creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation.

(Reason: Provides direction as to responsible parties relative to extinguishment of the subject open burning.)

*****Section 307.4; change Section 307.4 to read as follows:***

307.4 Location. The location for open burning shall not be less than 300 feet (91 440 mm) from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 300 feet (91 440 mm) of any structure.

Exceptions:

1. Fires in approved containers shall not be less than 15 feet from a structure, property lines, or in public right of ways.
2. The location for permit required open pit burning shall not be less than 1000 feet from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within one thousand (1000) feet of any structure.

(Reason: To increase the separation distance thereby increasing the safety to adjacent properties, as per applicable TCEQ rules and regulations regarding outdoor burning.)

Section 307.4.1; change Section 307.4.1 to read as follows:

307.4.1 Bonfires. Bonfires shall not be conducted in the City of Crowley.

(Reason: To provide a greater level of safety for this potentially hazardous fire exposure condition.)

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*****Section 307.4.3; change Section 307.4.3 to read as follows:***

307.4.3 Portable Outdoor Fireplaces. Portable outdoor fireplaces shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall not be operated within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material. Only commercially available portable firepits with a screen that must be in place during burning or commercially available Chimera's shall be allowed and shall not be used within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material or within 15 feet of a property line or public right of ways. The use of barrels shall not be allowed. Burning of any kind on the ground shall not be allowed. Burning of leaves or large tree limbs shall not be allowed. Only natural wood can be used, no sawn lumber (construction material), trash, or other household debris can be burned. If at any time the Fire Officer on scene feels the fire constitutes a life safety hazard they have the authority to extinguish the fire.

(Reason: To increase the separation distance thereby increasing the safety to adjacent properties, as per applicable TCEQ rules and regulations regarding outdoor burning and to provide a greater level of safety for this potentially hazardous fire exposure condition.)

*****Section 307.4.4 and 5; add section 307.4.4 and 307.4.5 to read as follows:***

307.4.4 Permanent Outdoor Firepit. Permanently installed outdoor firepits shall not be used for recreational fire purposes.

Exception:

1. Permanently installed outdoor fireplaces constructed in accordance with the International Building Code, this code, and approved by the fire code official.

(Reason: To increase the separation distance thereby increasing the safety to adjacent properties, as per applicable TCEQ rules and regulations regarding outdoor burning and to provide a greater level of safety for this potentially hazardous fire exposure condition.)

307.4.5 Trench Burns. Trench burns shall be conducted in air curtain trenches and in accordance with Section 307.2.

(Reason: To provide a greater level of safety for this potentially hazardous fire exposure condition.)

*****Section 307.5; change to read as follows:***

307.5 Attendance. Open burning, trench burns, bonfires, recreational fires, and use of portable outdoor fireplaces shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization }

(Reason: Adds attendance for trench burns based on previous amendment provision for such.)

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Section 307.6; add Section 307.6 to read as follows:

As used in this section, the term "drought conditions" shall mean the existence of a long-term deficit of moisture creating atypically severe conditions with increased danger of wildfire occurrence, taking into consideration the burning index, spread component, or ignition component for the particular area.

- A. The Mayor, in the exercise of this powers under Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code, the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, shall be authorized to issue an order or proclamation prohibiting or restricting outdoor burning in general, or outdoor burning of a particular substance, if:
 - 1. The Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief of the City determines the drought conditions are present in the city limits and/or the areas within five thousand (5,000) feet of the city limits; and
 - 2. The Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief determines that such drought conditions create an emergency and a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning.
- B. The Mayor's proclamation or order shall apply in the city limits, and/or within the area immediately adjacent and contiguous to the city limits and extending outside the city limits for a distance of five thousand (5,000) feet unless such area is within the corporate limits of another municipality.
- C. The Mayor's proclamation or order may contain exceptions to authorize specified outdoor burning activities, such as outdoor cooking and outdoor welding, under conditions stated in such order or proclamation to prevent such outdoor burning activities from creating a public safety hazard.
- D. An emergency order or proclamation of the Mayor under this Section may not be continued or renewed for a period in excess of seven days except by or with the consent of the City Council.
- E. Open burning in violation of an order or proclamation of the Mayor under this Section is declared to be a nuisance and is hereby prohibited. Such nuisance is prohibited in the five thousand (5,000) foot area adjacent to the city limits pursuant to the authority granted in Section 217.042 of the Local Government Code.
- F. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to authorize open burning in an unincorporated area in violation of an order of the County Commissioners Court prohibiting or restricting outdoor burning in such area under Section 352.081 of the Local Government Code.

****Section 307.8; add Section 307.8 to read as follows:***

307.8 Burn Ban There shall be no outdoor burning, with the exception of food preparation, in the City of Crowley while Tarrant County is under a Burn Ban as issued by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court.

(Reason: To clarify that when the County is under a Burn Ban it includes the City as well)

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*****Section 308.1.4; change Section 308.1.4 to read as follows:***

308.1.4 Open-flame Cooking Devices. Open-flame cooking devices, charcoal grills and other similar devices used for cooking shall not be located or used on combustible balconies, decks, or within 10 feet (3048 mm) of combustible construction.

Exceptions:

1. One- and two-family dwellings, except that LP-gas containers are limited to a water capacity not greater than 50 pounds (22.68 kg) [nominal 20 pound (9.08 kg) LP-gas capacity] with an aggregate LP-gas capacity not to exceed 100 lbs (5 containers).
2. LP-gas cooking devices having LP-gas container with a water capacity not greater than 2 1/2 pounds [nominal 1 pound (0.454 kg) LP-gas capacity].

(Reason: Decrease fire risk in multi-family dwellings and minimizes ignition sources and clarify allowable limits for 1 & 2 family dwellings, and allow an expansion for sprinklered multi-family uses. This amendment adds clarification and defines the container size allowed for residences.)

****Section 308.1.6, Exception; change to read as follows:***

“Delete” Exception

(Reason: To provide a greater level of safety for this potentially hazardous fire exposure condition.)

*****Section 308.1.6.2, Exception #3; change to read as follows:***

Exceptions:

3. Torches or flame-producing devices in accordance with Section 308.1.3.

(Reason: Section identified in published code is inappropriate.)

******Section 308.1.6.3; change to read as follows:***

308.1.6.3 Sky Lanterns. A person shall not release or cause to be released an unmanned free-floating devices containing an open flame or other heat source, such as but not limited to a sky lantern.

(Reason: Eliminates the potential fire hazard presented by utilization of such devices and the potential accidental release of such devices.)

*****Section 311.5; change to read as follows:***

311.5 Placards. The Fire Marshal / Fire Chief is authorized to require marking of any vacant or abandoned buildings or structures determined to be unsafe pursuant to Section 110 of this code relating to structural or interior hazards, as required by Section 311.5.1 through 311.5.5.

(Reason: There may be situations where placarding is not desired or necessary; also clarifies intent that it is not the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief's responsibility to provide the placard.)

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Section 319; add Section 319 to read as follows:

Section 319 Removal of Debris or Partially Burned Building After Fire.

319.1 Useless Material. The owner or person in control or possession of any hay, straw, bales of wool, cotton, paper or other substances which have been rendered useless or un-merchantable by reason of any fire shall remove said articles within forty-eight (48) hours after notice to do so has been given by the Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief or authorized representative.

319.2 Burned Structures. Whenever any building or other structure in the City is partially burned, the owner or the person in control shall, with ten (10) days after notice from the Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief or authorized representative, the Building Official or their authorized representatives, remove from the premises all refuse, debris, charred and partially burned lumber and material. If such building or other structure shall be burned to such an extent that it is rendered incapable of being repaired, the owner or the person in control shall, within ten (10) ten days after notice from the Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief or authorized representative, the Building Official or their authorized representatives, remove from the premises all the remaining portion of the building or structure

Section 401.3; add Section 401.3.4 to read as follows:

401.3.4 Fire Alarms and Nuisance Alarms. False alarms and nuisance alarms shall not be given, signaled or transmitted or caused or permitted to be given, signaled or transmitted in any manner.

******Section 403.5; change Section 403.5 to read as follows:***

403.5 Group E Occupancies. An approved fire safety and evacuation plan in accordance with Section 404 shall be prepared and maintained for Group E occupancies and for buildings containing both a Group E occupancy and an atrium. A diagram depicting two evacuation routes shall be posted in a conspicuous location in each classroom. Group E occupancies shall also comply with Sections 403.5.1 through 403.5.3.

(Reason: The diagrams are intended to assist with egress in such occupancies – specifically, the primary teacher is not always present to assist children with egress. Also, such will help reinforce evacuation drill requirements.)

******Section 404.2.2; add Number 4.10 to read as follows:***

4.10 Fire extinguishing system controls.

(Reason: The committee believed this information could be of great help to such plans to facilitate locating sprinkler valves to minimize water damage, for instance.)

******Section 405.4; change Section 405.4 to read as follows:***

405.4 Time. The Fire Marshal may require an evacuation drill at any time. Drills shall be held at unexpected times and under varying conditions to simulate the unusual conditions that occur in case of fire.

(Reason: This change clarifies who may require a fire or evacuation drill).

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*****Section 501.4; change Section 501.4 to read as follows:***

501.4 Timing of Installation. When fire apparatus access roads or a water supply for fire protection is required to be installed for any structure or development, they shall be installed, tested, and approved prior to the time of which construction has progressed beyond completion of the foundation of any structure.

(Reason: Reflects current practice in the region relative to ensuring fire department and EMS access during construction, which can be a time of increased frequency for emergency incidents.)

Section 503.2.1; change Section 503.2.1 to read as follows:

503.2.1 Dimensions. Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than twenty-four (24) feet, except for approved security gates in accordance with Section 503.6, and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than fourteen (14) feet.

Any such fire apparatus access roads in excess of one hundred-fifty (150) feet in length shall either connect both ends to a dedicated street or be provided with an approved area for turning around fire apparatus.

All fire apparatus access roads shall have at least a thirty (30) foot inside turning radius and a fifty-four (54) foot outside turning radius.

Exception:

1. Vertical clearance may be reduced; provided such reduction does not impair access by fire apparatus and approved signs are installed and maintained indicating the established vertical clearance when approved.

*****Section 503.2.2; change Section 503.2.2 to read as follows:***

503.2.2 Authority. The Fire Marshal shall have the authority to require an increase in the minimum access widths and vertical clearances where they are inadequate for fire or rescue operations.

(Reason: Amendments to 503.2.1 and 503.2.2 recognize that the equipment now used in firefighting is increasing in size. The code already recognizes that larger dimensions may be required under Section 503.2.2. The amendments are to standardize the dimensions for this area. With the increase in fire apparatus size, this will allow for the passage of two fire apparatus during a fire or EMS emergency.)

Section 503.2.3; change Section 503.2.3 to read as follows:

503.2.3 Surface. Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided with a concrete surface to provide all-weather driving capabilities and shall be designed and constructed to support a minimum 80,000 pound vehicle. The following standards shall apply:

Subgrade: Shall be prepared to a density of not less than 95% as determined by Standard Proctor.

Concrete: Shall be a minimum six (6) inches thick 3000 psi concrete reinforced with #3 rebar on eighteen (18) inch centers or #4 rebar on twenty-four (24) inch centers.

(Reason: To address the current size of fire trucks in use)

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Section 503.2.7; change Section 503.2.7 to read as follows:

503.2.7 Grade. The grade of the fire apparatus access road shall be within the limits established by the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief based on the fire department's apparatus. The grade for a fire lane serving a building shall not exceed eight percent (8%).

*****Section 503.3; change to read as follows:***

503.3 Marking. Striping, signs, or other markings, when approved by the Fire Marshal, shall be provided for fire apparatus access roads to identify such roads or prohibit the obstruction thereof. Striping, signs and other markings shall be maintained in a clean and legible condition at all times and be replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate visibility.

(1) Striping – Fire apparatus access roads shall be continuously marked by painted lines of red traffic paint six inches (6") in width to show the boundaries of the lane. The words "NO PARKING FIRE LANE" or "FIRE LANE NO PARKING" shall appear in four inch (4") white letters at 25 feet intervals on the red border markings along both sides of the fire lanes. Where a curb is available, the striping shall be on the vertical face of the curb.

(2) Signs – Signs shall read "NO PARKING FIRE LANE" or "FIRE LANE NO PARKING" and shall be 12" wide and 18" high. Signs shall be painted on a white background with letters and borders in red, using not less than 2" lettering. Signs shall be permanently affixed to a stationary post and the bottom of the sign shall be six feet, six inches (6'6") above finished grade. Signs shall be spaced not more than fifty feet (50') apart along both sides of the fire lane. Signs may be installed on permanent buildings or walls or as approved by the Fire Chief.

(Reason: Establishes a standard method of marking and reflects local long-standing practices.)

*****Section 503.4; change Section 503.4 to read as follows:***

503.4 Obstruction of Fire Apparatus Access Roads. Fire apparatus access roads shall not be obstructed in any manner, including the parking of vehicles. The minimum widths and clearances established in Section 503.2.1 and any area marked as a fire lane as described in Section 503.3 shall be maintained at all times.

(Reason: As originally worded, the section implied that vehicles could be parked in the marked fire lane and not be in violation if the minimum width is still maintained. Current accepted enforcement practice is to require the entire marked fire lane to be maintained clear and unobstructed.)

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*****Section 505.1; change Section 505.1 to read as follows:***

505.1 Address Identification. New and existing buildings shall be provided with approved address identification. The address identification shall be legible and placed in a position that is visible from the street or road fronting the property. Address identification characters shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters. Numbers shall not be spelled out. Each character shall be not less than 6 inches (152.4 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 1/2 inch (12.7 mm). Where required by the Fire Marshal, address numbers shall be provided in additional approved locations to facilitate emergency response. Where access is by means of a private road, buildings do not immediately front a street, and/or the building cannot be viewed from the public way, a monument, pole or other sign with approved 6 inch (152.4 mm) height building numerals or addresses and 4 inch (101.6 mm) height suite/apartment numerals of a color contrasting with the background of the building or other approved means shall be used to identify the structure. Numerals or addresses shall be posted on a minimum 20 inch (508 mm) by 30 inch (762 mm) background on border. Address identification shall be maintained.

Exception:

1. R-3 Single Family occupancies shall have approved numerals of a minimum 3 ½ inches (88.9 mm) in height and a color contrasting with the background clearly visible and legible from the street fronting the property and rear alleyway where such alleyway exists.

(Reason: To increase the minimum addressing requirements for commercial properties and establish a minimum for single-family residential properties such improves legibility of these signs which are critical to emergency response in a more timely manner.)

*****Section 507.4; change Section 507.4 to read as follows:***

507.4 Water Supply Test Date and Information. The water supply test used for hydraulic calculation of fire protection systems shall be conducted in accordance with NFPA 291 "Recommended Practice for Fire Flow Testing and Marking of Hydrants" and within one year of sprinkler plan submittal. The Fire Marshal shall be notified prior to the water supply test. Water supply tests shall be witnessed by the Fire Marshal, as required or approved documentation of the test shall be provided to the Marshal prior to final approval of the water supply system. The exact location of the static/residual hydrant and the flow hydrant shall be indicated on the design drawings. All fire protection plan submittals shall be accompanied by a hard copy of the water flow test report, or as approved by the Fire Marshal. The report must indicate the dominant water tank level at the time of the test and the maximum and minimum operating levels of the tank, as well, or identify applicable water supply fluctuation. The licensed contractor must then design the fire protection system based on this fluctuation information, as per the applicable referenced NFPA standard. Reference Section 903.3.5 for additional design requirements.

(Reason: Clarifies intent of the test to ensure contractor accounts for water supply fluctuations.)

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Section 507.5.1; change Section 507.5.1 to read as follows:

507.5.1 Where Required. The location, number and type of fire hydrants capable of delivering the required fire flow shall be provided on the public street or on the site of the premises or both to be protected and approved.

Fire hydrants shall be in service and operational prior to going vertical with any building construction which would require hydrants to be installed. The Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief may grant an exception if requested by the owner in writing.

Fire hydrants shall be spaced in accordance with the following:

- a. Residential Installations: Fire hydrant shall be installed within a five hundred (500) foot hose lay of the main entrance of the structure.
- b. Multi-family Installation: Fire hydrants shall be installed within a three hundred (300) foot hose lay of the main entrance of the structure.
- c. Commercial Installations: Fire hydrants shall be installed within a three hundred (300) foot hose lay of the main entrance of the structure. An additional fire hydrant shall be required for every two thousand (2,000) gallons per minute (GPM) or portion of fire flow required. (Example: Fire flow of three thousand one hundred (3,100) GPM is required. Two fire hydrants will be required to supply this amount.)
- d. Commercial Installations with buildings over five hundred (500) feet long shall provide hydrants at the front and rear of the building.
- e. Fire System Connection: Fire hydrants shall be located within a one hundred (100) foot hose lay of the fire department connections to the protection system.
- f. The Fire Marshal / Fire Chief shall have the authority to require additional fire hydrants to be installed if the circumstance so require it.
- g. When the street is designated on the Master Thoroughfare Plan as a minor arterial or larger, fire hydrants shall be required on the same side of the street that the building is to be constructed.
- h. All streets with medians, regardless of size, shall have fire hydrants on the same side as the construction.
- i. All fire hydrants shall be painted silver in color, and be equipped with a 5" storz adaptor.

*****Section 507.5.4; change Section 507.4 to read as follows:***

507.5.4 Obstruction. Unobstructed access to fire hydrants shall be maintained at all times. Posts, fences, vehicles, growth, trash, storage and other materials or objects shall not be placed or kept near fire hydrants, fire department inlet connections or fire protection system control valves in a manner that would prevent such equipment or fire hydrants from being immediately discernible. The fire department shall not be deterred or hindered from gaining immediate access to fire protection equipment or fire hydrants.

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(Reason: Maintains wording from 2006 Code to ensure these critical devices are available in an emergency incident.)

Section 507.5.7; add section 507.5.7 to read as follows:

508.5.7 Fire Hydrant Installation Requirements.

- A. All fire hydrants shall be installed at least three (3) feet, but not more than ten (10) feet, from the curb face of a paved street or edge of a designated approved fire apparatus access road.
- B. All fire hydrants shall be installed such that the center of the main outlet on the front of the hydrant is not less than eighteen (18) inches or more than forty-eight (48) inches above grade level.

*****Section 509.1.2; add new Section 509.1.2 to read as follows:***

509.1.2 Sign Requirements. Unless more stringent requirements apply, lettering for signs required by this section shall have a minimum height of 2 inches (50.8 mm) when located inside a building and 4 inches (101.6 mm) when located outside, or as approved by the Fire Marshal. The letters shall be of a color that contrasts with the background.

(Reason: Provides direction as to appropriate sign criteria to develop consistency in this regard.)

*****Section 603.3.2.1, Exception; change exception to read as follows:***

Exception:

1. The aggregate capacity limit shall be permitted to be increased to 3,000 gallons (11,356 L) in accordance with all requirements of Chapter 57.

(Reason: Change to Section 5704.2.9.5 is included in this amendment package.)

*****Section 603.3.2.2; change Section 603.3.2.2 to read as follows:***

603.3.2.2 Restricted Use and Connection. Tanks installed in accordance with Section 603.3.2 shall be used only to supply fuel oil to fuel-burning equipment installed in accordance with Section 603.3.2.4. Connections between tanks and equipment supplied by such tanks shall be made using closed piping systems.

(Reason: Relocate the exception to Chapter 57 for applicability to generator sets, due to contradictory charging statement in 603.1 to not apply to internal combustion engines. Further, such large quantities of combustible liquid are more thoroughly addressed in Chapter 57 relative to such tanks.)

Section 603.6.6; add Section 603.6.6 to read as follows:

603.6.6 Maintenance of Chimneys. All multi-family occupancies utilizing solid fuel fireplaces shall have the chimneys inspected and, if needed, cleaned by a state or nationally-recognized / certified chimney sweep on a yearly basis. A report of each inspection / cleaning shall be maintained on the premises and available for review at the request of the Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief. All records shall be maintained for a minimum of three (3) years.

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*****Section 604; change and add Section 604 to read as follows:**

604.1.1 Stationary Generators. Stationary emergency and standby power generators required by this code shall be listed in accordance with UL 2200.

604.1.2 Installation. Emergency power systems and standby power systems shall be installed in accordance with the International Building Code, NFPA 70, NFPA 110 and NFPA 111. Existing installations shall be maintained in accordance with the original approval, except as specified in Chapter 11.

604.1.3 through 604.1.8 {No changes to these sections.}

604.1.9 Critical Operations Power Systems (COPS). For Critical Operations Power Systems necessary to maintain continuous power supply to facilities or parts of facilities that require continuous operation for the reasons of public safety, emergency management, national security, or business continuity, see NFPA 70.

604.2 Where Required. Emergency and standby power systems shall be provided where required by Sections 604.2.1 through 604.2.24 or elsewhere identified in this code or any other referenced code.

604.2.1 through 604.2.3 {No change.}

604.2.4. Emergency Voice/alarm Communications Systems. Emergency power shall be provided for emergency voice/alarm communications systems in the following occupancies, or as specified elsewhere in this code, as required in Section 907.5.2.2.5. The system shall be capable of powering the required load for a duration of not less than 24 hours, as required in NFPA 72:

- a) Covered and Open Malls, Section 907.2.20 and 914.2.3
- b) Group A Occupancies, Sections 907.2.1 and 907.5.2.2.4.
- c) Special Amusement Buildings, Section 907.2.12.3
- d) High-rise Buildings, Section 907.2.13
- e) Atriums, Section 907.2.14
- f) Deep Underground Buildings, Section 907.2.19

604.2.5 through 604.2.11 {No change.}

604.2.12 Means of Egress Illumination. Emergency power shall be provided for means of egress illumination in accordance with Sections 1008.3 and 1104.5.1. (90 minutes)

604.2.13 Membrane Structures. Emergency power shall be provided for exit signs in temporary tents and membrane structures in accordance with Section 3103.12.6.1. (90 minutes) Standby power shall be provided for auxiliary inflation systems in permanent membrane structures in accordance with Section

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2702 of the International Building Code. (4 hours) Auxiliary inflation systems shall be provided in temporary air-supported and air-inflated membrane structures in accordance with section 3103.10.4.

604.2.14 {No change.}

604.2.15 Smoke Control Systems. Standby power shall be provided for smoke control systems in the following occupancies, or as specified elsewhere in this code, as required in Section 909.11:

- a) Covered Mall Building, International Building Code, Section 402.7
- b) Atriums, International Building Code, Section 404.7
- c) Underground Buildings, International Building Code, Section 405.8
- d) Group I-3, International Building Code, Section 408.4.2
- e) Stages, International Building Code, Section 410.3.7.2
- f) Special Amusement Buildings (as applicable to Group A's), International Building Code, Section 411.1
- g) Smoke Protected Seating, Section 1029.6.2.1

604.2.17 Covered and Open Mall Buildings. Emergency power shall be provided in accordance with Section 907.2.20 and 914.2.3.

604.2.18 Airport Traffic Control Towers. A standby power system shall be provided in airport traffic control towers more than 65 ft. in height. Power shall be provided to the following equipment:

Pressurization equipment, mechanical equipment and lighting.
Elevator operating equipment.
Fire alarm and smoke detection systems.

604.2.19 Smokeproof Enclosures and Stair Pressurization Alternative. Standby power shall be provided for smokeproof enclosures, stair pressurization alternative and associated automatic fire detection systems as required by the International Building Code, Section 909.20.6.2.

604.2.20 Elevator Pressurization. Standby power shall be provided for elevator pressurization system as required by the International Building Code, Section 909.21.5.

604.2.21 Elimination of Smoke Dampers in Shaft Penetrations. Standby power shall be provided when eliminating the smoke dampers in ducts penetrating shafts in accordance with the International Building Code, Section 717.5.3, exception 2.3.

604.2.22 Common Exhaust Systems for Clothes Dryers. Standby power shall be provided for common exhaust systems for clothes dryers located in multistory structures in accordance with the International Mechanical Code, Section 504.10, Item 7.

604.2.23 Hydrogen Cutoff Rooms. Standby power shall be provided for mechanical ventilation and gas detection systems of Hydrogen Cutoff Rooms in accordance with the International Building Code, Section 421.8.

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604.2.24 Means of Egress Illumination in Existing Buildings. Emergency power shall be provided for means of egress illumination in accordance with Section 1104.5 when required by the Fire Marshal. (90 minutes in I-2, 60 minutes elsewhere.)

604.3 through 604.7 {No change.}

604.8 Energy Time Duration. Unless a time limit is specified by the Fire Marshal, in this chapter or elsewhere in this code, or in any other referenced code or standard, the emergency and standby power system shall be supplied with enough fuel or energy storage capacity for not less than 2-hour full-demand operation of the system.

Exception:

1. Where the system is supplied with natural gas from a utility provider and is approved.

(Reason: These provisions provide a list to complete and match that throughout the codes. The only new items are the reference to COPS in NFPA 70, and the specified Energy time duration. Other changes are a reference to a code provision that already exists.)

******Section 609.2; change Section 609.2 to read as follows:***

609.2 Where Required. A Type I hood shall be installed at or above all commercial cooking appliances and domestic cooking appliances used for commercial purposes that produce grease vapors, including but not limited to cooking equipment used in fixed, mobile, or temporary concessions, such as trucks, buses, trailers, pavilions, or any form of roofed enclosure, as required by the Fire Marshal.

Exceptions:

1. Tents, as provided for in Chapter 31.
2. A Type I hood shall not be required for an electric cooking appliance where an approved testing agency provides documentation that the appliance effluent contains 5 mg/m³ or less of grease when tested at an exhaust flow rate of 500 cfm (0.236 m³/s) in accordance with UL 710B; additionally, fuel gas and power provided for such cooking appliances shall be interlocked with the extinguishing system, as required by Section 904.12.2; fuel gas containers and piping/hose shall be properly maintained in good working order and in accordance with all applicable regulations.

(Reason: To require fire protection and prevention for mobile food trucks and other mobile commercial cooking operations for the protection of occupants and first responders, including the fuel gas utilized for the cooking operation.)

*****Section 704.1; change Section 704.1 to read as follows:***

704.1 Enclosure. Interior vertical shafts including, but not limited to, stairways, elevator hoistways, service and utility shafts, that connect two or more stories of a building shall be enclosed or protected in accordance with the codes in effect at the time of construction but, regardless of when constructed, not less than as required in Chapter 11. New floor openings in existing buildings shall comply with the International Building Code.

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(Reason: Provides standard minimum protection retroactively, but clarifies that this section is not to be used to reduce higher protection levels that were required when originally constructed.)

******Section 807.3; change Section 807.3 to read as follows:***

807.3 Combustible Decorative Materials. In other than Group I-3 In occupancies in Groups A, E, I, and R-1, and dormitories in Group R-2, curtains, draperies, fabric hangings and other similar combustible decorative materials suspended from walls or ceilings shall comply with Section 807.4 and shall not exceed 10 percent of the specific wall or ceiling area to which they are attached.

(Reason: Section 807 was re-arranged and modified from the 2012 IFC: previously, curtains were required to be NFPA 701 compliant and limited to 10 percent of the applicable wall in A, E, I, R-1, and R-2 dormitory occupancies, but now, per the published 2015 IFC, Section 807.3 would apply to all occupancies, except I-3 (non-combustible only). Such a change is a tremendous expansion of the requirement, and no justification was provided in the proposed code change at the code hearings as to the reasons for such an expansion of the requirement, especially considering that it also applies to existing buildings. The board believes that this change is an over-reach for such a stringent requirement and that maintenance of the legacy language is appropriate at this time.)

*****Section 807.5.2.2; change Section 807.5.2.2 to read as follows:***

807.5.2.2 Artwork in Corridors. Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on the walls of corridors to not more than 20 percent of the wall area. Such materials shall not be continuous from floor to ceiling or wall to wall. Curtains, draperies, wall hangings, and other decorative material suspended from the walls or ceilings shall meet the flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701 in accordance with Section 807 or be noncombustible.

Exception:

1. Corridors protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 shall be limited to 50 percent of the wall area.

(Reason: This change allows an increase in wall coverage due to the presence of sprinklers. Also provides additional guidance relative to fire resistance requirements in these areas.)

*****Section 807.5.2.3; change Section 807.5.2.3 to read as follows:***

807.5.2.3 Artwork in Classrooms. Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on walls of classrooms to not more than 50 percent of the specific wall area to which they are attached. Curtains, draperies, wall hangings and other decorative material suspended from the walls or ceilings shall meet the flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701 in accordance with Section 807 or be noncombustible.

(Reason: This change allows an increase in wall coverage due to the presence of sprinklers. Also provides additional guidance relative to fire resistance requirements in these areas.)

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Exception:

1. Corridors protected by an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 shall be limited to 50 percent of the wall area.

(Reason: This change allows an increase in wall coverage due to the presence of sprinklers. Also provides additional guidance relative to fire resistance requirements in these areas.)

*****Section 807.5.5.3; change Section 807.5.5.3 to read as follows:***

807.5.5.3 Artwork in Classrooms. Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on walls of classrooms to not more than 50 percent of the specific wall area to which they are attached. Curtains, draperies, wall hangings and other decorative material suspended from the walls or ceilings shall meet the flame propagation performance criteria of NFPA 701 in accordance with Section 807 or be noncombustible.

(Reason: This change allows an increase in wall coverage due to the presence of sprinklers. Also provides additional guidance relative to fire resistance requirements in these areas.)

*****Section 901.6.1; add Section 901.6.1.1 to read as follows:***

901.6.1.1 Standpipe Testing. Building owners/managers must maintain and test standpipe systems as per NFPA 25 requirements. The following additional requirements shall be applied to the testing that is required every 5 years:

1. The piping between the Fire Department Connection (FDC) and the standpipe shall be back flushed when foreign material is present and also hydrostatically tested for all FDC's on any type of standpipe system. Hydrostatic testing shall also be conducted in accordance with NFPA 25 requirements for the different types of standpipe systems.
2. For any manual (dry or wet) standpipe system not having an automatic water supply capable of flowing water through the standpipe, the tester shall connect hose from a fire hydrant or portable pumping system (as approved by the Fire Marshal) to each FDC, and flow water through the standpipe system to the roof outlet to verify that each inlet connection functions properly. Confirm that there are no open hose valves prior to introducing water into a dry standpipe. There is no required pressure criteria at the outlet. Verify that check valves function properly and that there are no closed control valves on the system.

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3. Any pressure relief, reducing, or control valves shall be tested in accordance with the requirements of NFPA 25. All hose valves shall be exercised.
4. If the FDC is not already provided with approved caps, the contractor shall install such caps for all FDC's as required by the Fire Marshal.
5. Upon successful completion of standpipe test, place a blue tag (as per Texas Administrative Code, Fire Sprinkler Rules for Inspection, Test and Maintenance Service (ITM) Tag) at the bottom of each standpipe riser in the building. The tag shall be check-marked as "Fifth Year" for Type of ITM, and the note on the back of the tag shall read "5 Year Standpipe Test" at a minimum.
6. The procedures required by Texas Administrative Code Fire Sprinkler Rules with regard to Yellow Tags and Red Tags or any deficiencies noted during the testing, including the required notification of the local Authority Having Jurisdiction (Fire Marshal / Fire Chief) shall be followed.
7. Additionally, records of the testing shall be maintained by the owner and contractor, if applicable, as required by the State Rules mentioned above and NFPA 25.
8. Standpipe system tests where water will be flowed external to the building shall not be conducted during freezing conditions or during the day prior to expected night time freezing conditions.
9. Contact the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief for requests to remove existing fire hose from Class II and III standpipe systems where employees are not trained in the utilization of this firefighting equipment. All standpipe hose valves must remain in place and be provided with an approved cap and chain when approval is given to remove hose by the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief.

(Reason: Increases the reliability of the fire protection system and re-emphasizes the requirements of NFPA 25 relative to standpipe systems, as well as ensuring that FDC connections are similarly tested/maintained to ensure operation in an emergency incident.)

*****Section 901.6.3; add Section 901.6.3 to read as follows:***

901.6.3 False Alarms and Nuisance Alarms. False alarms and nuisance alarms shall not be given, signaled or transmitted or caused or permitted to be given, signaled or transmitted in any manner.

(Reason: Places the responsibility on the business or property owner to maintain their fire alarm systems in approved condition. Allows the enforcement of "prohibition of false alarms". Replaces text lost from the legacy codes that helps to ensure the maintenance of life safety systems.)

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Section 901.6.4; add Section 901.6.4 to read as follows:

901.6.4 Registration and Licensing. A company, firm or organization which sells, services, installs, maintains or provides supervision of a fire alarm or extinguishing system shall have a valid Certificate of Registration and current license issued by the State Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief's Office under the Texas Department of Insurance. Companies, firms or organizations which provide required fire alarm supervision shall operate in accordance with National Fire Protection Association Standard No. 72, and shall each be listed as a Central Station in accordance with Underwriters Laboratories.

Section 901.6.5; add section 901.6.5 to read as follows:

901.6.5 Certificates and Inspection Tags. It shall be the owner or occupant's responsibility to maintain a copy of the fire alarm installation certificate at the protected premises. It shall also be the owner's or occupant's responsibility to maintain upon the door of the fire alarm control panel an inspection tag of the type provided by a State certified fire alarm company, as approved by the Fire Marshal or authorized representative, showing the date the fire alarm system was tested and the results of the test. It shall also be the owner's or occupant's responsibility to maintain upon the fire sprinkler riser, an inspection tag of the type provided by a State certified fire sprinkler company, showing the date the fire sprinkler system was inspected.

*****Section 901.7; change Section 901.7 to read as follows:***

901.7 Systems Out of Service. Where a required fire protection system is out of service or in the event of an excessive number of activations, the fire department and the Fire Marshal shall be notified immediately and, where required by the Fire Marshal, the building shall either be evacuated or an approved fire watch shall be provided for all occupants left unprotected by the shut down until the fire protection system has been returned to service.

Where utilized, fire watches shall be provided with not less than one approved means for notification of the fire department and their only duty shall be to perform constant patrols of the protected premises and keep watch for fires.

(Reason: Gives Fire Marshal more discretion with regards to enforcement of facilities experiencing nuisance alarm or fire protection system activations necessitating correction/repair/replacement. The intent of the amendment is to allow local jurisdictions to enforce fire watches, etc., where needed to ensure safety of occupants where fire protection systems are experiencing multiple nuisance activations.)

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******Section 901.8.2; change to read as follows:***

901.8.2 Removal of Occupant-use Hose Lines. The Fire Marshal / Fire Chief are authorized to permit the removal of occupant-use hose lines and hose valves where all of the following conditions exist:

1. The hose line(s) would not be utilized by trained personnel or the fire department.
2. If the occupant-use hose lines are removed, but the hose valves are required to remain as per the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief, such shall be are compatible with local fire department fittings.

(Reason: Occupant-use hose lines have been an issue of concern that Fire Marshal / Fire Chiefs have struggled with for many years now, primarily in that they are required by the published code, even though occupants are rarely properly trained in their use or provided with the OSHA-required protective gear for such use, such as with an industrial fire brigade. The allowance for these hose lines to remain only promotes the possibility of an occupant attempting to fight fire for an unknown duration, rather than evacuate, and potentially injure themselves or others through such action. They present greater risk than benefit to the occupants, and as such, the above gives the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief the authorization to allow removal of such at his or her discretion.)

*****Section 903.1.1; change Section 903.1.1 to read as follows:***

903.1.1 Alternative Protection. Alternative automatic fire-extinguishing systems complying with Section 904 shall be permitted in addition to automatic sprinkler protection where recognized by the applicable standard, or as approved by the Fire Marshal.

(Reason: Such alternative systems do not provide the reliability of automatic sprinkler protection. Most gaseous type systems are highly susceptible to open doors, ceiling or floor tile removal, etc. However, an applicant could pursue an Alternate Method request to help mitigate the reliability issues with these alternative systems with the Fire Marshal if so desired, or there may be circumstances in which the Fire Marshal is acceptable to allowing an alternate system in lieu of sprinklers, such as kitchen hoods or paint booths.)

*****Section 903.2; add paragraph to Section 903.2 to read as follows:***

Automatic Sprinklers shall not be installed in elevator machine rooms, elevator machine spaces, and elevator hoist ways, other than pits where such sprinklers would not necessitate shunt trip requirements under any circumstances. Storage shall not be allowed within the elevator machine room. Signage shall be provided at the entry doors to the elevator machine room indicating "ELEVATOR MACHINERY – NO STORAGE ALLOWED."

(Reason: Firefighter and public safety. This amendment eliminates the shunt trip requirement of the International Building Code Section 3006.5 for the purpose of elevator passenger and firefighter safety. This amendment is contingent on the Building Code amendment eliminating the Exceptions to Section 3006.4, such that passive fire barriers for these areas are maintained.)

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*****Section 903.2; delete the exception:***

(Reason: The exception deletion is due to the fact that such telecom areas pose an undue fire risk to the structural integrity of the building.)

Section 903.2.1.1; change Section 903.2.1.1 to read as follows

903.2.1.1 Group A-1. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout a fire area containing a Group A-1 occupancy where one of the following conditions exists:

- a) The fire area exceeds 6,000 square feet.
- b) The fire area has an occupant load of 300 or more.
- c) The fire area is located on a floor other than the level of exit discharge.
- d) The fire area contains a multi-theater complex.

Section 903.2.1.2; change Section 903.2.1.1 to read as follows:

903.2.1.2 Group A-2. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout a fire area containing a Group A-2 occupancy where one of the following conditions exists:

- a) The fire area exceeds 5,000 square feet.
- b) The fire area has an occupant load of 300 or more.
- c) The fire area is located on a floor other than the level of exit discharge.

Section 903.2.1.3; change Section 903.2.1.3 to read as follows:

903.2.1.3 Group A-3. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout a fire area containing a Group A-3 occupancy where one of the following conditions exists:

- a) The fire area exceeds 6,000 square feet.
- b) The fire area has an occupant load of 300 or more.
- c) The fire area is located on a floor other than the level of exit discharge.

Exception: Areas used exclusively as participant sports areas where the main floor area is located at the same level as the level of exit discharge of the main entrance and exit.

Section 903.2.1.4; change Section 903.2.1.4 to read as follows:

903.2.1.4 Group A-4. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout a fire area containing a Group A-4 occupancy where one of the following conditions exists:

- a) The fire area exceeds 6,000 square feet.
- b) The fire area has an occupant load of 300 or more.
- c) The fire area is located on a floor other than the level of exit discharge.

Exception: Areas used exclusively as participant sport areas where the main floor area is located at the same level as the level of exit discharge of the main entrance and exit.

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Section 903.2.1.8; add Section 903.2.1.8; to read as follows:

903.2.1.8 Group B. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout all buildings containing Group B occupancy where one of the following exists:

- a) Where a Group B gross floor area, including mezzanines, regardless of fire separations, exceed 6,000 square feet; or
- b) Where a Group B floor area is located three or more stories above grade.

Section 903.2.3; change Section 903.2.3 to read as follows:

903.2.3 Group E. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout all Group E occupancies as follows:

- a) Throughout all Group E occupancies with a gross floor area, including mezzanines, regardless of fire rated separations greater than 6,000 square feet in area.
- b) Throughout every portion of an educational building below the level of exit discharge.

Section 903.2.4; change Section 903.2.4 to read as follows:

903.2.4 Group F. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout all buildings where the fire area containing a Group F occupancy where one of the following conditions exist:

- a) Throughout all Group F occupancies with a gross floor area, including mezzanines, regardless of fire rated separations greater than 6,000 square feet in area.
- b) Where a Group F fire floor area is located three or more stories above grade plane.
- c) The combined area of all Group F fire areas on all floors, including mezzanines, exceeds 12,000 square feet.
- d) A Group F occupancy used for the manufacture of upholstered furniture or mattresses exceeds 2,500 square feet

Section 903.2.7; change Section 903.2.7 to read as follows:

903.2.7 Group M. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout buildings where the fire area containing a Group M occupancy where one of the following conditions exists:

- a) Where a Group M gross floor area, including mezzanines, regardless of fire rated separations exceed 6,000 square feet.
- b) Where a Group M floor area is located three or more stories above grade plane.
- c) The combined area of all Group M fire areas on all floors, including mezzanines, exceeds 6,000 square feet.
- d) A Group M occupancy used for the display and sale of upholstered furniture or mattresses exceeds 5,000 square feet.

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Section 903.2.8.5; add Section 903.2.5 to read as follows:

903.2.8.5 Group R. An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3 shall be provided throughout all buildings with a Group R where the fire area exceeds 6,000 square feet.

Section 903.2.9; change Section 903.2.9 to read as follows:

903.2.9 Group S-1. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout all buildings containing a Group S-1 occupancy where one of the following conditions exists:

- a) A Group S-1 fire area exceeds 6,000 square feet.
- b) A Group S-1 fire area is located more than three stories above grade plane.
- c) The combined area of all Group S-1 fire areas on all floors, including any mezzanines, exceeds 6,000 square feet
- d) A Group S-1 fire area used for the storage of commercial motor vehicles.
- e) A Group S-1 occupancy used for the storage of upholstered furniture or mattresses exceeds 2,500 square feet.
- f) The Group S occupancy is used as an open or enclosed parking garage

******Section 903.2.9; add Section 903.2.9.3 to read as follows:***

903.2.9.3 Self-Service Storage Facility. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all self-service storage facilities.

(Reason: Fire departments are unable to inspect these commercial occupancies and are unaware of the contents being stored. Previous allowance to separate units by fire barriers is difficult to enforce maintenance after opening.)

Section 903.2.9.1; change Section 903.2.9.1 to read as follows:

903.2.9.1 Repair garages. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout all buildings used as repair garages in accordance with Section 406.8 of the International Building Code, as shown:

- a) Buildings having two or more stories above grade plane, including basements, with a fire area containing a repair garage exceeding 6,000 square feet.
- b) Buildings not more than one story above grade plane, with a fire area containing a repair garage exceeding 6,000 square feet.
- c) Buildings with repair garages servicing vehicles parked in basements.
- d) A Group S-1 fire area used for the repair of commercial motor vehicles where the fire area exceeds 5,000 square feet (464 m²).

Section 903.2.10; Change Section 9.3.2.10 to read as follows:

903.2.10 Group S-2. Is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with new section 903.2.10 to read as follows;

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903.2.10 Commercial parking garages. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout buildings used for storage of commercial trucks or buses where the gross floor area, regardless of the fire rated separations, exceeds 5,000 square feet.

Section 903.2.11; change 903.2.11.3 and add 903.2.11.7, 903.2.11.8, and 903.2.11.9 as follows:

903.2.11.3 Buildings 35 feet or more in height. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout buildings that have one or more stories, other than penthouses in compliance with Section 1510 of the International Building Code, located 35 feet (16 764 10 668 mm) or more above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access, measured to the finished floor.

Exception:

1. Open parking structures in compliance with Section 406.5 of the International Building Code, having no other occupancies above the subject garage.

903.2.11.7 High-Piled Combustible Storage. For any building with a clear height exceeding 12 feet (4572 mm), see Chapter 32 to determine if those provisions apply.

903.2.11.8 Spray Booths and Rooms. New and existing spray booths and spraying rooms shall be protected by an approved automatic fire-extinguishing system.

903.2.11.9 Buildings Over 6,000 sq. .ft. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all buildings with a building area 6,000 sq. ft. or greater and in all existing buildings that are enlarged to be 6,000 sq. ft. or greater. For the purpose of this provision, fire walls shall not define separate buildings.

Exception:

1. Open parking garages in compliance with Section 406.5 of the International Building Code.

(Reason: Provides jurisdictions options as to their desired level of sprinkler protection based on multiple factors including firefighting philosophies/capabilities.)

*****Section 903.3.1.1.1; change Section 903.1.1.1 to read as follows:***

903.3.1.1.1 Exempt Locations. When approved by the Fire Marshal, automatic sprinklers shall not be required in the following rooms or areas where such rooms or areas are protected with an approved automatic fire detection system in accordance with Section 907.2 that will respond to visible or invisible particles of combustion. Sprinklers shall not be omitted from any room merely because it is damp, of fire-resistance-rated construction or contains electrical equipment.

- a) Any room where the application of water, or flame and water, constitutes a serious life or fire hazard.
- b) Any room or space where sprinklers are considered undesirable because of the nature of the contents, when approved by the Fire Marshal.
- c) Generator and transformer rooms, under the direct control of a public utility, separated from the remainder of the building by walls and floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assemblies having a fire-resistance rating of not less than 2 hours.
- d) Elevator machine rooms, machinery spaces, and hoist ways, other than pits where such sprinklers would not necessitate shunt trip requirements under any circumstances.

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(Reason: Gives more direction to Fire Marshal. Amendment 903.2 addresses Exception 4 above relative to the elimination of sprinkler protection in these areas to avoid the shunt trip requirement.)

*****Section 903.3.1.2.3; add Section 903.1.2.3 to read as follows:***

[F] Section 903.3.1.2.3 Attics and Attached Garages. Sprinkler protection is required in attic spaces of such buildings two or more stories in height, in accordance with NFPA 13 and or NFPA 13R requirements, and attached garages.

(Reason: Attic protection is required due to issues with fire exposure via soffit vents, as well as firefighter safety. Several jurisdictions indicated experience with un-protected attic fires resulting in displacement of all building occupants. NFPA 13 provides for applicable attic sprinkler protection requirements, as well as exemptions to such, based on noncombustible construction, etc. Attached garages already require sprinklers via NFPA 13R – this amendment just re-emphasizes the requirement.)

******Section 903.3.1.3; change Section 903.3.1.3 to read as follows:***

903.3.1.3 NFPA 13D Sprinkler Systems. Automatic sprinkler systems installed in one- and two-family dwellings; Group R-3; Group R-4 Condition 1 and townhouses shall be permitted to be installed throughout in accordance with NFPA 13D or in accordance with state law.

(Reason: To allow the use of the Plumbing section of the International Residential Code (IRC) and recognize current state stipulations in this regard.)

******Section 903.3.1.4; add Section 903.3.1.4 to read as follows:***

[F] 903.3.1.4 Freeze protection. Freeze protection systems for automatic fire sprinkler systems shall be in accordance with the requirements of the applicable referenced NFPA standard and this section.

******Section 903.3.1.4.1; add Section 903.3.1.4.1 to read as follows:***

903.3.1.4.1 Attics. Only dry-pipe, pre-action, or listed antifreeze automatic fire sprinkler systems shall be allowed to protect attic spaces.

Exception:

1. Wet-pipe fire sprinkler systems shall be allowed to protect non-ventilated attic spaces where:
 - a) The attic sprinklers are supplied by a separate floor control valve assembly to allow ease of draining the attic system without impairing sprinklers throughout the rest of the building, and
 - b) Adequate heat shall be provided for freeze protection as per the applicable referenced NFPA standard, and
 - c) The attic space is a part of the building's thermal, or heat, envelope, such that insulation is provided at the roof deck, rather than at the ceiling level.

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******Section 903.3.1.4.2; add Section 903.3.1.4.2 to read as follows:***

903.3.1.4.2 Heat trace/insulation. Heat trace/insulation shall only be allowed where approved by the Fire Marshal for small sections of large diameter water-filled pipe.

(Reason: In the last few years, severe winters brought to light several issues with current practices for sprinklering attics, not the least of which was wet-pipe sprinklers in ventilated attics provided with space heaters, etc. for freeze protection of such piping. This practice is not acceptable for the protection of water-filled piping in a ventilated attic space as it does not provide a reliable means of maintaining the minimum 40 degrees required by NFPA, wastes energy, and presents a potential ignition source to the attic space. Listed antifreeze is specifically included because NFPA currently allows such even though there is no currently listed antifreeze at the time of development of these amendments. The intent of this amendment is to help reduce the large number of freeze breaks that have occurred in the past with water-filled wet-pipe sprinkler systems in the future, most specifically in attic spaces.)

*****Section 903.3.5; add a second paragraph to read as follows:***

[F] Water supply as required for such systems shall be provided in conformance with the supply requirements of the respective standards; however, every water-based fire protection system shall be designed with a 10 psi safety factor. Reference Section 507.4 for additional design requirements.

(Reason: To define uniform safety factor.)

Section 903.3.7; change Section 903.3.7 to read as follows:

903.3.7 Fire department connections. The location of fire department connections shall be approved by the Fire Marshal. All fire department connections in the City of Crowley shall be 5" Storz connections. The permanent Storz adapter shall be constructed of high strength, light weight, corrosion resistant aluminum alloy capable of being securely attached to standpipe/sprinkler outlets designed for fire department Storz connections. The Storz lug connection shall conform to industry standards. The hose sealing surface shall consist of a machined metal seat to eliminate rubber gaskets, coated to protect against long term exposure to the environment. The Storz connection shall connect to the pipe outlet using National Standard Thread. The connection shall be angled downward at a 30° angle. A semi-permanent ¼" mesh screen shall be provided inside the Storz adapter, constructed of corrosion resistant metal. For each additional 1500 G.P.M. required or fraction thereof an additional 5" Storz connection is required.

****Section 903.3.7.1; add Section 903.3.7.1 to read as follows:***

903.3.7.1 Locking Storz Cap. A 5" Storz aluminum cap with chain or cable shall be provided for the fire department connection. Locking Fire Department Connection Caps: The Fire Marshal is authorized to require locking caps on fire department connections for water based fire protection systems where the responding fire department carries appropriate Key-wrenches for removal.

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Section 903.4; add a second paragraph after the exceptions to read as follows:

Sprinkler and standpipe system water-flow detectors shall be provided for each floor tap to the sprinkler system and shall cause an alarm upon detection of water flow for more than forty-five (45) seconds. All control valves in the sprinkler and standpipe systems except for fire department hose connection valves shall be electrically supervised to initiate a supervisory signal at the central station upon tampering. The fire-pump system shall also be supervised and monitored for "power available, "phase reversal" and "pump running" conditions on distinct circuits.

Section 903.4.2; add a second and third paragraph to read as follows:

The alarm device required on the exterior of the building shall be a weatherproof horn/strobe notification appliance with a minimum seventy-five (75) candela strobe rating, installed as close as practicable to the fire department connection.

All automatic sprinkler system monitoring and supervision systems shall include a sufficient number of audible/visual devices placed throughout the building/structure so that all occupants are notified in the event of an automatic sprinkler system activation. The number and placement of the devices shall be approved by the Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief.

*****Section 905.2; change Section 905.2 to read as follows:***

905.2 Installation Standard. Standpipe systems shall be installed in accordance with this section and NFPA 14. Manual dry standpipe systems shall be supervised with a minimum of 10 psig and a maximum of 40 psig air pressure with a high/low alarm.

(Reason: To define manual dry standpipe supervision requirements. Helps ensure the integrity of the standpipe system via supervision, such that open hose valves will result in a supervisory low air alarm.)

******Section 905.3; add Section 905.3.9 and exception to read as follows:***

905.3.9 Buildings Exceeding 10,000 sq. ft. In buildings exceeding 10,000 square feet in area per story and where any portion of the building's interior area is more than 200 feet (60960 mm) of travel, vertically and horizontally, from the nearest point of fire department vehicle access, Class I automatic wet or manual wet standpipes shall be provided.

Exceptions:

1. Automatic dry and semi-automatic dry standpipes are allowed as provided for in NFPA 14.
2. R-2 occupancies of four stories or less in height having no interior corridors.
3. Buildings equipped through out with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

(Reason: Allows for the rapid deployment of hose lines to the body of the fire.)

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*****Section 905.4, change Item 1, 3, and 5, and add Item 7 to read as follows:**

1. In every required exit stairway, a hose connection shall be provided for each story above and below grade plane. Hose connections shall be located at an intermediate landing between stories, unless otherwise approved by the Fire Marshal.
2. On each side of the wall adjacent to the exit opening of a horizontal exit.

Exception:

1. Where floor areas adjacent to a horizontal exit are reachable from an interior exit stairway hose connection by a 30-foot (9144 mm) hose stream from a nozzle attached to 100 feet (30 480 mm) of hose, a hose connection shall not be required at the horizontal exit.
3. In every exit passageway, at the entrance from the exit passageway to other areas of a building.

Exception:
 1. Where floor areas adjacent to an exit passageway are reachable from an exit stairway hose connection by a 30-foot (9144 mm) hose stream from a nozzle attached to 100 feet (30 480 mm) of hose, a hose connection shall not be required at the entrance from the exit passageway to other areas of the building.
 4. In covered mall buildings, adjacent to each exterior public entrance to the mall and adjacent to each entrance from an exit passageway or exit corridor to the mall. In open mall buildings, adjacent to each public entrance to the mall at the perimeter line and adjacent to each entrance from an exit passageway or exit corridor to the mall.
 5. Where the roof has a slope less than four units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33.3-percent slope), each standpipe shall be provided with a two-way a hose connection located to serve the roof or at the highest landing of an exit stairway with stair access to the roof provided in accordance with Section 1011.12.
 6. Where the most remote portion of a nonsprinklered floor or story is more than 150 feet (45 720 mm) from a hose connection or the most remote portion of a sprinklered floor or story is more than 200 feet (60 960 mm) from a hose connection, the fire code official is authorized to require that additional hose connections be provided in approved locations.
 7. When required by this Chapter, standpipe connections shall be placed adjacent to all required exits to the structure and at two hundred feet (200') intervals along major corridors thereafter, or as otherwise approved by the fire code official.

(Reason: Item 1, 3, and 5 amendments to remove 'interior' will help to clarify that such connections are required for all 'exit' stairways, to ensure firefighter capabilities are not diminished in these tall

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buildings, simply because the stair is on the exterior of the building. Item 5 reduces the amount of pressure required to facilitate testing, and provides backup protection for fire fighter safety. Item 7 allows for the rapid deployment of hose lines to the body of the fire.)

*****Section 905.9; add a second paragraph after the exceptions to read as follows:***

Sprinkler and standpipe system water-flow detectors shall be provided for each floor tap to the sprinkler system and shall cause an alarm upon detection of water flow for more than 45 seconds. All control valves in the sprinkler and standpipe systems except for fire department hose connection valves shall be electrically supervised to initiate a supervisory signal at the central station upon tampering.

(Reason: To avoid significant water losses. Consistent with amendment to IFC 903.4.)

Section 907.1.4; add section 907.1.4 to read as follows:

907.1.4 Design Standards. All alarm systems new or replacement serving fifty (50) or more alarm actuating devices shall be addressable fire detection systems. Alarm systems serving more than seventy-five (75) smoke detectors or more than 200 total alarm activating devices shall be analog intelligent addressable fire detection systems.

Exception:

1. Existing systems need not comply unless the total building remodel or expansion initiated after the effective date of this code, as adopted, exceeds 30% of the building. When cumulative building remodel or expansion exceeds 50% of the building must comply within eighteen (18) months of permit application.

Section 907.1.5; add Section 907.1.5 to read as follows:

907.1.5 Fire Alarm control panel. The fire alarm control panel shall be installed in the automatic sprinkler riser control room of the building. The fire alarm control panel shall be installed in an approved location adjacent to the main entrance if the building is not equipped with an approved automatic sprinkler system or otherwise as approved by the Fire Marshal.

Section 907.1.6; add Section 907.1.6 to read as follows:

907.1.6 Key/code Fire alarm control panel functions such as silent and reset shall be operable without the use of a key or code. The panel cover can be locked, but the function keys cannot require a key or code.

Section 907.1.7; add Section 907.1.7 to read as follows:

907.1.7 Alarm verifications Alarm verifications shall be provided for smoke detectors. Alarm verifications shall be provided at the fire alarm control panel when more than thirty (30) detectors are installed.

Exception:

1. Alarm verification not required for single station type smoke detectors.

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*****Section 907.2.1; change to read as follows:***

907.2.1 Group A. A manual fire alarm system that activates the occupant notification system in accordance with Section 907.5 shall be installed in Group A occupancies where the having an occupant load due to the assembly occupancy is of 300 or more persons or more than 100 persons above or below the lowest level of exit discharge. Group A occupancies not separated from one another in accordance with Section 707.3. 10 of the International Building Code shall be considered as a single occupancy for the purposes of applying this section. Portions of Group E occupancies occupied for assembly purposes shall be provided with a fire alarm system as required for the Group E occupancy.

Exception:

1. Manual fire alarm boxes are not required where the building is equipped throughout with an
2. Automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and the occupant notification appliances will activate throughout the notification zones upon sprinkler water flow.

Activation of fire alarm notification appliances shall:

- a) Cause illumination of the means of egress with light of not less than 1 foot-candle (11 lux) at the walking surface level, and
- b) Stop any conflicting or confusing sounds and visual distractions.

(Reason: Increases the requirement to be consistent with Group B requirement. Also addresses issue found in Group A occupancies of reduced lighting levels and other A/V equipment that distracts from fire alarm notification devices or reduces ability of fire alarm system to notify occupants of the emergency condition.)

Section 907.2.3; change Section 907.2.3 to read as follows:

907.2.3 Group E. A manual fire alarm system shall be installed in Group E educational occupancies. When automatic sprinkler systems or smoke detectors are installed, such systems or detectors shall be connected to the building fire alarm system. An approved smoke detection system shall be installed in Group E day care occupancies. Unless separated by a minimum of one hundred (100) feet of open space, all buildings, whether portable buildings or the main building, will be considered one building for alarm occupant load consideration and interconnection of alarm systems.

Section 907.2.3; change exception #1 and add exception #1.1 to read as follows:

907.2.3 Group E

Exception

1. Group E educational and day care occupancies with an occupant load of less than fifty (50) when provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

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- 1.1 Residential In-Home day care with not more than twelve (12) children may use interconnected single station detectors in all habitable rooms. (For care of more than five (5) children 2 ½ or less years of age, see Section 907.2.6.)

*****Section 907.2.13, Exception 3; change to read as follows:***

3. Open air portions of buildings with an occupancy in Group A-5 in accordance with Section 303.1 of the International Building Code; however, this exception does not apply to accessory uses including but not limited to sky boxes, restaurants, and similarly enclosed areas.

(Reason: To indicate that enclosed areas within open air seating type occupancies are not exempted from automatic fire alarm system requirements.)

*****Section 907.4.2; add Section 907.4.2.7 to read as follows:***

907.4.2.7 Type. Manual alarm initiating devices shall be an approved double action type.

(Reason: Helps to reduce false alarms.)

******Section 907.6.1; add Section 907.6.1.1 to read as follows:***

907.6.1.1 Wiring Installation. All fire alarm systems shall be installed in such a manner that a failure of any single initiating device or single open in an initiating circuit conductor will not interfere with the normal operation of other such devices. All signaling line circuits (SLC) shall be installed in such a way that a single open will not interfere with the operation of any addressable devices (Class A). Outgoing and return SLC conductors shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 72 requirements for Class A circuits and shall have a minimum of four feet separation horizontal and one foot vertical between supply and return circuit conductors. The initiating device circuit (IDC) from a signaling line circuit interface device may be wired Class B, provided the distance from the interface device to the initiating device is ten feet or less.

(Reason: To provide uniformity in system specifications and guidance to design engineers. Improves reliability of fire alarm devices and systems.)

******Section 907.6.3; delete all four Exceptions.***

(Reason: To assist responding personnel in locating the emergency event for all fire alarm systems. This is moved from 907.6.5.3 in the 2012 IFC and reworded to match new code language and sections.)

******Section 907.6.6; – add sentence at end of paragraph to read as follows:***

[F] See 907.6.3 for the required information transmitted to the supervising station.

(Reason: To assist responding personnel in locating the emergency event for all fire alarm systems. This is moved from 907.6.5.3 in the 2012 IFC and reworded to match new code language and sections.)

907.6.6.3; add Section 907.6.3.3 to read as follows:

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907.6.6.3 Local Alarm System When an automatic fire alarm system is not monitored by an approved central station alarm company, an external weatherproof, audible/visual alarm sounding device shall be provided in an approved location with an approved sign, with a minimum of four-inch (4") letters, reading "WHEN ALARM SOUNDS, CALL FIRE DEPARTMENT" adjacent to the alarm-sounding device. An approved permanent sign reading "LOCAL ALARM ONLY – CALL FIRE DEPARTMENT" shall be provided on or adjacent to the fire alarm control panel and all manual fire alarm pull stations

Section 907.10; add Section 907.10 to read as follows:

907.10 Devices for FDC and Key Boxes A weather proof visible and audible alarm shall be mounted directly above all Fire Department connections servicing fire sprinkler systems or standpipe systems and Key Boxes.

*****Section 909.22; add Section 909.22 to read as follows:***

909.22 Stairway or Ramp Pressurization Alternative. Where the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and the stair pressurization alternative is chosen for compliance with Building Code requirements for a smokeproof enclosure, interior exit stairways or ramps shall be pressurized to a minimum of 0.10 inches of water (25 Pa) and a maximum of 0.35 inches of water (87 Pa) in the shaft relative to the building measured with all interior exit stairway and ramp doors closed under maximum anticipated conditions of stack effect and wind effect. Such systems shall comply with Section 909, including the installation of a separate fire-fighter's smoke control panel as per Section 909.16, and a Smoke Control Permit shall be required from the fire department as per Section 105.7.

[F] 909.22.1 Ventilating equipment. The activation of ventilating equipment for the stair or ramp pressurization system shall be by smoke detectors installed at each floor level at an approved location at the entrance to the smokeproof enclosure. When the closing device for the stairway or ramp shaft and vestibule doors is activated by smoke detection or power failure, the mechanical equipment shall activate and operate at the required performance levels. Smoke detectors shall be installed in accordance with Section 907.3.

909.22.1.1 Ventilation Systems. Smokeproof enclosure ventilation systems shall be independent of other building ventilation systems. The equipment, control wiring, power wiring and ductwork shall comply with one of the following:

- a) Equipment, control wiring, power wiring and ductwork shall be located exterior to the building and directly connected to the smokeproof enclosure or connected to the smokeproof enclosure by ductwork enclosed by not less than 2-hour fire barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 of the Building Code or horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711 of the Building Code, or both.
- b) Equipment, control wiring, power wiring and ductwork shall be located within the smokeproof enclosure with intake or exhaust directly from and to the outside or through ductwork enclosed by not less than 2-hour barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 of the Building Code or horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711 of the Building Code, or both.

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- c) Equipment, control wiring, power wiring and ductwork shall be located within the building if separated from the remainder of the building, including other mechanical equipment, by not less than 2-hour fire barriers constructed in accordance with Section 707 of the Building Code or horizontal assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711 of the Building Code, or both.

Exceptions:

1. Control wiring and power wiring utilizing a 2-hour rated cable or cable system.
2. Where encased with not less than 2 inches (51 mm) of concrete.
3. Control wiring and power wiring protected by a listed electrical circuit protective system with a fire-resistance rating of not less than 2 hours.

909.22.1.2 Standby Power. Mechanical vestibule and stairway and ramp shaft ventilation systems and automatic fire detection systems shall be provided with standby power in accordance with Section 2702 of the Building Code.

909.22.1.3 Acceptance and Testing. Before the mechanical equipment is approved, the system shall be tested in the presence of the Fire Marshal to confirm that the system is operating in compliance with these requirements.

(Reason: To assist with enforcement of such as a smoke control system, as per Section 909.6.3, especially since a permit is now specifically required for such systems in the Fire Code. Also ensures that a firefighter's override panel is provided as per 909.16 for such systems. The above amendment copies the applicable requirements for such systems from Section 909.20 of the Building Code into this code. Although the published code did copy the elevator pressurization requirements into this code, it did not copy over the stair pressurization requirements.)

******Section 910.2; change Exception 2. and 3. to read as follows:***

2. Only manual smoke and heat removal shall be required in areas of buildings equipped with early suppression fast-response (ESFR) sprinklers. Automatic smoke and heat removal is prohibited.

3. Only manual smoke and heat removal shall be required in areas of buildings equipped with control mode special application sprinklers with a response time index of $50(m^2S)^{1/2}$ or less that are listed to control a fire in stored commodities with 12 or fewer sprinklers. Automatic smoke and heat removal is prohibited.

(Reason: Allows the fire department to control the smoke and heat during and after a fire event, while still prohibiting such systems from being automatically activated, which is a potential detriment to the particular sprinkler systems indicated.)

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*****Section 910.2; add subsections 910.2.3 with exceptions to read as follows:***

910.2.3 Group H. Buildings and portions thereof used as a Group H occupancy as follows:

1. In occupancies classified as Group H-2 or H-3, any of which are more than 15,000 square feet (1394 m²) in single floor area.

Exception:

1. Buildings of noncombustible construction containing only noncombustible materials.
2. In areas of buildings in Group H used for storing Class 2, 3, and 4 liquid and solid oxidizers, Class 1 and unclassified detonable organic peroxides, Class 3 and 4 unstable (reactive) materials, or Class 2 or 3 water-reactive materials as required for a high-hazard commodity classification.

Exception:

1. Buildings of noncombustible construction containing only noncombustible materials.

(Reason: Maintains a fire protection device utilized in such occupancies where it is sometimes necessary to allow chemicals to burn out, rather than extinguish.)

******Section 910.3; add section 910.3.4 to read as follows:***

910.3.4 Vent Operation. Smoke and heat vents shall be capable of being operated by approved automatic and manual means. Automatic operation of smoke and heat vents shall conform to the provisions of Sections 910.3.2.1 through 910.3.2.3.

[F] 910.3.4.1 Sprinklered buildings. Where installed in buildings equipped with an approved automatic sprinkler system, smoke and heat vents shall be designed to operate automatically. The automatic operating mechanism of the smoke and heat vents shall operate at a temperature rating at least 100 degrees F (approximately 38 degrees Celsius) greater than the temperature rating of the sprinklers installed.

Exception:

1. Manual only systems per Section 910.2.

910.3.4.2 Nonsprinklered Buildings. Where installed in buildings not equipped with an approved automatic sprinkler system, smoke and heat vents shall operate automatically by actuation of a heat-responsive device rated at between 100°F (56°C) and 220°F (122°C) above ambient.

Exception:

1. Listed gravity-operated drop out vents.

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(Reason: Amendment continues to keep applicable wording from prior to the 2012 edition of the IFC. Specifically, automatic activation criteria is no longer specifically required in the published code. Specifying a temperature range at which smoke and heat vents should activate in sprinklered buildings helps to ensure that the sprinkler system has an opportunity to activate and control the fire prior to vent operation.)

******Section 910.4.3.1; change to read as follows:***

910.4.3.1 Makeup Air. Makeup air openings shall be provided within 6 feet (1829 mm) of the floor level. Operation of makeup air openings shall be automatic. The minimum gross area of makeup air inlets shall be 8 square feet per 1,000 cubic feet per minute (0.74 m² per 0.4719 m³/s) of smoke exhaust.

(Reason: Makeup air has been required to be automatic for several years now in this region when mechanical smoke exhaust systems are proposed. This allows such systems to be activated from the smoke control panel by first responders without having to physically go around the exterior of the building opening doors manually. Such requires a significant number of first responders on scene to conduct this operation and significantly delays activation and/or capability of the smoke exhaust system.)

******Section 910.4.4; change to read as follows:***

910.4.4 Activation. The mechanical smoke removal system shall be activated automatically by the automatic sprinkler system or by an approved fire detection system. Individual manual controls shall also be provided.

Exception:

1. Manual only systems per Section 910.2.

(Reason: The provision of a manual only mechanical smoke removal system does not provide equivalency with automatic smoke and heat vents. This amendment clarifies that the primary intent is for automatic systems, unless exceptions are provided as in 910.2 – consistent with the charging statements of the section.)

*****Section 912.2; add Section 912.2.3 to read as follows:***

912.2.3 Hydrant Distance. An approved fire hydrant shall be located within 100 feet of the fire department connection as the fire hose lays along an unobstructed path.

(Reason: To accommodate limited hose lengths, improve response times where the FDC is needed to achieve fire control, and improve ease of locating a fire hydrant in those situations also. Also, consistent with NFPA 14 criteria.)

*****Section 913.2.1; add second paragraph and exception to read as follows:***

When located on the ground level at an exterior wall, the fire pump room shall be provided with an exterior fire department access door that is not less than 3 ft. in width and 6 ft. – 8 in. in height, regardless of any interior doors that are provided. A key box shall be provided at this door, as required

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by Section 506.1. Signage shall be placed on exterior of door that reads: "Fire Sprinkler Riser and Pump Room." Signage letters shall be a minimum of three (3) inches in height.

Exception:

1. When it is necessary to locate the fire pump room on other levels or not at an exterior wall, the corridor leading to the fire pump room access from the exterior of the building shall be provided with equivalent fire resistance as that required for the pump room, or as approved by the Fire Marshal. Access keys shall be provided in the key box as required by Section 506.1.

(Reason: This requirement allows fire fighters safer access to the fire pump room. The requirement allows access without being required to enter the building and locate the fire pump room interior access door during a fire event. The exception recognizes that this will not always be a feasible design scenario for some buildings, and as such, provides an acceptable alternative to protect the pathway to the fire pump room.)

******Section 914.3.1.2; change to read as follows:***

914.3.1.2 Water Supply to required Fire Pumps. In buildings that are more than 120 feet in building height, required fire pumps shall be supplied by connections to no fewer than two water mains located in different streets. Separate supply piping shall be provided between each connection to the water main and the pumps. Each connection and the supply piping between the connection and the pumps shall be sized to supply the flow and pressure required for the pumps to operate.

Exception: {No change to exception.}

(Reason: The 2009 edition of the IFC added this requirement based on a need for redundancy of the water supply similar to the redundancy of the power supply to the fire pumps required for such tall buildings, partially due to the fact that these buildings are rarely fully evacuated in a fire event. More commonly, the alarm activates on the floor of the event, the floor above and the floor below. Back-up power to the fire pump becomes critical for this reason. Certainly, the power is pointless if the water supply is impaired for any reason, so a similar requirement is provided here for redundant water supplies. The 2015 edition changes the requirement to only apply to very tall buildings over 420 ft. This amendment modifies/lowers the requirement to 120 ft., based on this same height requirement for fire service access elevators. Again, the language from the 2009 and 2012 editions of the code applied to any high-rise building. This compromise at 120 ft. is based on the above technical justification of defend-in-place scenarios in fire incidents in such tall structures.)

Section 1003.8; add Section 1003.8 to read as follows:

1003.8 General. In occupancies in Group I-3, F, H or in non-public portions of S, balusters, horizontal intermediate rails or other construction shall not permit a sphere with a diameter of 21 inches (533 mm) to pass through any opening.

1003.8.1 Access-controlled egress doors. The entrance doors in a means of egress in buildings with an occupancy in Group A, B, E, M, R-1 or R-2 and entrance doors to tenant spaces in occupancies in Groups A, B, E, M, R-1 and R-2 are permitted to be equipped with an approved entrance and egress access control system which shall be installed in accordance with the following criteria:

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- a) Egress doors shall be readily open able from the egress side without the use of a key, card or special knowledge or effort.
- b) Push buttons are not allowed for egress purposes.
- c) All devices utilized for exiting shall be listed for the purpose.
- d) Activation of the building fire alarm system and/or sprinkler system, if provided, shall automatically unlock the doors, and the doors shall remain unlocked until the fire alarm system has been reset.
- e) A Knox box may be required by the Fire Marshal for Fire Department access.

1003.8.2 Permit Required. A permit from the Fire Department is required prior to the installation of any access-control and/or magnetic locking systems.

1003.8.3 Delayed egress locks. Approved, listed, delayed egress locks shall be permitted to be installed on doors serving any occupancy except Group A, E and H occupancies in buildings which are equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and an approved automatic smoke or heat detection system installed in accordance with Section 907. A building occupant shall not be required to pass through more than one door equipped with a delayed egress lock before entering an exit.

A permit from the Fire Department is required prior to the installation of any delayed egress locks or other special locking systems.

****Section 1006.2.2.6; add a new Section 1006.2.2.6 as follows:**

1006.2.2.6 Electrical Rooms. For electrical rooms, special exiting requirements may apply. Reference the Electrical Code as adopted.

(Reason: Cross reference necessary for coordination with the NEC which has exiting requirements as well.)

****Section 1009.1; add the following Exception 4:**

4. Buildings regulated under State Law and built in accordance with State registered plans, including any variances or waivers granted by the State, shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of Section 1009.

(Reason: To accommodate buildings regulated under Texas State Law and to be consistent with amendments to Chapter 11.)

****Section 1010.1.9.4 Bolt Locks; change Exceptions 3 and 4 to read as follows:**

Exceptions:

- 3. Where a pair of doors serves an occupant load of less than 50 persons in a Group B, F, M or S occupancy manually operated edge- or surface-mounted bolts are permitted on the inactive leaf. The inactive leaf shall not contain doorknobs, panic bars or similar operating hardware.
- 4. Where a pair of doors serves a Group A, B, F, M or S occupancy, manually operated edge- or surface-mounted bolts are permitted on the inactive leaf provided such inactive leaf is not needed to meet egress capacity requirements and the building is equipped throughout with an

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automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. The inactive leaf shall not contain doorknobs, panic bars or similar operating hardware.

(Reason: Application to M occupancies reflects regional practice; No. 4 expanded to Group A due to it being a similar scenario to other uses; No. 4 was regional practice.)

*****Section 1015.8 Window Openings; change number 1 to read as follows:***

1. Operable windows where the top of the sill of the opening is located more than 55 (16 764 mm) above the finished grade or other surface below and that are provided with window fall prevention devices that comply with ASTM F 2006.

*****Section 1020.1 Construction; add Exception 6 to read as follows:***

6. In group B occupancies, corridor walls and ceilings need not be of fire-resistive construction within a single tenant space when the space is equipped with approved automatic smoke-detection within the corridor. The actuation of any detector shall activate self-annunciating alarms audible in all areas within the corridor. Smoke detectors shall be connected to an approved automatic fire alarm system where such system is provided.

(Reason: Revise the 2012 published NCTCOG amendment to this section to clarify intent is not to require automatic fire alarm system or notification throughout the tenant space, but rather, only in the corridor.)

*****Section 1029.1.1.1; delete this section. Spaces under Grandstands and Bleachers:***

(Reason: Unenforceable.)

*****Section 1031.2; change Section 1031.2 to read as follows:***

1031.2 Reliability. Required exit accesses, exits and exit discharges shall be continuously maintained free from obstructions or impediments to full instant use in the case of fire or other emergency. An exit or exit passageway shall not be used for any purpose that interferes with a means of egress. Security devices affecting means of egress shall be subject to approval of the Fire Marshal.

(Reason: Maintain legacy levels of protection and long-standing regional practice, and provide firefighter safety.)

*****Section 1103.3; add sentence to end of paragraph as follows:***

Provide emergency signage as required by Section 607.3.

(Reason: Coordinates requirements of previous amendment.)

*****Section 1103.5; add Section 1103.5.3 to read as follows:***

1103.5.3 Spray Booths and Rooms. Existing spray booths and spray rooms shall be protected by an approved automatic fire-extinguishing system in accordance with Section 2404.

(Reason: Consistent with amendment to IFC 2404, and long-standing regional requirement. The published 1103.5.1 requiring sprinklers retroactively in A-2 occupancies was deleted by ICC Errata.)

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******Section 1103.7; add Section 1103.7.8 and 1103.7.8.1 to read as follows:***

1103.7.8 Fire Alarm System Design Standards. Where an existing fire alarm system is upgraded or replaced, the devices shall be addressable. Fire alarm systems utilizing more than 20 smoke and/or heat detectors shall have analog initiating devices.

Exception:

1. Existing systems need not comply unless the total building, or fire alarm system, remodel or expansion exceeds 30% of the building. When cumulative building, or fire alarm system, remodel or expansion initiated after the date of original fire alarm panel installation exceeds 50% of the building, or fire alarm system, the fire alarm system must comply within 18 months of permit application.

1103.7.8.1 Communication requirements.

Refer to Section 907.6.6 for applicable requirements.

(Reason: To assist responding personnel in locating the emergency event and provide clarity as to percentages of work that results in a requirement to upgrade the entire fire alarm system.)

*****Section 2304.1; change Section 2304.1 to read as follows:***

2304.1 Supervision of Dispensing. The dispensing of fuel at motor fuel-dispensing facilities shall be in accordance with the following:

1. Conducted by a qualified attendant; and/or,
2. Shall be under the supervision of a qualified attendant; and/or
3. Shall be an unattended self-service facility in accordance with Section 2304.3.

At any time the qualified attendant of item Number 1 or 2 above is not present, such operations shall be considered as an unattended self-service facility and shall also comply with Section 2304.3.

(Reason: Allows a facility to apply the attended and unattended requirements of the code when both are potentially applicable.)

*****Section 2401.2; delete this section.***

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(Reason: This section eliminates such booths from all compliance with Chapter 15 including, but not limited to: size, ventilation, fire protection, construction, etc. If the product utilized is changed to a more flammable substance, the lack of compliance with Chapter 15 could result in significant fire or deflagration and subsequent life safety hazard.)

Section 2411; add Section 2411 to read as follows:

2411.1 Seizure of Spray Finishing Equipment. When it is found or discovered that spray finishing operations are being conducted outside of, or without an approved spraying room or booth equipped with an approved fire extinguishing system, the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief or representative shall be authorized to obtain a warrant to seize, take or remove or cause to be removed at the expense of the owner any spray gun nozzles, compressors, hoses, attachments, property or any other tool, device, instrument or any item(s) used in the spray finishing process. Seizure of equipment will be made in accordance with applicable laws.

Mere possession of spray finishing equipment outside of or without an approved spraying room or booth with an approved fire extinguishing system may not be grounds for seizure. However, if it can be determined through observation and investigation that such equipment has been used in a spray finishing operation, the equipment can be seized as stated above. This determination should be based on signs that a hazardous condition exists by means of fumes or vapors present in the vicinity and/or evidence that finishing has occurred by observance of wet paint and/or over spray.

2411.2 Disposition of Seized Spray Finishing Equipment. Property seized under authority granted by Section 1501.3 shall be held until all legal proceedings in the matter have been resolved. If a criminal case was filed, the property shall be held until a final conviction has been entered in the case. The Fire Department shall dispose of the property as required by applicable law and procedures of the City of Crowley and the State of Texas. Disposition could include, but is not limited to, auctioning off the equipment or releasing the equipment back to the owner.

******Table 3206.2, footnote j; change text to read as follows:***

j. Where storage areas are protected by either early suppression fast response (ESFR) sprinkler systems or control mode special application sprinklers with a response time index of 50 (m • s) ¹/₂ or less that are listed to control a fire in the stored commodities with 12 or fewer sprinklers, installed in accordance with NFPA 13, manual smoke and heat vents or manually activated engineered mechanical smoke exhaust systems shall be required within these areas.

(Reason: Allows the fire department to control the smoke and heat during and after a fire event, while ensuring proper operation of the sprinkler protection provided. Also, gives an alternative to smoke and heat vents.)

*****Section 3310.1; add sentence to end of paragraph to read as follows:***

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When fire apparatus access roads are required to be installed for any structure or development, they shall be approved prior to the time at which construction has progressed beyond completion of the foundation of any structure.

(Reason: Reference requirement of Section 501.4.)

Section 5003.3.1.5; add Section 5003.3.1.5 to read as follows:

5003.3.1.5 Abandoned Hazardous Materials. It shall be the duty of the owner, occupant or person otherwise having supervision or control of any lot, tract or parcel of land, or portion thereof, or any building or portion thereof, whether occupied or unoccupied, improved or unimproved, on or in which abandoned hazardous materials are identified to secure and/or dispose of such hazardous materials in a manner approved by the Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief or authorized representative at no cost to the City of Crowley. When deemed necessary by the Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief or authorized representative, such remedial action may be initiated by the Fire Department. Cost of such clean up and disposal shall be borne by the owner, operator or person in control of such location.

"Abandoned Hazardous Materials" shall include but not be limited to clandestine drug lab chemicals or other chemicals that have been deserted or discarded by their original owner or user, or chemicals for which the owner or user cannot be identified and located within a reasonable time under the circumstances existing at the time the chemicals are discovered or identified.

*****Section 5601.1.3; change to read as follows:***

5601.1.3 Fireworks. The possession, manufacture, storage, sale, handling, and use of fireworks are prohibited.

Exceptions:

1. Only when approved for fireworks displays, storage, and handling of fireworks as allowed in Section 5604 and 5608.
2. The use of fireworks for approved fireworks displays as allowed in Section 5608.

(Reason: Restricts fireworks to approved displays only, which is consistent with regional practice. Such is intended to help protect property owners and individuals from unintentional fireworks fires within the jurisdiction, as well as to help protect individuals from fireworks injuries. It is noted that there has been a change in the State Law to allow possession of unopened fireworks in certain areas of the vehicle, and it is highly recommended that AHJ's familiarize themselves with the applicable State Laws in this regard.)

Section 5610; add Section 5610 to read as follows:

Section 5610 Pyrotechnic Special Effects Material

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5610.1 General. Temporary storage, use and handling of pyrotechnic special effects material used in motion picture, television, and theatrical and group entertainment productions shall be in accordance with Section 5410.

5610.2 Classification of Materials. Pyrotechnic special effects material shall be classified in accordance with DOT regulations and procedures.

5610.3 Construction of Magazines. Magazines used for the storage of pyrotechnic special effects material shall be constructed in accordance with Section 5604.

5610.4 Storage Fireworks 1.4G. Fireworks 1.4G (Class C common fireworks) shall be stored in accordance with the requirements for low explosives.

5610.5 Storage Within buildings. Explosives stored within a building shall not exceed 50 pounds (22.7 kg). Low explosives stored within a building shall be stored in a Type 2 or 4 magazine. High explosives shall be stored in a Type 2 magazine.

5610.6 Outside of buildings. Pyrotechnic special effects material which is to be stored outdoors shall be stored in a Type 2 or 4 magazine. Pyrotechnic special effects material which is classified as a high explosive, including detonating cord and detonators that will mass detonate, such as fuse caps, shall be stored in a Type 2 magazine.

When a Type 4 magazine is used for outdoor storage, such storage shall be in a constantly attended location or, if unattended, shall have wheels removed or the magazine immobilized by kingpin locking devices or by other approved security measures. When a quantity in excess of 50 pounds (22.7 kg) or explosive materials is stored outside of a building, such storage shall be located in accordance with nationally recognized standards.

5610.7 Storage against walls. Explosive materials within a magazine shall not be placed directly against interior walls and shall not interfere with ventilation. To prevent contact of stored explosive materials with walls, a non-sparking lattice-work or other non-sparking material is allowed to be used.

5610.8 Marking of containers. Containers of explosive material shall be stored such that identifying marks are visible. Stocks of explosive materials shall be stored so they can be easily counted and checked upon inspection.

5610.9 Unpacking and repacking containers. Containers of explosive materials shall not be unpacked or repacked inside a magazine or within 50 feet (15 250 mm) of a magazine, and shall not be unpacked or repacked close to other explosive materials.

Exception:

Unpacking and repacking of fiberboard and other nonmetallic containers.

5610.10 Tools. Tools used for opening or closing containers of explosive materials shall be of non-sparking materials. A wood wedge and a fiber, rubber or wooden mallet shall be used for opening or

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closing wood containers of explosive materials. Metal tools, other than non-sparking transfer conveyors, shall not be stored in magazines containing high explosives.

Exception:

Metal slitters are allowed to be used for opening fiberboard containers.

5610.11 Pyrotechnic Operators. A pyrotechnic operator shall obtain required permits and be responsible for notifying the Fire Marshal prior to using the pyrotechnic special effects material. The pyrotechnic operator shall have the authority and responsibility for the storage, use and handling of the pyrotechnic special effects material. The authority of the pyrotechnic operator shall not be assumed by anyone and shall be superseded only by the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief or designated representative.

5610.12 Use of Pyrotechnic Special Effects Material.

5610.12.1 Demonstration and approval. When required by the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief, a test shall be conducted to demonstrate the safe use of pyrotechnic special effects material prior to normal use. The use of pyrotechnic special effects material shall be approved by the pyrotechnic operator in charge.

5610.12.2 Preparation. The company or producer shall allocate sufficient time to the pyrotechnic operator to prepare for the transportation, packing, storing and daily securing, and to dispose of or otherwise handle pyrotechnic special effects material in a safe manner.

5610.12.3 Crowd control. Onlookers shall be kept at a safe distance from the area where the pyrotechnic special effects material is discharged and so restrained until the area is cleared.

5610.12.4 Smoke control. When pyrotechnic special effects material is fired within a building, the quantity of smoke developed shall not obscure the visibility of exit signs or paths of egress travel. The maximum density of smoke shall be approved, and the pyrotechnic operator shall ensure that the maximum density is not exceeded.

When required by the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief, provisions shall be made to confine smoke generated by pyrotechnic special effects material to an approved area and to remove such smoke from the building.

5610.12.5 Binary explosives. When binary explosives are used, the compounding and firing shall be performed by a pyrotechnic operator. Firing shall be subject to the conditions described in the permit.

5610.12.6 Surplus materials. Surplus materials shall be properly stored until it can be disposed of in a safe manner.

5610.12.7 Standby Personnel and Equipment. When necessary for the preservation of life or property, the Fire Marshal / Fire Chief is authorized to require the attendance of standby personnel and fire equipment.

*****Section 5703.6; change Section 5703.6 to read as follows:***

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5703.6 Piping Systems. Piping systems, and their component parts, for flammable and combustible liquids shall be in accordance with Sections 5703.6.1 through 5703.6.11. An approved method of secondary containment shall be provided for underground tank and piping systems.

(Reason: Increased protection in response to underground leak problems and remediation difficulty in underground applications. Coordinates with TCEQ requirements.)

*****Section 5704.2.9.5; change Section 5704.2.9.5 and add Section 5704.2.9.5.3 to read as follows:***

5704.2.9.5 Above-ground Tanks Inside of Buildings. Above-ground tanks inside of buildings shall comply with Section 5704.2.9.5.1 and 5704.2.9.5.2 through 5704.2.9.5.3.

5704.2.9.5.3 Combustible Liquid Storage Tanks Inside of Buildings. The maximum aggregate allowable quantity limit shall be 3,000 gallons (11 356 L) of Class II or III combustible liquid for storage in protected aboveground tanks complying with Section 5704.2.9.7 when all of the following conditions are met:

- a) The entire 3,000 gallon (11 356 L) quantity shall be stored in protected above-ground tanks;
- b) The 3,000 gallon (11 356 L) capacity shall be permitted to be stored in a single tank or multiple smaller tanks;
- c) The tanks shall be located in a room protected by an automatic sprinkler system complying with Section 903.3.1.1; and
- d) Tanks shall be connected to fuel-burning equipment, including generators, utilizing an approved closed piping system.

The quantity of combustible liquid stored in tanks complying with this section shall not be counted towards the maximum allowable quantity set forth in Table 5003.1.1(1), and such tanks shall not be required to be located in a control area. Such tanks shall not be located more than two stories below grade.

(Reason: Relocated from exception to 603.3.2.1 as published, as per reason statement for deletion in that section.)

Section 5704.2.9.6; change section 5704.2.9.6 to read as follows:

5704.2.9.6 Aboveground tanks located outside, above grade. The storage of Class I and Class II liquids in aboveground tanks outside of buildings is prohibited within corporate limits of the City of Crowley.

Exceptions:

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1. Waste automotive crankcase oil may be stored in a permanent approved listed aboveground tank.
2. Class I and Class II fuels stored and dispensed at non-public locations at an approved aboveground dispensing station installed in accordance with all sections of this code and with the approval of the Fire Marshal.

*****Section 5704.2.11.4; add a sentence to read as follows:***

5704.2.11.4 Leak Prevention. Leak prevention for underground tanks shall comply with Sections 5704.2.11.4.1 through 5704.2.11.4.3. An approved method of secondary containment shall be provided for underground tank and piping systems.

(Reason: Increased protection in response to underground leak problems and remediation difficulty in underground applications.)

*****Section 5704.2.11.4.2; change to read as follows:***

5704.2.11.4.2 Leak Detection. Underground storage tank systems shall be provided with an approved method of leak detection from any component of the system that is designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 30 and as specified in Section 5704.2.11.4.3.

(Reason: Reference to IFC Section 5704.2.11.4.3 amendment.)

*****Section 5704.2.11.4; add Section 5704.2.11.4.3 to read as follows:***

5704.2.11.4.3 Observation Wells. Approved sampling tubes of a minimum 4 inches in diameter shall be installed in the backfill material of each underground flammable or combustible liquid storage tank. The tubes shall extend from a point 12 inches below the average grade of the excavation to ground level and shall be provided with suitable surface access caps. Each tank site shall provide a sampling tube at the corners of the excavation with a minimum of 4 tubes. Sampling tubes shall be placed in the product line excavation within 10 feet of the tank excavation and one every 50 feet routed along product lines towards the dispensers, a minimum of two are required.

(Reason: Provides an economical means of checking potential leaks at each tank site.)

*****Section 6103.2.1; add Section 6103.2.1.8 to read as follows:***

6103.2.1.8 Jewelry Repair, Dental Labs and Similar Occupancies. Where natural gas service is not available, portable LP-Gas containers are allowed to be used to supply approved torch assemblies or similar appliances. Such containers shall not exceed 20-pound (9.0 kg) water capacity. Aggregate capacity shall not exceed 60-pound (27.2 kg) water capacity. Each device shall be separated from other containers by a distance of not less than 20 feet.

(Reason: To provide a consistent and reasonable means of regulating the use of portable LP-Gas containers in these situations. Reduces the hazard presented by portable containers when natural gas is already available. Please note that current State Law does not allow for the enforcement of any rules more stringent than that adopted by the State, so this amendment is only applicable as to the extent allowed by that State Law.)

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6104.2 Maximum Capacity within Established Limits; change to read as follows:

6104.2 Maximum capacity within established limits. Within the limits established by law restricting the storage of liquefied petroleum gas for the protection of heavily populated or congested commercial areas, the aggregate capacity of any one (1) installation shall not exceed one thousand (1,000) gallons of water capacity; except that in particular installations, this capacity limit may be increased subject to the approval of the City Council after consideration of special features such as topography conditions, the nature of the occupancy and the proximity to buildings, the capacity of the proposed tanks, the degree of private fire protection to be provided, compliance with LPG safety rules established by the Railroad Commission of Texas. The established limits as described above shall mean the City Limits of Crowley.

Exception:

1. Except as permitted in 6103 and 6104.2, LP-Gas containers are not allowed in residential areas.
2. Except as permitted in Sections 308 and 6104.3.2, LP-gas containers are not permitted in residential areas.

(Reason: To provide a consistent and reasonable means of regulating the use LP-Gas containers. Reduces the hazard presented by such containers when natural gas is already available. References regional amendment to IFC 6104.3.2. Please note that current State Law does not allow for the enforcement of any rules more stringent than that adopted by the State, so this amendment is only applicable as to the extent allowed by that State Law.)

*****Section 6104.3; add Section 6104.3.2 to read as follows:***

6104.3.2 Spas, Pool Heaters, and Other Listed Devices. Where natural gas service is not available, an LP-gas container is allowed to be used to supply spa and pool heaters or other listed devices. Such container shall not exceed 250-gallon water capacity per lot. See Table 6104.3 for location of containers.

(Reason: Allows for an alternate fuel source. Dwelling density must be considered and possibly factored into zoning restrictions. Reduces the hazard presented by over-sized LP-Gas containers. Please note that current State Law does not allow for the enforcement of any rules more stringent than that adopted by the State, so this amendment is only applicable as to the extent allowed by that State Law.)

Section 6104.3; add Section 6104.3.3 to read as follows:

6104.3.3 Location of LP-Gas Containers. Where LP-Gas containers are allowed, any tanks with a water capacity greater than one-hundred-twenty (120) gallon water capacity will be required to be underground containers. All tanks required to be underground shall be approved for this application and meet all standards set by the Texas Railroad Commission and Standards established in NFPA 58. A permit is required for any LPG installation. A detailed drawing or plot plan shall accompany all permit applications. A copy of state issued (LPG) license shall be submitted with all permit applications.

******Section 6107.4 and 6109.13; change 6107.4 and add Section 6109.13 to read as follows:***

6107.4 Protecting Containers from Vehicles. Where exposed to vehicular damage due to proximity to alleys, driveways or parking areas, LP-gas containers, regulators and piping shall be protected in accordance with Section 312.

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6109.13 Protection of Containers. LP-gas containers shall be stored within a suitable enclosure or otherwise protected against tampering. Vehicle impact protection shall be provided as required by Section 6107.4.

(Reason: NFPA 58 does not provide substantial physical protection [it allows raised sidewalks, fencing, ditches, parking bumpers as 'vehicle barrier protection'] of the container(s) from vehicular impact as is required and has been required historically, as per Section 312, i.e. bollard protection. Further, the exception to Section 6109.13 would allow for portable containers in ventilated metal cabinets to not require any physical protection whatsoever from vehicular impact, regardless of the location of the containers. Please note that current State Law does not allow for the enforcement of any rules more stringent than that adopted by the State, so this amendment is only applicable as to the extent allowed by that State Law.)

***** {Applicable to those jurisdictions adopting Appendix B}**

Table B105.2; change footnote a. to read as follows:

- a. The reduced fire-flow shall be not less than 1,500 gallons per minute.

(Reason: The minimum fire-flow of 1,500 gpm for other than one- and two- family dwellings has existed since the 2000 edition of the IFC, as well as the Uniform Fire Code before that. Little to no technical justification was provided for the proposed code change at the code hearings. The board believes that the already-allowed 75 percent reduction in required fire-flow for the provision of sprinkler protection is already a significant trade-off. The minimum 1,500 gpm is not believed to be overly stringent for the vast majority of public water works systems in this region, especially since it has existed as the requirement for so many years. Further, the continued progression of trading off more and more requirements in the codes for the provision of sprinkler protection has made these systems extremely operation-critical to the safety of the occupants and properties in question. In other words, should the sprinkler system fail for any reason, the fire-flow requirements drastically increase from that anticipated with a sprinkler-controlled fire scenario.)

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Adoption of Appendices

The following Appendices contained in the International Fire Code, 2015 Edition, are adopted and made a part of this Fire Code:

Appendix B: Fire-Flow Requirements for Buildings

Appendix D: Fire Apparatus Access Roads

Appendix E: Hazard Categories

Appendix F: Hazard Ranking

Appendix G: Cryogenic Fluids- Weight and Volume Equivalents

Appendix I: Fire Protection Systems – Noncompliant Conditions

Appendix K: Construction Requirements For Existing Ambulatory Care Facilities

The following Appendices contained in the International Fire Code, 2015 Edition, are omitted from this Fire Code

Appendix A: Board of Appeals

Appendix C: Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution

Appendix H: HMMP; HMIS

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Appendix J: Building Information Sign

Appendix L: Requirements For Fire Fighter Air Replacement Systems

Appendix M: High-Rise Buildings-Retroactive Automatic Sprinkler Requirements

Part VIII: Chapter 90 Miscellaneous Provisions Adopted

The following listed miscellaneous provisions are hereby adopted as part of Part VIII Chapter 90 of the fire code for the city:

Section 9001.001; add Section 9001.101 to read as follows:

9001.101 Compliance Certification. An affidavit may be required by the Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief, from the installer or manufacturer that indicates compliance with this code regarding technical installations of fire related equipment and systems.

Affidavits may be required for the following:

1. Automatic fire alarm systems
2. Automatic fire extinguishing systems
3. Storage and use of explosives
4. Storage and use of hazardous materials
5. Fire appliance servicing
6. Flame retardant applications
7. Liquefied gas installations and operations
8. Radioactive material storage and handling
9. Emergency lighting systems
10. Emergency power systems

The affidavit when required shall be filed with the office of the Fire Marshal \ Fire Chief before final approval of the activity of installation.

Section 9001.102; add Section 9001.102 to read as follows:

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9001.102 Wood Shingle Roofs Prohibited. Wood shingle roofing shall be prohibited as a roofing material on the following:

1. Single family detached
2. Single family attached
3. Two family dwelling
4. Multi-family dwelling
5. Those structures falling under the Texas condominium statutes and constructed after the effective date of this amendment.

Wood shingles shall not be permitted on an existing single-family detached structure constructed before the date of this amendment, if the structure had roofing material other than wood shingles previous to the date of this amendment.

Section 9001.103; add Section 9001.103 to read as follows:

9001.103 Railroad Responsible for Certain Fires. Generally; a railroad company shall be responsible for reimbursing the City of Crowley for all costs the City of Crowley incurs in responding to a fire started by a spark, flame, ember, or other material capable of starting a fire that is emitted from a train operated by the railroad company while the train is inside the city limits.

Section 9001.103; add Section 9001.103.1 to read as follows:

9001.103.1 Rebuttable Presumption. It is presumed that a spark, flame, ember, smoke, or other material emitted from a train started a fire if:

1. A witness saw the fire ignited by a spark, flame, ember, smoke, or other material capable of starting a fire coming from the train
2. The following circumstantial evidence exists:
 - a) The train passed near the origination of the fire
 - b) The fire began shortly after the passage of the train
 - c) No fire existed on the premises or in the vicinity of the premises before the train passed
 - d) All the facts and circumstances fairly warrant a conclusion that the fire did not originate from some other source.

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PERMIT REQUIRED AND FEES

A permit shall be obtained from the Fire Marshal's Office prior to engaging in any of the listed activities, operations or functions. Fees for specific permits shall comply with the following schedule:

Plan Review Fee (105.6 entitled required operational and construction permits and fees.)

The amendment of Section 105.6 of the 2015 International Fire Code entitled required operational and construction permits and fees. The below fees will be added to of the Crowley Code of ordinance.

1-100,000 square feet - \$.035	\$.035 per sq.
Per square foot of Building Area (minimum \$60.00)	\$60.00 (min.)
100,001-300,000 square feet - \$3500 for is 100,000; \$.017 for each additional square foot.	
300,001 + Square feet- \$6,900 for the first 300,000 + \$.01 for each additional square foot.	
Fire Protection System Work (when the Fire Protection Contractor is the only Contractor working on site)	See list below
Re-stamp, Lost Plans, or Addendum to Project	\$30.00 per

1. **All blasting permits required by the International Fire Code - \$100.00**
2. **To conduct authorized burning operations - \$1,000.00**
3. **Direction of fireworks displays - \$100.00 per display date.**
4. **Pyrotechnic Special or Theatrical Effects - \$50.00** (An annual permit may be issued in the amount of \$500.00)
5. **Installation or testing of underground flammable liquid storage tank systems:**

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- a. -\$300.00 per location
- b. -Testing of lines only - \$100.00
- c. -Installation of miscellaneous systems or equipment - \$100.00
- d. -Aboveground Waste Oil Tank - \$50.00
- e. -Installation of Aboveground Protected Tank - \$100.00
- f. -Installation of Aboveground Inside Waste Oil Tank - \$50.00
- g. - Mobile Fueling fee per site- \$200.00

6. Removal of underground flammable liquid storage tanks - \$50.00 per tank

7. Abandonment of Underground Tanks/Lines - \$200.00 per tank

8. Installation of automatic halon, dry chemical, wet agent, carbon dioxide or other fire extinguishing systems including standpipe systems and the testing thereof to include underground piping - \$75.00 per system.

9. Installation of fire alarm systems and testing thereof:

- a. -\$50.00 for (1-10) devices
- b. -\$75.00 for (11-25) devices
- c. -\$150.00 for (26-100) devices
- d. -\$200.00 for (101-200) devices
- e. -\$400.00 for more than 200 devices

10. Special Locking System - \$200.00

9. Installation of any LP gas container, except for portable containers of less than 120 gallons water capacity at properties where natural gas service is not available - \$75.00 per container

12. Installation of automatic fire sprinkler systems and the testing thereof:

- a. -Underground \$100.00
- b. -Aboveground, (1- 19) heads \$ 50.00
- c. -Aboveground, (20- 100) heads \$ 75.00
- d. -Aboveground, (101- 300) heads \$150.00
- e. -Aboveground, (301-1000) heads \$300.00
- f. - An additional \$1.00 per head for each head over one thousand (1,000)
- g. -Fire Pump, additional \$ 100.00
- h. -Residential Automatic Fire Sprinkler System (Group R-3) - \$50.00

13. Installation of a smoke control system - \$100.00 per system

14. Permit for the use of LP gas from portable tanks of less than twenty (20) pounds, six (6) gallon water capacity for demonstration purposes, or other temporary uses in Group A and M occupancies - \$50.00

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16. Installation of the underground piping and private fire hydrants in accordance with NFPA 24 and City of Crowley Standard Specifications for Water and Sewer Construction. Flushing of underground and Hydrostatic test to be witnessed by Fire Department prior to covering the piping.

- a. - \$100.00 for first two hundred feet or portion thereof, including any fire hydrants.
- b. - \$200.00 for every additional four hundred feet or portion thereof, including fire hydrants

18. Contractor Registration:

All Contractors Installing, Repairing, or Inspecting Fire Protection System or any system or operation regulated by the International Fire Code -\$100.00

19. Penalties

Fees of permits shall be tripled if a contractor has begun work without a permit. For the second and subsequent occurrence by the same contractor within two (2) years, the permit fees shall be quadrupled.

Additional Provisions:

Section 1: If any article, section, sub-section, sentence or phrase of this Ordinance should be held to be invalid for any reason whatsoever, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

Section 2: All ordinances or parts of ordinances not consistent or conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed. Provided that such repeal shall be only to the extent of such inconsistency and in all other respects this Ordinance shall be cumulative of other ordinances regulating and governing the subject matter covered in this Ordinance.

Section 3: Any person, firm, association of persons, company, corporation, or their agents, servants, or employees violating or failing to comply with any of the provisions of this article may be fined up to two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) and each day any violation of noncompliance continues shall constitute a separate and distinct offense. The penalty provided herein shall be cumulative or other remedies provided by state law, and power of injunction as provided in Local Government Code § 54.016 and as may be amended, may be amended, may be exercised in enforcing this article whether or not there has been a complaint filed.

Section 4: All rights and remedies of the City of Crowley are expressly saved as to any and all violations of the provisions of any ordinances affecting Article IV of Chapter 38 of the Crowley Code of Ordinances which have accrued at the time of the effective date of this ordinance; and, as to such accrued violations and all pending litigation, both civil and criminal, whether pending in court or not, under such ordinances, same shall not be affected by this ordinance but may be prosecuted until final disposition by the courts.

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SECTION 5:

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by law, and it is so ordained.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the _____ day of _____, 2016

Mayor, Billy Davis

ATTEST:

Interim City Secretary, Lisa Hansen