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2012 International Fire Code
Medical / Recreational Marijuana Inspection Checklist

*This inspection checklist focuses on the **2012 International Fire Code** during a general inspection. There may be other issues that arise during the inspection that are not on this list and will be documented as a violation per the fire code. This check list has been divided into the chapters referenced and they are labeled in **green**. The specific code for each chapter has been shown in **red**. The general purpose for the code is shown in **blue**.*

Chapter 1 – Scope and Administration

Section 102 – Applicability

☐ **102.4 Application of the International Building Code**

Meaning: Remodeling / construction projects require a building permit and a final inspection which assists with the compliance of the International Building Code to ensure a safe building.

Purpose: A structure fire within a building presents many dangers for a firefighter. Firefighter safety begins with the building being built and maintained to the building code.

Section 110 – Unsafe Buildings

☐ **110.1.1 Unsafe Conditions**

Meaning: The fire code official is required to report unsafe buildings to the building official to secure abatement of unsafe conditions.

Purpose: A structure fire within a building presents many dangers for a firefighter. Firefighter safety begins with the building being built and maintained to the building code.

Chapter 3 – General Requirements

Section 304 – Combustible Waste Material

☐ **304.1 Waste Accumulation Prohibited**

Meaning: Combustible waste of any sort that may cause a fire hazard shall not be allowed to accumulate within any building or the property it was built on.

Purpose: Accumulated waste, trash, construction debris and other natural debris can become a serious fire hazard and spread flame throughout the structure quickly.

Section 305 – Ignition Sources

☐ **305.1 Clearance from Ignition Sources**

Meaning: Clearance between any possible ignition source and combustible materials shall be maintained at a safe distance.

Purpose: Establishing safe clearances will minimize the chances of an accidental fire starting and expanding into a larger fire by igniting other combustibles.

Section 312 – Vehicle Impact Protection

☐ **312.1 General Vehicle Impact Protection**

Meaning: The main natural gas valve located on the outside of the building shall have vehicle impact protection installed. This can be accomplished by providing guard posts or approved physical barriers. The specifications for the guard posts are as follows:

1. Made of steel not less than 4 inches in diameter and filled with concrete
2. Spaced no more than 4 feet between posts on center
3. Set not less than 3 feet deep in a concrete footing of not less than 15 inches in diameter
4. Set with the top of the posts not less than 3 feet above the ground
5. Located not less than 3 feet from the projected object

Purpose: Protection of the gas meter or any other piece of equipment that contains fuel or is fuel fired, is vital so that vehicles do not strike the meter and cause a gas leak. Gas leaking from a meter can easily find an ignition source and cause an explosion.

Section 313 – Fueled Equipment

☐ **313.1 General Fueled Equipment**

Meaning: Any type of fueled equipment, including but not limited to motorcycles, mopeds, lawn-care equipment and portable cooking equipment shall not be stored, operated or repaired within the building.

Purpose: Obviously when there is a presence of fuels such as gasoline, oil or propane stored within the building, an extreme fire hazard comes into play. If the vapors from such fuels find ignition sources such as a gas flame from boilers or heaters, sparks from electrical components, or something as simple as static electricity, ignition may begin causing quick flame spread.

Section 315 – General Storage

☐ **315.3 Storage in Buildings**

Meaning: Combustible storage (may also be viewed as trash or debris) within the building shall be done in a neat and orderly manner. This storage shall also to be kept away from heaters or heating devices by either distance or shielding so ignition cannot occur. Combustible storage shall not be allowed in exits ways or exit enclosures.

Purpose: In order to keep the building from having quick flame spread, combustible storage has to be policed at all times and not allowed to get out of hand. Miscellaneous combustibles will produce quick amounts of smoke and flame wherever it is present.

☐ **315.3.1 Ceiling Clearance in Non-Sprinkled Building**

Meaning: If the building you are occupying is <u>not</u> equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system, the clearance between the storage piles and the ceiling shall be at least 2 feet.

Purpose: The 2 foot clearance allows for firefighters to apply water effectively on top of a burning storage pile as well as to project over and beyond adjacent piles to reach burning materials.

☐ **315.3.1 Ceiling Clearance in a Sprinkled Building**

Meaning: If the building you are occupying has an automatic fire sprinkler system, there shall be a minimum of 18 inches in clearance from storage which would allows timely activation of the fire sprinklers and allows unobstructed water distribution over the storage piles.

Purpose: In order for the sprinkler head to activate and disperse the water as designed, this minimum amount of clearance is needed in order to do so.

☐ **315.3.2 Means of Egress**

Meaning: Combustible materials shall not be stored at any time in hallways, stairways or in front of exit doors.

Purpose: This is in place so that all occupants can easily vacate the building during the time of an emergency. Improper storage of combustibles in these areas can cause trip hazards and may even ignite cutting off egress ways completely

☐ **315.3.3 Equipment Rooms**

Meaning: Combustible material shall not be allowed to be stored within boiler rooms, mechanical rooms or electrical equipment rooms.

Purpose: This is in place so that firefighters can easily reach the controls of the said equipment. It also serves the purpose of keeping combustibles away from any type of open flames or electrical spark(s) that are associated with the said equipment.

Chapter 5 – Fire Service Features

Section 503 – Fire Apparatus Access Roads

☐ **503.4 Obstruction of Fire Apparatus Access Roads**

Meaning: Fire apparatus access roads shall not to be obstructed which includes the parking of vehicles. Minimum widths and clearances shall be maintained at all times.

Purpose: Fire engines are very large and getting close to a building to perform fire tactics becomes very difficult if access roads or alleys become obstructed in any manner. Damage to illegally parked vehicles in fire access roads can occur during fire operations.

Section 505 – Premises Identification

☐ **505.1 Address Identification**

Meaning: Address numbers shall be placed on the building that is plainly visible from the street fronting the property. These numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high with a minimum stroke width of ½ inch.

Purpose: Building must be easily identified by the fire engine companies responding for an emergency.

Section 506 – Key Boxes

☐ **506.2 Key Box Maintenance**

Meaning: The Knox Box is a security system used for securing keys to the building. If a building has a Knox Box, the keys that have been put into the box shall be updated to the locks that are currently in use. This can only be done by fire department personnel only.

Purpose: The Knox Box is used by the fire department only to gain access into a building when it is vacant and or not occupied at the time of an emergency. This assists in the elimination of damage to the building if for some reason the fire department needs to make forcible entry.

Section 507 – Fire Protection Water Supplies

☐ **507.5.4 Obstructions**

Meaning: There shall be no storage in the closet where the valve is located or around the automatic fire sprinkler valve itself. This is to include the fire department connection (FDC) located on the outside of the building.

Purpose: Firefighters need quick access to these valves in order to shut off the water if a sprinkler head has been activated, this will cause less water damage.

☐ **507.5.5 Clear Space around Fire Hydrants**

Meaning: The fire hydrant shall not have any obstructions to include but not limited to bushes, fences, vehicles, growth, landscaping, etc. around it at a minimum of a 3 foot radius. Firefighters need to recognize this device immediately.

Purpose: A fire hydrant is the water source used by the fire department to extinguish fires. In order to utilize this appliance, a wrench is applied to it to remove the caps so that large diameter hose can be connected to it. The same wrench is used on the very top of the hydrant and is turned 360 degrees in order to open the valve and have water flow through the hose. Any obstructions would interrupt this operation that needs to be done quickly.

Section 509 – Fire Protection and Utility Equipment Identification

☐ **509.1 Identification of Fire Protection**

Meaning: A sign shall be posted on the door leading into the automatic fire sprinkler control valve. This sign shall have a red background with white lettering, be plainly visible and legible stating FIRE SPRINKLER CONTROL VALVE.

Purpose: Firefighters need quick access to these valves in order to shut off the water and a sign will give assistance in locating the valve.

☐ **509.1.1 Utility Identification**

Meaning: A sign shall be posted on the door leading into rooms containing utility equipment such as boiler rooms, HVAC systems, electrical panels and other utility shut-offs. This sign shall be plainly visible and legible identifying the equipment.

Purpose: Firefighters need quick access to these areas in order to shut off the specific utilities and a sign will give assistance in locating these utilities.

Chapter 6 – Building Services and Systems

International Fuel Gas Code – Main Gas Valve

☐ **409.1.3 Valve is Accessible**

Meaning: The main natural gas valve located on the outside of the building shall be accessible at all times for any required operation or maintenance duties. There should be no storage of any type blocking access to or hiding the gas valve itself.

Purpose: If a gas leak of any sort, whether it's located inside of the building or outside, firefighters need to visualize the gas meter and have quick and immediate access to this valve in order to shut down the gas source.

Section 603 – Fuel-Fired Appliances

☐ **603.4 Portable Unvented Heaters**

Meaning: This refers to portable space heaters, such as kerosene-fuel fired appliances or gas-fired appliances that connect to gas convenience outlets with gas hose connectors. This type of appliance shall not be allowed to be used within the building. This does not apply to permanently installed appliances.

Purpose: Portable space-heaters can be moved around at will and may be placed too close to combustibles or may be susceptible of being hit, tipped over, etc. causing quick fire spread. These appliances are considered an unacceptable risk

Section 605 – Electrical Equipment, Wiring Hazards

☐ **605.1 Abatement of Electrical Hazards**

Meaning: All electrical wiring, devices, appliances or other equipment shall be in good working condition as designed. If at any time there have been modifications or damage to these electrical components, repairs or replacement per the electrical code will be required.

Purpose: The leading causes of electrical fires include inadequate or improper maintenance; nonconforming modifications to existing installations; failure to maintain clearances around electrical equipment and improper use of electrical equipment.

☐ **605.3 Working Space and Clearance**

Meaning: The electrical service equipment to the building and including the electrical panel boxes, need to be accessible at all times for any required operation or maintenance duties. There should be no storage of any type blocking access to or hiding the electrical service equipment itself.

Purpose: In the case of an emergency, firefighters need to visualize the electrical service equipment and have quick and immediate access to it in order to shut down electrical power.

☐ **605.3.1 Labeling**

Meaning: Doors leading into the electrical service equipment room shall be labeled with a sign. This sign shall be plainly visible and legible stating ELECTRICAL ROOM.

Purpose: This assists firefighters in identifying and then shutting down the electrical service controls during a fire or other emergency.

☐ **605.4 Multiplug Adapters**

Meaning: Multi-plug adapters, such as cube adapters, unfused plug strips or any other electrical device not complying with the electrical code shall not allowed to be used.

Purpose: When multi-plug adapters that have no over-current protection are used for several appliances, the conductor may produce enough heat to ignite nearby combustibles in the time it takes to trip the circuit breaker for the outlet being used.

☐ **605.4.1 Power Tap Design**

Meaning: Power strips or surge protectors shall be of the polarized or grounded type, equipped with over-current protection and shall be UL tested.

Purpose: These devices are intended only for indoor temporary use for supplying power to general items such as home workshop tools, computers, audio and video equipment, etc.

☐ **605.4.2 Power Supply**

Meaning: Power strips or surge protectors shall be directly connected to a permanently installed electrical outlet.

Purpose: Power strips or surge protectors have to be plugged directly into a wall outlet and not into another power strip, surge protector or extension cord. This would defeat the purpose of having current protection in these devices if the other elements are subjected to damage.

☐ **605.4.3 Installation**

Meaning: Power strips or surge protectors shall not extend through walls, ceilings, floors, or under doors or floor coverings, or be subjected to environmental or physical damage.

Purpose: This would prohibit power strips or surge protectors to be plugged into a wall in one room to supply power to a device in another room and possibly causing physical damage to wiring.

☐ **605.5 Extension Cords**

Meaning: Extension cords and flexible cords shall not be a substitute for permanent wiring. These cords should not be attached to buildings, extended through walls, ceilings or floors, or be subjected to both environmental and physical damage.

Purpose: Frequent or improper use of extension cords in place of permanent wiring is an indication of inadequate electrical service capacity or incompatible demands. Physical damage to the extension cords may result in localized resistance heating which may produce enough heat to ignite nearby combustibles.

☐ **605.6 Unapproved Conditions**

Meaning: Open junction boxes and open-wiring splices shall not be allowed. Approved covers (wall plates, blank plates, junction lids) shall be provided so that wire exposure has been covered.

Purpose: Without covers, connections made in junction boxes may be subjected to physical damage. This damage may loosen electrical connections, resulting in high-resistance arcing. Accumulation of dirt and debris in open electrical boxes creates an ignitable fuel concentration.

Chapter 7 – Fire Resistance Rated Construction

Section 703 – Fire Resistance Rated Construction

☐ **703.1 Maintenance**

Meaning: Walls, ceilings, fire stops, shaft partitions and floors have all been designed and built with fire-resistance-rated construction. Damage to these areas such as but not limited to holes, cracking and separations, etc. shall be repaired immediately. The repairs shall be done per code.

Purpose: If a fire were to occur within the building, it will travel in areas with least resistance. A hole in a wall or ceiling gives the fire the opportunity to travel within the hole and then behind the wall or above the ceiling. Now the fire has become very difficult for the firefighters to find which obviously allows the fire to spread quickly. If an automatic fire sprinkler system is in place, activation may not occur because of the hidden fire.

☐ **703.2 Opening Protective's**

Meaning: Fire doors leading to hallways, stairways, mechanical rooms or boiler rooms shall not be propped open with door wedges, door fold downs or other items. Fire doors and smoke barrier doors shall not be blocked or obstructed or otherwise made inoperable.

Purpose: If a fire was to happen in any one of these locations, these doors being closed would assist with confining that fire to that area only. If the doors were propped open, the fire would be allowed to spread a lot quicker possibly causing other concerning issues such as: impeded evacuation of the building, sprinkler system not containing the fire, difficult fire suppression and rescue efforts.

Chapter 9 – Fire Protection Systems

Section 901 - General

☐ **901.4 Installation**

Meaning: All areas within the building shall be protected by the automatic fire sprinkler system. This is to include any storage closets, attics, crawl spaces or new additions.

Purpose: New additions or remodel work have been done in the past where a building permit was not submitted. When this happens, the sprinkler system is forgotten and therefore the result is improper coverage. A fire within these unprotected areas will not be detected and causes the remainder of the sprinkler system to be behind in its capability of suppressing the fire.

☐ **901.6 Inspection, Testing and Maintenance**

Meaning: All automatic fire sprinkler heads where the water is actually being distributed to the fire area shall not have "dust bunnies", paint, dirt or grime accumulated on these devices.

Purpose: Foreign products that have been allowed to build up on the automatic fire sprinkler heads can actually cause the sprinkler head to activate at a higher temperature then what they were designed for.

Section 903 – Automatic Sprinkler Systems

☐ **903.5 Testing and Maintenance**

Meaning: All automatic fire sprinkler systems shall be required to have an inspection done **annually** by a licensed contractor.

Purpose: The automatic fire sprinkler system was designed to flow water toward any sprinkler head within the system that has been activated. Water pressures, valves, tamper switches and other mechanical operations of the system have to be tested and inspected to assure proper operation.

Section 906 – Portable Fire Extinguishers

☐ **906.1 *Where Required***

Meaning: The building shall have portable ABC type fire extinguishers located throughout the building and missing extinguishers shall be replaced.

Purpose: Having a portable fire extinguisher available, assists with the extinguishment of small fires, not allowing them to become larger fires. If at any time these are used for fire extinguishment, 911 should be called to make sure the fire is definitely out.

☐ **906.2 General Requirements (Inspections per NFPA 10)**

Meaning: All of the fire extinguishers shall be inspected on an **annual** basis by a licensed contractor. These extinguishers shall have an inspection tag hanging on them showing the inspection date.

Purpose: The extinguishers need to be checked for low pressures, hydrostatic dates, compacted extinguishing agent, leakage or damage. Any of these types of deficiencies can cause the fire extinguisher to not properly function when needed.

☐ **906.6 Unobstructed and Unobscured**

Meaning: Portable fire extinguishers shall not be unobstructed and in clear view. If visual contact cannot be completely avoided, means shall be provided to indicate the location of extinguishers.

Purpose: Fire extinguishers need to be in clear view or an authorized sign needs to point out where the fire extinguisher is located. Employees should also know the locations of all fire extinguishers in their work areas in order to minimize delays if needed.

☐ **906.7 Hangers and Brackets**

Meaning: All fire extinguishers shall be mounted properly on the walls and near exits or egress ways.

Purpose: The reason why we ask that the fire extinguishers be mounted on the walls is to assist in alleviating accidental discharges. Locating these extinguishers near an exit or egress way is so that individuals utilizing the extinguisher will know their first way out of the building.

Section 912 – Fire Department Connections

☐ **912.3 Access**

Meaning: Immediate access to the fire department connection located on the outside of the building shall be maintained and visible at all times.

Purpose: Fire department connections are a tool the fire department uses to support the water supply to the automatic fire sprinkler system. It is important that there is immediate access to this appliance because hose is connected to this and then connected to the fire truck to pump water into the system.

☐ **912.3.1 Fire Department Connection Cover Caps**

Meaning: Caps to protect debris from entering the connection and into the piping shall be in place.

Purpose: These caps keep debris from entering the automatic fire sprinkler system. Trash, cigarettes, dirt and leaves have all been found in the fire department connections because the caps were not in place. This debris gets pushed further into the system and can end up plugging the actual sprinkler head itself and not allow the water to be dispersed as designed.

☐ **912.3.2 Clear Space around Connections**

Meaning: A working space of not less than 36 inches in width, 36 inches in depth and 78 inches in height shall be provided and maintained.

Purpose: Working space is important here because the firefighters need to connect hoses to this appliance and then to the fire truck itself. Equipment being used for connections and the equipment being worn by the firefighters makes this space very valuable.

Chapter 10 – Means of Egress

Section 1001 - Administration

☐ **1001.2 Minimum Requirements**

Meaning: It shall be unlawful to change or remodel a building in a manner that will reduce the number of exit doors or the capacity (width) of a means of egress.

Purpose: The means of egress and or exit system is to be constantly available throughout the life of the building. Any changes to this system are to be reviewed by the building department and the fire department and usually will require a building permit.

Section 1004 – Occupant Load

☐ **1004.3 Posting of Occupant Load**

Meaning: An occupant load sign identifies how many people (50 or more) are allowed in a meeting room, dining, room or assembly room. This sign is red in color with white lettering and shall be mounted on the wall of the room in a place that is visible to all. The occupant load is calculated by fire department personnel.

Purpose: The posting of this sign is basically the calculated number of the maximum amount people allowed in the room that would be able to evacuate the building properly. If this number is exceeded, the proper evacuation of the occupants drops drastically and rescue efforts may be hampered.

Section 1006 – Means of Egress Illumination

☐ **1006.3 Emergency Lighting**

Meaning: Emergency lights (also known as "frog eyes") are used to illuminate egress and exit ways. These lights shall be working as designed with battery a backup and the light(s) themselves need to be pointing in the direction of travel.

Purpose: Emergency lights need to work properly so when the power is out for whatever reason, these lights will illuminate the egress and exit ways for safe evacuation.

Section 1008 – Doors, Gates and Turnstiles

☐ **1008.1.2 Door Swing**

Meaning: Doors that are used for egress (exiting) leading to the outside of the building that may serve an occupant load of 50 or more shall swing in the direction of egress travel.

Purpose: If a door were to swing the opposite direction of egress (pull open instead of push), with a high number of people trying to utilize it, this would cause a delay with evacuation because of possible "bottle necking".

☐ **1008.1.3 Door Opening Force**

Meaning: The force for pushing or pulling an exit door open shall not require any extra effort. This force shall not exceed 5 pounds and the door should not be sticking open or closed.

Purpose: The 5 pound maximum force for pushing and pulling is based on that which has been deemed appropriate for people with physical limitation due to size, age or disability. All potential users should have the capability to open the exit doors in order to vacate the building.

☐ **1008.1.9 Door operations**

Meaning: Exit doors shall be operable and ready to be opened from the egress side without the use of a key, special knowledge or effort.

Purpose: During an emergency, occupants need to vacate the building immediately without any difficulty in doing so. When utilizing an egress door, an individual should only have to perform only one motion to evacuate the building, meaning unlocking a lock and opening the door <u>at the same time</u> is acceptable. Anything else is considered two (2) motions and special knowledge which is not acceptable.

☐ **1008.1.9.4 Bolt Locks**

Meaning: Manually operated flush bolt or surface bolt type of locks shall not be allowed.

Purpose: These types of locks are prohibited due to the inability of users to quickly identify and operate such devices under emergency conditions.

Section 1009 – Stairways

☐ **1009.9.3 Enclosures Under Interior Stairways**

Meaning: If the enclosable space underneath an interior stairway is to be used in any manner, the walls and soffit areas shall be protected with a minimum of a 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction. Access to the enclosed area shall not open into a stairway enclosure.

Purpose: The purpose for this is so the stairwell remains protected if the enclosed area is used for storage. The reason for access to this area is not to be in the stairway is because if the door was to be left open and a fire was to take place in the enclosed area, the smoke would feed directly into the stairwell.

☐ **1009.9.4 Enclosures Under Exterior Stairways**

Meaning: There shall be no enclosable usable space underneath an exterior stairway unless the space is completely enclosed with a minimum of a 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction. The open space under the exterior stairway shall not be used for any purpose.

Purpose: The purpose for this is so the stairwell remains protected if the enclosed area is used for storage. If the space under the exterior stairway is not protected per code, this space shall not be used for any purpose at all.

Section 1011 – Exit Signs

☐ **1011.1 Where Required**

Meaning: Paths leading to an exit and above the exit door itself shall have an exit sign posted to where it is easily visible for the occupants. At no time, should these signs be removed and or damaged and must be maintained with its original design.

Purpose: All occupants and especially occupants not familiar with the building need to be able to visualize an exit sign to assist in vacating the building. Any occupant should be able to advance toward the exit sign(s) and be able to directly vacate from the building without confusion.

☐ **1011.3 Illumination**

Meaning: Exit signs shall be illuminated either internally or externally at all times to include when primary power loss has occurred. Electrical exit signs are internally illuminated and need to be maintained per manufacturer's instructions. Other non-electrical types of exit signs require illumination from another source such as emergency lighting within the building.

Purpose: When these signs are illuminated and especially when primary power has been discontinued, these signs are clearly visible to assist occupants in vacating the building.

☐ **1011.6.3 Power Source**

Meaning: Exit lights shall be illuminated at all times. To ensure these lights are operating for duration of not less than 90 minutes during a power loss, they shall be connected to emergency power such as storage batteries or on site generator.

Purpose: These signs are illuminated when primary power has been discontinued and are clearly illuminated for a minimum of 90 minutes after main power has been discontinued.

Section 1017 – Aisles

☐ **1017.3 Aisle Width**

Meaning: The minimum clear aisle width shall not be less than 36 inches in width.

Purpose: This minimum width requirement allows for occupants to have sufficient room to work within and to evacuate the building without "bottle necking" towards an exit.

Section 1030 – Maintenance of the Means of Egress

☐ **1030.3 Obstructions**

Meaning: The means of egress shall be free from obstructions that would prevent its use, including the accumulation of snow and ice.

Purpose: The exit ways were designed so that the occupants of the building would be able to evacuate the building with ease at the time of an emergency. Any actions taken to impede the proper evacuation of the building may lead to injury or possible death in emergency situations.

☐ **1030.6 Finishes, Furnishings and Decorations**

Meaning: Exit doors shall be distinguishable from adjacent construction or finishes so that the doors can be recognized as exit doors. Furnishings, decorations or other objects shall not block egress ways or exit doors or disguise them in any way.

Purpose: The exit ways were designed so that the occupants of the building would be able to identify and evacuate the building with ease at the time of an emergency.

Chapter 22 – Combustible Dust-Producing Operations

Section 2203 - Precautions

☐ **2203.2 Housekeeping**

Meaning: Accumulation of combustible dust shall be kept to a minimum in the interior of the building. Forced air or similar methods shall not be used to remove dust from surfaces.

Purpose: Good housekeeping and lowering the dust build up to a minimum will assist with the reduction of potential flash fire and or explosion. It is important when removing accumulated combustible dust not to place it into suspension into the air.

Chapter 50 – Hazardous Materials

Section 5003 – General Requirements

☐ **5003.4 Material Safety Data Sheets**

Meaning: Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) is documentation that is developed when a hazardous substance has been formed in a laboratory. This information shall be readily available on site for hazardous materials being utilized within the business.

Purpose: This information gives accurate and timely information to firefighters that will assist with the safe resolution to an emergency. This information will also assist with the pre-incident planning which is essential for buildings containing hazardous materials, regardless of quantity.

☐ **5003.5.1 Markings**

Meaning: Individual containers, cartons or packages shall be conspicuously marked or labeled in an approved manner that will readily identify hazard information of the product within.

Purpose: This information gives accurate and timely information to firefighters that will assist with the safe resolution to an emergency. Containers consisting of water shall also be labeled "Water" for quick identification. This information will also assist with the pre-incident planning which is essential for buildings containing hazardous materials, regardless of quantity.

☐ **5003.9.9 Shelf Storage**

Meaning: Shelving shall be provided with a lip or guard and anchored when used for the storage of individual containers. Shelf storage of hazardous materials shall be maintained in an orderly manner.

Purpose: The lip or guard at the edges of the shelving assists with the containers from falling off the shelves. Obviously the containers need to be stored in an orderly manner for quick identification.

Chapter 53 – Compressed Gases

Section 5303 – General Requirements

☐ **5303.5.3 Securing Compressed Gas Cylinders, Cylinders and Tanks**

Meaning: All compressed gas containers should be secured to prevent falling caused by contact or vibration. Securing compressed gas containers shall be done by tightly securing the containers to a fixed object, mobile carts, nesting or within a rack designed for such use.

Purpose: These cylinders may be considered as missiles waiting for launch. If they are not properly secured and should happen to tip over knocking off the valve, these cylinders may propel at great force causing severe damage and injury.

Chapter 57 – Flammable and Combustible Liquids

Section 5703 – General Requirements

☐ **5703.5.3 Warning Labels**

Meaning: Individual containers, packages and cartons shall be identified, marked, labeled and placarded.

Purpose: Identification of flammable and combustible liquids is gives accurate and timely information to firefighters that will assist with the safe resolution to an emergency. This information will also assist with the pre-incident planning which is essential for buildings containing flammable and combustible liquids, regardless of quantity.

Section 5704 – Storage

☐ **5704.3.3.3 Clear Means of Egress**

Meaning: Storage of any liquids, including stock for sale, shall not be stored near or allowed to obstruct physically the route of egress.

Purpose: The means of egress must be usable to be effective. The placement of flammable or combustible liquids near or in the route used to exit the room or building produces a risk that is not acceptable.

☐ **5704.3.3.5 Shelf Storage**

Meaning: Shelving shall be provided with a lip or guard and anchored when used for the storage of individual containers. Shelf storage of flammable or combustible liquids shall be maintained in an orderly manner.

Purpose: The lip or guard at the edges of the shelving assists with the containers from falling off the shelves. Obviously the containers need to be stored in an orderly manner for quick identification.

Chapter 61 – Liquefied Petroleum Gases

Section 6103 – Installation of Equipment

☐ **6103.2.1 Portable Containers**

Meaning: Portable LP gas containers shall not be used within buildings.

Purpose: This is a long lasting requirement that relates to the potential for releasing propane within the building. Propane released within a building may find an ignition source and may potentially cause an explosion.

Section 6109 – Storage of Portable LP-Gas Containers Awaiting Use or Resale

☐ **6109.7 Storage in Basement, Pit or Similar Location**

Meaning: LP gas containers shall not be stored in a basement, pit or similar location where heavier-than-air gas might collect. LP gas containers shall not be stored in above-grade, under-floor spaces or basements unless location is provided with an approved means of ventilation.

Purpose: Propane is approximately 1.52 times heavier than air and has the potential to sink to the ground when it is released. This action will increase the possibilities for the gas to reach an ignition source such as a pilot light from a heater which is obviously located low on the ground.

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This "check list" was prepared by the fire department for all MMB and RMB business owners to have in hand and utilize for two reasons. One, to assist with the education of how important inspections are within your business in order to maintain safety for your employees. Two, to assist the owners and management with the preparation of a Fire Department inspection that will soon take place within your business.

A fire inspection will take place once it has been scheduled by the business contacting our Administrative Assistant, Amber Wright at (303) 441-4179. Once the inspection has taken place and if violations have been found, the business will have thirty (30) days to correct the violations in order to be code compliant. Once all violations have been corrected, the business is to call and schedule for a re-inspection. It is the fire departments goal with this "check list" to minimize violations and to minimize the time for each business to become code compliant.

Please note that there may be other fire code violations found during your inspection that may not appear on this "check list' and will be documented as a violation per the 2012 International Fire Code.