

THE CITY OF REDMOND FIRE DEPARTMENT PREVENTION DIVISION



Uniform Fire Code

Administrative Ruling / Interpretation

Code Section: 103.3.2.3 (Also reference UBC 107.5)

Code Edition: 1997

Date: August 7, 2000

Statement of Need:

Fire Inspection personnel may discover buildings which have been physically altered or that have undergone a change in occupancy or use without issuance of required Building & Fire Permits or completion of all inspections.

Ruling/Interpretation:

- Authorized Fire Prevention Division inspection personnel shall issue UFC 103.3.2.3-related violations.
- Violations involving the following issues require the occupant/owner of the building to contact a Building Division and a Fire Prevention Plans Examiner:
 - o Clearly recognizable <u>structural deficiencies</u> (per UFC 103.4.1.2).
 - The identification of non-permitted construction involving the:
 - Need for a rated corridor, occupancy or area separation walls.
 - Need for a fire-rated assembly (e.g. fire doors, smoke/fire dampers).
 - Creation of additional building floor area.
 - o When an un-approved change of occupancy or use has occurred.
 - <u>Deficiencies or unapproved alterations in the exiting system</u> or exit doorhardware.
 - New areas of, or unapproved alterations to high rack storage.
- Violations shall reference the Fire Code (e.g., UFC 8101.6.1, "Rack structures" for structural issues with storage racks). You may note the corresponding reference in the Building Code if known.
- Fire Inspectors are responsible to:
 - Conduct all necessary code research on the issue to be sure a violation actually exists.
 - Communicate to the Building Division the UFC deficiencies observed so they can determine how to address any referenced or related Building Code requirements.

Fire Code violations that refer our customers to the Building Division shall contain the following information:

- 1. <u>Cite the specific deficiency observed</u> (e.g., "pallet rack floor attachments missing"). Having a "feeling" that the installation is not correct is not grounds for writing violations.
- 2. <u>Cite the code year and the last approved occupancy classification to which the business is accountable</u> (e.g., "The code year for this violation is 1994").
 - 1st reference: The last Certificate of Occupancy issued for the space or area. You may need to check Planning Division's microfiche.
 - 2nd: The earliest date the business was issued a Redmond business license.
- 3. A one-line description of the UBC occupancy classification and use of the business (e.g., "This business appears to be an F-1 Occupancy used as a printing shop"). Identify proper business license SIC code.

Office Procedure

- A copy of the Fire Department's Violation Notice shall be forwarded to the Building Division Manager on the day written.
- Refer to the Building Division's "Interpretation on Work without permits/Fire Department" dated 12/02/99 for information on their follow-up procedure.
- The Fire Inspector who wrote the original violation shall be responsible to track <u>progress of the work</u>.
 - Issuance of a Building Permit for construction work to correct any condition described in a violation will be proof of *intent* for compliance.
 - A maximum re-inspection frequency of six weeks.
 - Completion of the permitted work may require several re-inspections.
 - Compliance will be achieved at the time of the Fire Department's <u>and</u> the Building Division's Final Inspections.

Fire	Mar	shal		

UFC Administrative Ruling

Code Section: 103.3.2.3