California State Fire Marshal
Information Bulletin

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Open-flame cooking devices on apartment house balconies

Over the last several months the Office of the State Fire Marshal has received numerous requests for interpretation of California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 9, 2007 California Fire Code (CFC) Sections 308.3.1 and 308.3.1.1 regarding Open-flame cooking devices on apartment house balconies. The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify the State Fire Marshal’s position on this issue.

Sections 308.3.1 Open-flame cooking devices and 308.3.1.1 Liquefied-petroleum-gas-fueled cooking devices on balconies and decks in R-2 Occupancies (residential apartment houses, condominiums, dormitories etc.) were not adopted by the SFM. These provisions are part of the base model code (2006 International Fire Code) that has been incorporated into the CFC for adoption by the City, County or City and County. A City, County or City and County might under certain circumstances, adopt or amend the California Fire Code through local ordinance. These adoptions and/or amendments would only apply within their jurisdiction and would not be applicable state-wide. Contact your local fire official regarding any ordinances related to “open flame and liquefied-petroleum-gas-fueled cooking devices in R-2 Occupancies.”

For more information please visit our website http://osfm.fire.ca.gov