

# FULLERTON FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PREVENTION STANDARDS

## APPLICATION:

### CANDLES AND OPEN-FLAME DECORATIVE DEVICES

**Any candle or open flame device used in a public assembly facility is required to be approved by the Fire Prevention Division at the Fullerton Fire Department before any event takes place.**

## JUSTIFICATION:

2016 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE CHAPTER 1, SECTION 105; CHAPTER 3, SECTION 308; CHAPTER 8, SECTION 806,  
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 19, SUBSECTION 3.25

## STANDARDS:

All candles and open-flame decorative devices used in a place of assembly must be approved and permitted by the Fullerton Fire Department. Permits can be obtained at the Fullerton Fire Department, Fire Prevention Division, located at 312 E. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton, CA 92832, phone (714) 738-6500.

Candles and other open-flame decorative devices shall be in accordance with the following in order to obtain a permit:

- I. Liquid or solid-fueled lighting devices containing more than 8 ounces of fuel must self-extinguish and not leak fuel at a rate of no more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon per minute if tipped over.
  - Class I and II flammable liquids and liquefied petroleum gases (LPG) shall not be used.
- II. The device or holder shall be constructed to prevent spilling of liquid or wax at a rate of no more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon per minute when the device or holder is not in an upright position.
- III. The device or holder shall be designed so that it will return to the upright position after being tilted to an angle of 45 degrees from vertical.

**Exception:** Units that self-extinguish and spill fuel or wax at a rate of no more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon per minute if tipped over may be used.

- IV. Candles or open flame devices must have the flame enclosed by non-combustible material. (votive holders, glass hurricanes, bowls for floating candles, etc...must be tall enough to protect the candle flame.)
- V. Candles or open flame devices must pass a 10 second burn test. A piece of dry tissue paper is placed at the top of the candle or flame device enclosure, flame must not ignite the tissue for 10 seconds. The flame should be approximately 4"-5" below the top of the enclosure to pass the test, or 2"-3" below the top of the enclosure when using tea-light candles. (when using votive holders, we recommend using tea-light candles in place of standard votive candles.)
- VI. Device chimneys or shades shall be made of noncombustible materials. Such chimneys shall be securely attached to the open-flame device.  
**Exception:** The chimney need not be attached to any open-flame device that will self-extinguish if tipped over.
- VII. Fuel canisters shall be safely sealed for storage.
- VIII. Storage and handling of combustible liquids shall be in accordance with California Fire Code Chapter 34.
- IX. Candelabras with flame-lit candles shall be securely fastened in place to prevent overturning, located away from occupants using the area, and away from possible contact with drapes, curtains or other combustibles.
- X. Hand held candles are prohibited in all Assembly occupancies.
- XI. Candles and open flame devices shall not be located on or near decorative materials.