

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Are You Ready For Your Fire Inspection?

You have an upcoming Fire Safety Inspection scheduled. During the Fire Inspection, we evaluate your property for compliance with important fire and life safety regulations such as exiting, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, storage of combustibles, electrical hazards, and more.

To help prepare you for your inspection, use this checklist of our top ten most frequently cited deficiencies. Make sure the violations do not exist on your property and it will help you pass your Fire Inspection the first time and keep your buildings safe year-round!

If you have any questions about the upcoming inspection, please do not hesitate to call our Fire Prevention Division at 310-253-5925.

Top Ten Fire Code Violations

- Street address** must be clearly marked and visible (in contrasting color) from the street fronting the property.
- Fire hydrants** located on your property must be visible and accessible at all times, with three feet of clearance on all sides and no parking within 10 feet.
- Exit doors** must open easily from the inside. Locking mechanisms on doors shall not require special knowledge or keys. The only exception is a main storefront with a sign above that reads "This door to remain unlocked when building is occupied."
- Aisles, walkways, stairways, and paths** leading to exits must be clear of storage and obstructions.
- Emergency lights and exit signs** (that are lighted from within) must work properly and function in both normal and emergency power mode. Lighted exit signs must be lit at all times.
- Electrical outlets, switches, junction boxes, and circuit breaker panels** must be covered with the appropriate cover plate.
- Electrical extension cords** cannot be used as a substitute for permanent wiring. Extension cords are only approved for "temporary use" (operating a vacuum cleaner, powering a tool while making a repair, etc.). Multi-outlet power strips with a built in circuit breaker may be used to protect computers and related equipment.
- Fire extinguishers** (minimum rated 2-A:10-B:C) must be visible, readily accessible, and serviced within the past 12 months. They should be mounted so that their tops are 3 to 5 feet above the floor.
- Fire sprinkler systems** shall be serviced and tested at least once a year by a licensed fire protection contractor.
- Fire suppression systems for commercial cooking operations** (Hood Systems) must be serviced and tested every six months by a licensed fire protection contractor.