

(23) “Residential Board and Care Occupancies (Specifically Personal Care Homes/Facilities means a building, or part thereof, which is used for lodging and boarding of four or more residents who are not related by blood or marriage to the owners or operators, for the purpose of providing personal care services. Such facilities may also be utilized as a Community Living Arrangement. Either use must be licensed by the State agency having licensing jurisdiction.) Any facility providing lodging and boarding and personal care for four or more residents who are mostly incapable of self-preservation, except brain injury centers, because of physical or mental disability, shall require relocation of so classified excess residents to an appropriate health care facility meeting, at the least, the provisions, for limited care facilities as set forth by NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*. (See the definitions in 120-3-3.03 of Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner for “Assisted Living Community” and “Memory Care Unit.” Also, see the definitions for “Community Living Arrangements”, Limited Care Facilities, and “Limited Care (Custodial Care) Facilities” relative to Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Facilities.)”

(24) “Self-Preservation,” except as defined in NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code* for day-care occupancies, means the ability to respond to an emergency condition, whether caused by fire or otherwise, and escape the emergency without physical, hands-on assistance from staff. The resident may move from place to place by walking, either unaided or aided by prosthesis, brace, cane, crutches, walker or handrails, or by propelling a wheelchair. (See the definition of “Assisted Self-Preservation).

(25) “Sleeping Accommodations for Hire” means, for the purpose of this chapter and O.C.G.A. Section 25-2-13 (b)(1), and the adopted codes herein, a bed, whether single, double, queen, or king, which is for hire or rental, whether by the day, week, month, or some other period of time.

(26) “Stories” means, for the purpose of O.C.G.A. Section 25-2-13 (b)(1) and the codes and standards adopted herein, that level starting at the primary level of exit discharge and ending at the highest occupiable story. A building level below the primary level shall not count as a story in determining the height of a building (see the definition of (20) for occupiable story).

Authority. - O.C.G.A. §§25-2-4, 33-2-9, and 50-13-21

120-3-3-.04 State Minimum Fire Safety Standards with Modifications.

(1) Unless otherwise stated in this chapter, the edition of the *International Fire Code (IFC)*, and the following editions of the codes, standards, recommended practices, guides and methods, as published in the *National Fire Codes (NFC)* by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), as adopted and modified in this Chapter, shall be the state minimum fire safety standards. Where any of the adopted publications of the NFPA references NFPA 1 or NFPA 5000, or any fire code or building code, it shall be construed that such references apply to the *International Fire Code (IFC)* or the *International Building Code (IBC)* respectively, as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3, and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Where the *IFC* or *IBC* does not specifically address the referenced issue, NFPA 1 or NFPA 5000 may be applied subject to the approval of the authority having jurisdiction.

(2) Hospitals, hospices, ambulatory surgical centers, nursing homes, assisted living communities, assisted living homes, memory care units or other health care type occupancies or facilities that are regulated by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) shall comply with the fire and life safety rules and regulations imposed by that agency even though the codes and standards or the editions of codes and standards adopted by that agency may not be specifically addressed or included in this chapter. The codes and standards adopted and modified herein shall also apply where applicable and shall be deemed to be the minimum state fire and life safety standards where they are at least as protective as the CMS rules and regulations.

(3) *International Fire Code (IFC)*, 2018 Edition

Modifications:

(a) Modifications to Chapter 1:

1. Delete section 101.1 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“**101.1 Title.** The *International Fire Code*, 2018 edition, published by the *International Code Council*, when used in conjunction with this Chapter, shall be known as a *Georgia State Minimum Fire Prevention Code*, hereafter referred to as ‘this Code’.”

2. Delete section 101.3 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“101.3 Purposes and Intents of This Code. The primary purpose of this Code, as adopted, is to provide, along with other adopted codes and standards, for the reasonable minimum protection of life and property from the hazards created by fire, smoke, explosion, or panic created from a fear of fire or smoke. It is intended that the purposes of this Code be accomplished by: (1) Coordinating application and enforcement of its provisions with those of other applicable laws, rules, regulations, codes, and standards; and, (2) By coordinating the application of its provisions, where possible, with educational programs or efforts designed to bring about changes in high risk attitudes and behaviors that are the root causes of most fire related problems in Georgia; and (3) By encouraging or requiring informational and awareness programs designed to make the citizens of Georgia aware of their responsibilities for compliance with this Code as well as the other Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner. The intent of this Code is to establish the minimum requirements, consistent with nationally recognized good practice, for providing a reasonable level of life safety and property protection from the hazards of fire, explosion, or dangerous conditions in new and existing buildings, structures, and premises and to provide safety to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations.”

3. Add an exception to section 102.1 to read as follows:

“*Exception: This Code does not apply to one- and two- family dwellings or one- and two- family row houses (townhouses) separated by a 2-hour fire wall containing not more than three dwelling units per structure.*”

4. Add an exception to section 102.2 to read as follows:

“*Exception: This Code does not apply to one- and two- family dwellings or one- and two- family row houses (townhouses) separated by a 2-hour fire wall containing not more than three dwelling units per structure.*”

5. Delete section 102.3 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“**102.3 Change of use or occupancy.** No change shall be made in use or occupancy of any building or structure that would place the structure in a different division of the same group or occupancy or in a different group of occupancies, unless such structure is made to comply with the requirements of this Code, as may be applicable, as well as those of the *International Building Code (IBC)*, as adopted by the Department of Community Affairs. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2-14, due to a change of use or occupancy of a building or structure the building or structure shall be treated as a proposed (new) building. (Refer to 103.3 of this Code regarding the requirements applicable to proposed (new) buildings and structures.)”

6. Delete section 102.4 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“**102.4 Application of the building code.** The design and construction of proposed (new) buildings and structures shall comply with the *International Building Code (IBC)*, as modified and adopted by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Repairs, alterations, additions, changes in use or occupancy classification, or changes in buildings or structures required by provisions of the *IFC*, and which are within the scope of the *IBC*, shall be made in accordance with the *IBC*, for purposes of this Chapter.”

7. Add a new 102.5.1 to read as follows:

“102.5.1 The provisions of 102.5 shall apply to local authorities having jurisdiction unless there is a change of use or occupancy that would apply under 102.3 and which would bring the new use or occupancy under the jurisdiction of O.C.G.A. 25-2-13(b)(1)”

8. Delete section 102.6 in its entirety and insert in its place the following:

“102.6 Historic Buildings, General. O.C.G.A 25-2-13(a)(2) defines a “Historic building or structure” as “any individual building which contributes to the historic character of a historic district, so designated by the state historic preservation officer pursuant to rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Natural Resources, or so designated pursuant to the provisions of Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 44, the “Georgia Historic Preservation Act.”

(A) Refer to 102.1 and 102.2 regarding the application of this *Code* to existing buildings. Except to the extent required by applicable laws of Georgia (O.C.G.A. 25-2-13(b)(3)(D) and (E), the provisions of this *Code* are not mandatory for buildings or structures identified and classified by the state, or as appropriate, a local jurisdiction, as historic buildings when such buildings or structures are judged by the fire code official to be safe and in the public interest of health, safety and welfare, based on the criteria established by the referenced provisions of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. When evaluating the safety of historic buildings the fire official should consult O.C.G.A. Title 8, Chapter 2, Article 3 entitled, ‘Uniform Act for the Application of Building and Fire Related Codes to Existing Buildings,’ and the provisions of O.C.G.A. Sections 25-2-13 (b)(3) & 25-2-13(b)(4), and NFPA Standard 914, *Code for Fire Protection of Historic Structures*, as adopted by this Chapter as a recommended practice.”

9. Delete section 102.7 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“102.7 Referenced codes and standards. Where the provisions of this *Code* or the standards referenced thereby and in Chapter 45 of this *Code* do not apply to the specific subjects, situations or conditions encountered that involve risks to life and property from the hazards of fire, panic from fear of fire or smoke, or related hazards, compliance with the applicable chapters of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner shall be evidence of compliance with this *Code*.”

10. Add a new section 102.13 to read as follows:

“102.13 Coordination of provisions. This *Code* shall apply to all buildings, structures and facilities as provided in subsections 102.1 and 102.2, and shall be utilized in conjunction with codes and standards specified in **Table 102.13** entitled, “**CODES REFERENCE GUIDE**.”

Table 102.13: CODES REFERENCE GUIDE		
Area	Primary	Supplement
Occupancy Classification	LSC	IBC
Building Construction Types including allowable height, allowable building areas, and the requirements for sprinkler protection related to minimum building construction types.	IBC	LSC
Means of Egress	LSC	NONE
Standpipes	IBC	IFC
Interior Finish	LSC	NONE
HVAC Systems	IMC	NONE
Vertical Openings	LSC	NONE
Sprinkler Systems minimum construction standard	LSC	NONE
Fire Alarm Systems	LSC	NONE
Smoke Alarms & Smoke Detection Systems	State Statute & LSC	NONE

Portable Fire Extinguishers	LSC & NFPA 96	NONE
Cooking Equipment	IFC	NONE
Fuel Fired Appliances	IFGC	NFPA 54
Liquid Petroleum Gas	NFPA 58	NFPA 54
Compressed Natural Gas	NFPA 52	NONE

11. Delete section 103 and all sections there-under in their entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“SECTION 103 GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR EXISTING AND PROPOSED (NEW) BUILDINGS.

103.1 General Provisions. The administration, enforcement and penalty provisions of O.C.G.A. Title 25, Chapter 2, and the administrative provisions of the various chapters of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner shall apply to and regulate the application and enforcement of this *Code* by the Safety Fire Division of the Office of the Safety Fire Commissioner.

NOTE: Nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting any local jurisdiction from adopting the deleted portions of Chapter 1 of this *Code* for local purposes, provided, however, local amendments shall not be less restrictive than this *Code*, and other codes and standards as adopted by the various chapters of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.

103.1.1 The provisions of O.C.G.A. Title 25, Chapter 2, and other applicable state laws, and the applicable provisions of various chapters of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner regarding the requirements for certificates, licenses, permits, plan reviews, inspections, approvals, fees, etc. shall apply and are in addition to any requirements of local jurisdictions. Local authorities having jurisdiction need to be consulted to determine if rules and

regulations of the local jurisdiction regarding the requirements for local certificates, licenses, permits, plan reviews, inspections, approvals, fees, etc. also apply.

103.1.1.1 The administrative, operational, and maintenance provisions of this *Code*, with regard to the Safety Fire Division of the Office of the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner, shall be limited to the scope and intents and purposes of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) Title 25, Chapter 2, and the Commissioner’s Rules and Regulations.

103.1.1.1.1 Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2-13(d), every person who owns or controls the use of any building, part of a building, or structure described in O.C.G.A. 25-2-13 (b)(1), which because of floor area, height, location, use or intended use as a gathering place for large groups, or use or intended use by or for the aged, the ill, the incompetent, or the imprisoned, constitutes a special hazard to property or to the life and safety on account of fire or panic from fear of fire, must so construct, equip, maintain, and use such building or structure as to afford every reasonable and practical precaution and protection against injury from such hazards. No person who owns or controls the use or occupancy of such a building or structure shall permit the use of the premises so controlled for any such specially hazardous use unless he has provided such precautions against damage to property or injury to persons by these hazards as are found and determined by the Commissioner in the manner described in O.C.G.A. 25-2-13(d) to be reasonable and practical.

103.2 Existing buildings. Every building and structure existing as of April 1, 1968, which building or structure is listed in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of O.C.G.A. 25-2-13 shall comply with the minimum fire safety standards in the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner promulgated pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2 which were in effect at the time such building or structure was constructed.

Exception 1: Any nonconformance noted under the electrical standards adopted at the time such building or structure was constructed shall be corrected in accordance with the current electrical standards adopted pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2.

Exception 2: A less restrictive provision contained in any subsequently adopted minimum fire safety standard pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2, may be applied to any existing building or structure.

103.2.1 Existing buildings to be deemed a proposed building. For the purposes of O.C.G.A. 25-2-14(b), any existing building or structure listed in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of O.C.G.A. 25-2-13 and which comes under the jurisdiction of the Office of the Safety Fire Commissioner, pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2-12, shall be deemed to be a proposed (new) building in the event such building or structure is subject to substantial renovation, a fire or other hazard of serious consequence, or a change in the classification of occupancy, or a change to the occupant load or structure issued as a condition of occupancy. The term “substantial renovation”, for purposes of this subsection means any construction project involving exits or internal features of such building or structure costing more than the building’s or structure’s assessed value according to county tax records at the time of such renovation (O.C.G.A. 25-2-14). Where a change of classification is involved, also refer to 102.3 of this *Code*.

103.3 Proposed (new) buildings and additions to existing buildings:

103.3.1 Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2-14.1(b), every proposed building and structure listed in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of O.C.G.A. 25-2-13 shall comply with the adopted minimum fire safety standards that were in effect on the date that plans and specifications therefore were received by the state fire marshal, the proper local fire official marshal, or state inspector for review and approval. Complete plans for proposed (new) buildings and structures recorded as received by the authority having jurisdiction for review prior to the effective date of this Chapter, may be reviewed under the codes, standards, and Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner in force prior to the effective date of this Chapter.

103.3.1.1 Projects receiving a construction permit under earlier editions of the codes and standards must start construction no later than 360 days from the issue date of the permit in order not to require resubmittal for review under the newer adopted codes and standards.

103.3.2 Plans and specifications for all proposed buildings which come under classification in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of O.C.G.A. 25-2-13 and which come under the jurisdiction of the Office of the Safety Fire Commissioner pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2-12 shall be submitted to and receive approval by either the state fire marshal, the proper local fire marshal, or state inspector before any state, municipal, or county building permit may be issued or construction started (O.C.G.A. 25-2-14(a)). All such plans and specifications submitted as required by O.C.G.A. 25-2-14(a) shall be

accompanied by a fee in the amount provided in O.C.G.A. 25-2-4.1 and shall bear the seal and Georgia registration number of the drafting architect or engineer or shall otherwise have the approval of the Commissioner.

103.3.3 Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2-37(a), it shall be unlawful for any person to begin construction on any proposed building or structure which comes under the classification in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of O.C.G.A. 25-2-13 and which comes under the jurisdiction of the Office of the Safety Fire Commissioner pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2-12 without first having plans approved in accordance with O.C.G.A. 25-2-14.

103.4 Proposed building construction and completion. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2-14(b), a complete set of plans and specifications approved as set forth in 103.3.3 shall be maintained on the construction site, and construction shall proceed in compliance with the state minimum fire safety standards under which such plans and specifications were approved. The owner of any such building or structure or his authorized representative shall notify the state fire marshal, the proper local fire marshal, or state inspector upon completion of approximately 80 percent of the construction thereof and shall apply for a certificate of occupancy when construction of such building or structure is completed.

103.5 Certificate of occupancy required. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2-14(c), every building or structure which comes under classification in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of O.C.G.A. 25-2-13 and which comes under the jurisdiction of the Office of the Safety Fire Commissioner pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2-12 shall have a certificate of occupancy issued by the state fire marshal, the proper local fire marshal, or state inspector before such building or structure may be occupied. Such certificates of occupancy shall be issued for each business establishment within the building, shall carry a charge in the amount provided in O.C.G.A. 25-2-4.1, shall state the occupant load for such business establishment or building, shall be posted in a prominent location within such business establishment or building, and shall run for the life of the building, except as provided in O.C.G.A. 25-2-14(d). (See 103.2.1 of the *IFC*, as adopted by this Chapter.)”

12. The provisions of section 105, PERMITS, are not adopted for purposes of this Chapter. Local governing authorities may adopt the provisions for local purposes. Refer to section 103.3 with regard to permits required by the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.

13. The provisions of section 109, BOARD OF APPEALS, are not adopted for purposes of this Chapter. Local governing authorities may adopt the provisions for local purposes.

14. Delete section 110.4 and all sections there-under in their entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“110.4 Violation penalties. Persons who shall violate a provision of this *Code* or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the fire code official, or of a permit or certificate used under provisions of this *Code*, shall be guilty of violation of Section 25-2-37 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

110.4.1 Abatement of violation. In addition to the imposition of the penalties herein described, the fire code official is authorized to institute appropriate action to prevent unlawful construction or to restrain, correct or abate a violation; or to prevent illegal occupancy of a structure or premises; or to stop an illegal act, conduct of business or occupancy of a structure on or about any premises.”

15. The provisions of section 113, SERVICE UTILITIES, are not adopted for purposes of this Chapter. Local governing authorities may adopt the provisions for local purposes.

(b) Modifications to Chapter 2:

1. Delete section 201.3 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“201.3 Terms defined in other codes. Where terms are not defined in 120-3-3-.03 of Chapter 120-3-3 or other applicable chapters of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner, or this *Code* and are defined in the *International Building Code (IBC)*, the *International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC)*, the *International Mechanical Code (IMC)*, or the codes and standards of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), as adopted by this Chapter and other Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner, such terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them as in those codes and standards.”

2. Delete Institutional Group I-2 in its entirety and replace with:

Institutional Group I-2. Institutional Group I-2 occupancy shall include buildings and structures used for medical care on a 24-hour basis for more than five persons who are not capable of self-preservation. This group shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Foster care facilities
- Detoxification facilities
- Hospitals
- Nursing homes
- Psychiatric hospitals
- Assisted Living Communities
- Memory Care Units
- Limited Care Facilities (Limited Healthcare)

(c) Modifications to Chapter 3:

1. Delete section 303.5 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“303.5 Portable Fire Extinguishers. There shall be at least one portable fire extinguisher complying with Section 906 and with a minimum 2-A:40-B:C rating within 25 feet (7620 mm) of each asphalt (tar) kettle during the period such kettle is being utilized, and a minimum of one additional portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 3-A:40-B:C rating on the roof being covered.”

2. Add new exceptions 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 to section 308.3 to read as follows:

“Exception #4:

In Group A public assembly occupancies having an occupant load greater than 300, a minimum ceiling height of 25 feet and that are protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with NFPA 13, as adopted by this Chapter, pyrotechnic special effect devices shall be permitted to be used on stages before proximate audiences for ceremonial or religious purposes, as part of a demonstration in exhibits, or as part of a performance, provided that precautions satisfactory to the authority having jurisdiction are taken to prevent ignition of any combustible material and use of the pyrotechnic device complies with NFPA 1126, *Standard for the Use of Pyrotechnics before a Proximate Audience*, as adopted by Chapter 120-3-22 Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner. The ceiling height may be lowered to a minimum of 15 feet upon approval of the authority having jurisdiction having witnessed a demonstration shot of all types of devices being used in the display.

Exception #5:

In Group A public assembly occupancies having an occupant load greater than 300, a minimum ceiling height of 25 feet and that are protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with NFPA 13, as adopted by this Chapter, flame effects before an audience shall be permitted in accordance with NFPA 160, *Standard for Flame Effects Before an Audience*, as adopted by Chapter 120-3-22 Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner. The ceiling height may be lowered to a minimum of 15 feet upon approval of the authority having jurisdiction having witnessed a demonstration of all types of devices being used in the display.

Exception #6

On stages and platforms as a necessary part of a performance in public assembly occupancies having an occupant load greater than 300, a minimum ceiling height of 25 feet and that are protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with NFPA 13, as adopted by this Chapter. The ceiling height may be lowered to a minimum of 15 feet upon approval of the authority having jurisdiction having witnessed a demonstration of all types of devices being used in the display.

Exception #7

In Group A public assembly occupancies having an occupant load greater than 100 with fixed seating, a minimum ceiling height of 25 feet and that have a minimum of two certified fire fighters on site with proper firefighting equipment as determined by the local fire official, pyrotechnic special effect devices shall be permitted to be used on stages before proximate audiences for ceremonial or religious purposes, as part of a demonstration in exhibits, or as part of a performance, provided that precautions satisfactory to the authority having jurisdiction are taken to prevent ignition of any combustible material and use of the pyrotechnic device complies with NFPA 1126, *Standard for the Use of Pyrotechnics before a Proximate Audience*, as adopted by Chapter 120-3-22 Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner. The ceiling height may be lowered to a minimum of 15 feet upon approval of the authority having jurisdiction having witnessed a demonstration shot of all types of devices being used in the display.

Exception #8:

In public assembly occupancies having an occupant load greater than 100 with fixed seating, a minimum ceiling height of 25 feet and that have a minimum of two certified fire fighters on site with proper firefighting equipment as determined by the local fire official, flame effects before an audience shall be permitted in accordance with NFPA 160, *Standard for Flame Effects Before an Audience*, as adopted by this Chapter. The ceiling height may be lowered to a minimum of 15 feet upon approval of the authority having jurisdiction having witnessed a demonstration of all types of devices being used in the display.”

3. Delete section 310.1 ‘General’ its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“310.1 General. The smoking or carrying of a lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette or any other type of smoking paraphernalia or material is prohibited in areas indicated in Sections 310.2 through 31.8, buildings, structures, or areas, or portions of buildings, structures, or areas, as indicated is this in any other code or standard as adopted by the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner, or where prohibited in accordance Chapter 12A of Title 31 of the O.C.G.A.”

4. Delete section 319.1 ‘General’ its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

319.1 General. Mobile food preparation vehicles that are equipped with appliances that produce smoke or grease-laden vapors shall comply with NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations* as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3 and this section.

5. Delete section 319.3 ‘Exhaust hood’ in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

319.3 Exhaust hood. Cooking equipment that produces grease-laden vapors shall be provided with a kitchen exhaust hood that complies with NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations* as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3.

6. Delete section 319.4 ‘Fire protection’ in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

319.4 Fire protection. Fire protection shall be provided in accordance with NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations* as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3.3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.”

(d) Modifications to Chapter 4:

(4) Add section 403.1.1 to read as follows:

“403.1.1 Caregiver training. A minimum of three hours’ initial fire safety training for receipt of a certificate of training for successful completion shall be required for all directors, operators and all staff members of day-care facilities (adult and children), and for administrator’s, directors, operators and all staff of Group I-1 and Group R-4, assisted living communities, assisted living facilities, community living arrangements, memory care units, personal care homes, and residential board and care homes, as defined in Chapter 2 of this *Code* or as defined by the *Life Safety Code*, and or as adopted by Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner. The curriculum for the fire safety training shall receive written approval by the State Fire Marshal’s Office and be taught by an instructor registered with the Safety Fire Commissioner’s Office. All persons as required herein to obtain such required training shall receive

this training within 90 days from receipt of a license, being commissioned or the opening of a new facility. Such new persons shall receive a minimum of three hours' initial fire safety training and recommendation for receipt of a certificate of training for successful completion of the training within 90 days of employment. In addition, a minimum of two hours of fire safety refresher training shall be required for receipt of a certificate of training for successful completion of the refresher training. The refresher training shall be required for all persons coming under 403.1.1, every three years from the date initial training is received. Registered instructors shall deliver the training based on policies and direction from the State Fire Marshal's Office. Instructors found not to be delivering the training in accordance with the said policies and direction shall be removed from the registry and prohibited from delivering future training."

2. Delete section 403.8.2 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

403.8.2 Group I-2 occupancies. Group I-2 occupancies to include Assisted Living Communities, Memory Care Units and Limited Care Facilities (Limited Healthcare) shall comply with Sections 401, 403.8.2.1 through 403.8.2.3 and 404 through 406.

(e) Modifications to Chapter 5:

1. Add a new section 501.5 to read as follows:

"501.5 Where buildings or facilities fall under the jurisdiction of the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner as set forth in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.), Title 25, Chapter 2, except for State owned facilities and State occupied facilities, it is intended that the provisions of Chapter 5 that primarily relate to fire department response, access to facilities, access to building interiors, key boxes, premises identification, fire department connection locations, and fire hydrant locations be administered by the local Fire Chief and/or Fire Code Official responsible for providing fire or other emergency response to the buildings or facilities. With regard to State owned State occupied facilities, that are not provided with a facility fire department, it is intended that the local Fire Chief and/or Fire Code Official providing fire protection to such facilities shall have input in the planning of facilities with regard to the noted provisions covered by Chapter 5."

2. Delete section 503.1.1 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

"503.1.1 Buildings and facilities. Approved fire apparatus access roads shall be provided for every facility, building or portion of a building hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction as determined by the local Fire Chief and/or Fire Code Official of the responding fire department or agency. The fire apparatus access road shall comply with the requirements of this section and Appendix D of this Code. The fire apparatus access road shall extend to within 150 feet (45.7 m) of all portions of the facility or any portion of the exterior wall of the first story of the building as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the building or facility.

Exception: The local Fire Chief and/or Fire Code Official of the responding fire department or agency is authorized to increase the dimension of 150 feet (45.7 m) where:

1. *The building is equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, 903.3.1.2 or 903.3.1.3.*
2. *The fire apparatus access roads cannot be installed because of location on the property, topography, waterways, nonnegotiable grades or other similar conditions, and an approved alternative means of fire protection is provided.*
3. *There are not more than two Group R-3 or Group U occupancies."*

3. Add a new section 504.1.1 to read as follows:

"504.1.1 Access Doors. For fire department emergency access purposes, there shall be at least one access door in each 100 linear feet (30.5 m) or major fraction thereof of the exterior walls which face the access roadways required by Section 503, unless otherwise required in this code section. In exterior walls designed with continuous rolling dock doors, which face access roadways, there shall be at least one access door in each 200 linear feet (61 m) or fraction thereof. Required access doors shall be a minimum of 3 feet (0.9 m) wide and 6 feet 8 inches (2 m) high and shall be accessible without use of a ladder. Rolling doors are acceptable for such purposes in buildings protected throughout by an approved

automatic sprinkler system(s) unless otherwise approved for unsprinklered buildings by the local Fire Chief and /or Fire Code Official.”

Exception: The local Fire Chief and / or Fire Code Official of the responding fire department or agency is authorized to increase the 100 linear feet.

4. Delete section 507.5.1 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“507.5.1 Where required. Where a portion of the facility or building hereafter constructed or moved into or within the jurisdiction is more than 500 feet (152 m) from a hydrant on a fire apparatus access road, as measured by an approved route around the exterior of the facility or building, on-site fire hydrant and mains shall be provided where required by the local Fire Chief and/or Fire Code Official of the responding fire department or agency.

Exceptions:

1. *For group R-3 and Group U occupancies, the distance requirement shall be 600 feet (183 m).*
2. *For buildings equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2, the distance requirement shall be 600 feet (183 m).”*

5. Delete subsection 507.5.1.1 in its entirety without substitution. Refer to section 905 of this Code.

(f) Modifications to Chapter 6:

1. Add exception number 3 to 603.4 to read as follows:

3. *In emergency conditions, when approved by the authority having jurisdiction, equipment designed to be portable may be used for a specified time provided such equipment is properly protected and separated from combustibles as specified by the manufacturer’s instructions and the authority having jurisdiction. Such devices shall be supervised during their period of operation by the establishment of a fire watch system based on the definition of “Fire Watch” in Chapter 2 of this Code. Persons assigned to perform fire watch duties shall be instructed as to their duties.*

2. Delete section 604.4 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“604.4 Multiplug adapters & Relocatable Power Taps (RPTs).

604.4.1 Multiplug adapters. The use of multiplug electrical outlet adapters, such as but not limited to cube adapters or plug strips, or any other similar device that is not UL listed and is not equipped with overcurrent protection shall be prohibited. Such devices that are UL listed and are equipped with overcurrent protection shall only be used in accordance with the UL listing and in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. Such listed devices shall not be used where specifically prohibited by a provision of NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code*. Where there is any conflict between the UL listing and the manufacturer’s instructions, the UL listing provisions shall prevail. The suitability for the use of RTP’s shall be based, by the user, on 110.3(A)(1) of the *National Electrical Code*.

604.4.2 Relocatable Power Taps (RPT’s):

604.4.2.1 Relocatable Power Taps (RPT’s) shall be UL listed and labeled in accordance with UL1363. They shall be of the polarized or grounded type, and be equipped with overcurrent protection. RPT’s shall be used in accordance with their UL listing and the manufacturer’s instructions. [NEC, 110.3(B)] Where there is any conflict between the UL listing and the manufacturer’s instructions, the UL listing provisions shall prevail. Such listed devices shall not be used where specifically prohibited by a provision of NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code*.

604.4.2.2 RPT power supply. RPT's shall be directly connected to a permanently installed electrical receptacle. An RPT shall not be plugged into another RPT or into an extension cord or flexible cord. A UL listed extension cord or flexible cord having only one outlet and serving only one device may be plugged into an RPT so long as the arrangement does not cause an overcurrent condition in the RPT.

604.4.2.3 RPT power cords. Power cords of RPT's shall not be extended through holes in walls, structural ceilings, or floors. Such cords shall not be run under doors or floor coverings. They shall not be run through doorways, windows, or similar openings.

604.4.2.4 Protection from physical damage. RPT's shall be mounted off floors to a wall or fixture so as to be protected against physical damage. The method of mounting shall not be permanent so that the devices may be easily relocated as need dictates.

604.4.2.5 Restricted use in Health Care Occupancies. "Hospital grade" RPT's listed, based on UL 1363A, for use in "patient care" or "patient sleeping rooms" of a hospital, limited care facility, nursing home, hospice, or ambulatory health care facility may be used in such locations, unless such use is specifically prohibited by this *Code*, NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code*, NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, NFPA 99, *Health Care Facilities Code*, or other applicable State or Federal rule or regulation."

3. Insert an Informational Note following section 604.4.2.4 to read as follows:

"Informational Note: Based on UL1363, RPT's are intended for indoor use as an extension of a grounding alternating-current branch circuit for general use. Where such devices are used or intended to be used for voltage surge suppression, the RPT is also required by UL1363 to meet the provisions of UL1449 for Transient Voltage Surge Suppressors. UL1363 incorporates this compliance. Such devices may be utilized for the protection of personal or laptop computers, computer related devices, word processors, memory typewriters, and other low load devices. They are not intended for use with high load equipment such as, but not limited to, refrigerators, coffee pots, microwave ovens, toasters, toaster ovens, space heaters, and other high power load devices. The labeling and manufacturer's information and instructions need to be consulted to determine if the RPT is also listed for transient voltage suppression. In addition, some RPT devices have additional options included in the device such as "electrical noise" filtration. UL1363 would also require and ensure that component would meet UL1283. The safety requirements relative RPT's regardless of the various extras that may be included in a device covered by UL1363 and the RPT manufacturer's instructions. RPT's have also been referred to as "Temporary Power Taps (TPT's)", "power strips", "Surge/Spike Protectors", or "Portable Outlets" among other designations. NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code* (NEC), 2011 edition, does not utilize the term "Relocatable Power Tap or RPT, however, for safety provisions similar to those utilized by UL, reference can be made to NEC Article 400, Flexible Cords and Cables, Article 406, Receptacles, Cord Connectors, and Attachment Plugs (CAPS), and Article 517 Health Care Facilities."

4. Delete section 604.10 and the exception thereto, and substitute in its place the following: Sections 604.10.1 through 604.10.4 remain unchanged.

"604.10 Portable, electric space heaters. Portable, electric heaters are prohibited in all portions of occupancies in Groups A, E (including day care), I-1, I-3, R-1, R-2, and R-4. Where not prohibited by other chapters of this *Code*, or by provisions of NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, as adopted by Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner, portable, electrical space heaters shall be permitted to be used in all other occupancy groups. Where use is permitted, portable electric space heaters shall comply with Sections 604.10.1 through 604.10.5 and 604.10.6 where applicable."

5. Add a new section 604.10.6 to read as follows:

"604.10.6 Oil filled radiator type, portable electric space heaters that have a maximum surface temperature restriction of 250° F, may be permitted to be used in staff and employee areas that are located on floors not occupied by patient or staff sleeping areas and that are totally sprinkler protected in I-2 occupancies as defined in Chapter 2 of this *Code*. For single story I-2 occupancies, such devices may be used in staff and employee non-sleeping areas that are totally sprinkler

protected and that are separated from staff and patient sleeping room areas by 1-hour fire rated construction. Such space heaters shall comply with 604.10.1 through 604.10.5.”

6. Add a new 604.12 to read as follows:

“604.12 Separation from Transformers. Space separation for transformers shall be as follows:

- (1) Transformer pad locations shall be a minimum of 10 feet (3 m) from any building, building overhangs, canopies, exterior walls, balconies, exterior stairs and/or walkways connected to the building.
- (2) Transformer pad edges shall be not less than 14 feet (4.3 m) from any doorway.
- (3) Transformer pad edges shall be not less than 10 feet (3 m) from any window or other opening.
- (4) If the building has an overhang, the 10 foot (3 m) clearance shall be measured from a point below the edge of the overhang only if the building is three stories or less. If the building is four stories or more, the 10 foot (3 m) clearance shall be measured from the outside building wall.
- (5) Fire escapes, outside stairs, and covered walkways attached to or between buildings, shall be considered as part of the building.

604.12.1 Transformer pads may be located closer to noncombustible walls than the above required minimum clearances in 605.12(1) upon written approval of the authority having jurisdiction, however, in no case shall the transformer location be less than 3 feet (0.9 m) from the building.

604.12.2 Transformer pads existing prior to December 31, 1994, are exempted from the requirements of 605.11. When buildings are modified, reductions in space separations may be less than the above required minimum clearances upon written approval of the authority having jurisdiction.”

7. Delete section 607 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“607.1 General. Commercial kitchen exhaust hoods and residential cooking appliances in commercial and public buildings shall comply with the requirements of NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*, as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3.”

7. Delete section 609.2 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“607.2 Where required. A commercial hood complying with NFPA 96, as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3, shall be installed in any occupancy at or above all commercial cooking appliances, and domestic cooking appliances used for commercial purposes and which produce grease laden vapors.

607.2.1 The provisions of 607.2 shall not apply where provided for in the scoping provisions of subsection 1.1.4 of NFPA 96, as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3.”

8. Delete 607.3 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“607.3 Operations and maintenance. Commercial cooking appliances, and domestic cooking appliances used for commercial purposes and which produce grease laden vapors, and all components of ventilation systems serving such appliances shall be installed, operated and maintained in accordance with the provisions of NFPA 96 as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3.”

(g) Modifications to Chapter 7:

1. Add a new 701.2.2 to read as follows:

“701.2.2 Barrier Identification. All fire and/or smoke barriers or walls shall be effectively and permanently identified with signs or stenciling above a decorative ceiling and/or in concealed spaces with letters a minimum of 2 inches (51 mm) high on a contrasting background spaced a maximum of 12 feet (3.7m) on center with a minimum of one per wall

or barrier. The hourly rating shall be included on all rated barriers or walls. Suggested wording is, “() Hour Fire and Smoke Barrier-Protect All Openings.”

(h) Modifications to Chapter 8:

1. Delete section 801.1 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“SECTION 801 GENERAL,

801.1 Scope. The provisions of this *Code*, as adopted by this Chapter shall govern furniture, furnishings, decorative vegetation, and decorative materials, as defined in Chapter 2 of this *Code*, in buildings and structures. Section 803 shall be applicable to all existing buildings, structures, or spaces constructed and issued the required certificate of occupancy prior to the effective date of this Chapter 120-3-3. Sections 804 through 808 shall be applicable to such existing buildings, structures, and or spaces, and to proposed (new) buildings, structures, or spaces. For the purposes of this *Code*, wall padding, wall mounted gym pads, crash pads, or other pads mounted or secured to walls shall meet the provisions of this NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code* applicable to interior finish materials. Gym pads or other pads used on floors shall be considered as furnishings. Interior finish and trim in proposed (new) buildings shall be regulated by NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, as adopted by Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.”

(i) Modifications to Chapter 9:

1. Delete section 901.3 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“901.3 Approvals and Permits. Fire protection systems shall be approved as set forth by the authority having jurisdiction. Local authorities having jurisdiction may require permits as required and set forth in 105.6 and 105.7 of this *Code*.”

2. Delete section 901.4.1 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“901.4.1 Required fire protection systems. Fire suppression systems required by this *Code*, the *International Building Code*, the *Life Safety Code*, or other codes and standards adopted by the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner, shall be installed, operated, tested, repaired and maintained in accordance with this *Code* and applicable standards adopted by the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner.”

3. Delete section 901.4.2 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“901.4.2 Provisions in excess of the minimum code requirements shall, as a minimum, be installed to meet the provisions of the currently adopted code(s) and/or standard(s) which may be applicable to the provision at the time of its installation. Any non-required fire protection system which is added onto, interconnected with, any required fire protection system (of a similar type), shall be designed, installed, and maintained in accordance with the provisions of the currently adopted code(s) and/or standard(s) which may be applicable to the provision at the time of its installation.

901.4.2.1 The provisions of 901.4.2 shall not apply to other installations not conforming with the provisions of the currently adopted code(s) and/or standard(s) applicable to the provision at the time of its installation if such installations are reported and filed with the local responding fire department and the authority having jurisdiction. In addition such systems shall be identified as required by the authority having jurisdiction.

901.4.2.2 The provisions of 901.4.2 shall not apply for non-required systems designed, reviewed, installed and approved in accordance with local codes and/or ordinances.”

4. Delete section 903.2 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“903.2 Where required. (a) Approved automatic sprinkler systems for proposed (new) buildings and structures approved for construction as set forth in 103.3.1 of this *Code*, or where specifically required for existing buildings and structures, shall as the minimum level of protection, be that required by the applicable provisions of NFPA 101, *Life Safety*

Code and applicable provisions of other codes and standards adopted by Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner, and this *Code* section; provided, however, the *International Building Code (IBC)* shall govern the requirements for sprinkler protection that are related to minimum building construction types, or to increases in building area and height limitations imposed by the *IBC*.” (Refer to **Table 102.13, CODES REFERENCE GUIDE**)

(b) Where a new automatic sprinkler system is required by this *Code* or other code, standard, rule or regulation, the system shall be designed and installed in accordance with the requirements applicable to systems in proposed (new) buildings and structures.

(c) In addition, an automatic sprinkler system may be required for new or existing buildings, structures, spaces, or conditions by other NFPA standards adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3, or other Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.

(d) The requirements for the installation, design, and testing of automatic sprinkler systems shall be as applicable, NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, NFPA 13R, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies up to and Including Four Stories in Height*; and NFPA 13D, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes*, or as adopted and modified by this Chapter 120-3-3.

903.2.1 The sprinkler protection provision of 903.2 shall not be mandatory for spaces or areas in telecommunications buildings used exclusively for telecommunications equipment, associated electrical power distribution equipment, batteries and standby engines, provided those spaces or areas are equipped throughout with a supervised automatic fire alarm system, and are separated from the remainder of the building by fire barriers consisting of walls and floor/ceiling assemblies having a fire resistance rating of not less than 2-hours.

NOTE: NFPA 76, *Fire Protection of Telecommunications Facilities*, should be consulted. Refer to the edition adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3.”

5. Delete section 903.3.7 of this *Code* in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“903.3.7 Fire department connections. The location of fire department connections shall be approved by the Fire Chief as set forth in subsection 501.5 of this *Code*, adopted by Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.”

6. Delete section 904.2.2 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“904.2.2 Commercial hood and duct systems. Each required commercial kitchen exhaust hood and duct system required by Section 607 to have a commercial hood complying with NFPA 96, shall be protected with an approved automatic fire-extinguishing system installed in accordance with this *Code* and applicable provisions of NFPA 96.”

7. Delete section 904.12 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following: “904.12 Fire Protection for Commercial Cooking Operations.

904.12.1 The requirements for, as well as the design, installation, protection and maintenance of cooking equipment, shall be as required by NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code* and NFPA 96, *Standard for the Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*, as adopted by this Chapter 120- 3-3.” (Refer to **Table 102.13, CODES REFERENCE GUIDE**)

904.12.2 Fire suppression systems approved for the protection of commercial cooking appliances shall be designed, installed, and maintained in accordance with the applicable standards adopted in this Chapter.

904.12.3 Portable fire extinguishers for commercial cooking appliances. Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed in kitchens or other commercial cooking areas in accordance with NFPA 10 and NFPA 96, as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner. Class K portable fire extinguishers and the required operation sequence signage required by NFPA 10, shall be located between 5 feet and 10 feet from the manual release device(s) of the kitchen exhaust hood fire suppression system(s).”

8. Delete section 905.1 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“905.1 General. The State's minimum requirements for standpipe systems shall be as required by the *International Building Code (IBC)* or *This Code*. Standpipe systems shall be designed, installed and tested in accordance with NFPA 14, *Standard for the Installation of Standpipe, and Hose Systems* as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3. (Refer to **Table 102.13, CODE REFERENCE GUIDE**)”

9. Insert a new subsection 905.13 to read as follows:

“905.13 Fire department connections. The location of fire department connections shall be approved by the Fire Chief as set forth in subsection 501.5 of this *Code*, as adopted by Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.”

10. Delete section 906.1 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“906.1 Portable Fire Extinguishers - General. Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed in all buildings, structures and facilities falling under this *Code* and O.C.G.A. 25-2. For any other building, structure, facility, or condition or special hazard, portable fire extinguishers shall be provided as may be required by this *Code* in Table 906.1, or by various codes and standards adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner. (Refer to **Table 102.13, CODES REFERENCE GUIDE**).”

11. Delete section 906.2 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“906.2 General requirements. The selection, distribution, installation, and maintenance of portable fire extinguishers shall comply with NFPA 10, *Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers*, as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3.

906.2.1 The maximum travel distance to reach an extinguisher shall not apply to the spectator seating portions of Group A-5 occupancies.

906.2.2 Thirty-day inspections shall not be required and maintenance shall be allowed to be once every three years for dry-chemical or halogenated agent portable fire extinguishers that are supervised by a listed and approved electronic monitoring device, provided that all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) Electronic monitoring shall confirm that extinguishers are properly positioned, properly charged and unobstructed.
- (b) Loss of power or circuit continuity to the electronic monitoring device shall initiate a trouble signal.
- (c) The extinguishers shall be installed inside of a building or cabinet in a noncorrosive environment.
- (d) Electronic monitoring devices and supervisory circuits shall be tested every three years when extinguisher maintenance is performed.
- (e) A written log of required hydrostatic test dates for extinguishers shall be maintained by the owner to ensure that hydrostatic tests are conducted at the frequency required by NFPA 10.

906.2.3 In Group E - Educational occupancies, in lieu of locating fire extinguishers in corridors and normal paths of travel as specified in NFPA 10, *Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers*, fire extinguishers may be located in rooms that open directly onto such corridors and pathways provided all of the following are met:

- (a) The room in which such extinguishers are placed are located in close proximity to that portion of the corridor where a fire extinguisher would otherwise be placed in accordance with NFPA 10; *Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers*,
- (b) A sign which states in white letters at least one inch in height on a red background, ‘FIRE EXTINGUISHER LOCATED IN THIS ROOM,’ is placed on the corridor wall immediately adjacent to the entrance way of each such room so that it can be clearly seen at all times;
- (c) The rooms in which such extinguishers are placed shall be constantly supervised during school hours; and,
- (d) Those rooms cannot be subject to being locked at any time the building is occupied.”

12. Delete sections 906.3 through 906.10 without substitution (Refer to NFPA 10).

13. Delete section 907.1 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following, while retaining existing subsections:

“907.1 Fire Alarm Systems - General. (a) The State's minimum requirements for fire alarm systems in proposed (new) buildings and structures approved as set forth in 103.3.1 of this *Code* shall be as required by NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3. Fire alarm systems shall be designed, installed, tested, and maintained in accordance with NFPA 72, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3. (b) New fire alarm systems to be installed in existing buildings shall be designed, installed, and maintained in accordance with NFPA 72, as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3. (Refer to **Table 102. 13 CODES REFERENCE GUIDE**)”

17. Delete sections 907.2 through 907.6.6.2 in their entirety and without substitution.

18. Delete section 909.1 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“909.1 Scope and purpose. This section applies to mechanical or passive smoke control systems when they are required for proposed (new) buildings or portions thereof by provisions of the *Life Safety Code* (LSC) or this *Code*, as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3, or by provisions of the *International Building Code* (IBC), as adopted by the Department of Community Affairs. The purpose of this section is to establish minimum requirements for the design, installation, and acceptance testing of smoke control systems that are intended to provide a tenable environment for the evacuation or relocation of occupants. These provisions are not intended for the preservation of contents, the timely restoration of operations, or for assistance in fire suppression or overhaul activities. Smoke control systems regulated by this section serve a different purpose than the smoke and heat venting provisions found in Section 910. Mechanical smoke control systems shall not be considered exhaust systems under Chapter 5 of the *International Mechanical Code* (IMC).”

19. Delete section 909.2 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“909.2 General design requirements. Buildings, structures, or portions thereof required by provisions of the *Life Safety Code* (LSC) or this *Code*, as adopted by this Chapter, or by provisions of the *International Building Code*, as adopted by the Department of Community Affairs, to have a smoke control system or systems shall have such systems designed in accordance with the applicable requirements of Section 909 of this *Code* and the generally accepted and well established principles of engineering relevant to the design. The construction documents shall include sufficient information and detail to describe adequately the elements of the design necessary for the proper implementation of the smoke control systems. These documents shall be accompanied with sufficient information and analysis to demonstrate compliance with these provisions.”

20. Add a new section 909.2.1 to read as follows:

“909.2.1 Smoke Control. For the purposes of 909.2 the following publications shall be considered as providing the generally accepted and well established principals of engineering relevant to design of required smoke control systems.

(1) NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems*

(2) NFPA SPP-53, *Smoke Control in Fire Safety Design*

(3) ASHRAE/SFPE, *Design of Smoke Management Systems*

(4) ASHRAE, *Guideline 5: Guideline for Commissioning Smoke Management Systems*”

(5) NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code* (For non-mandatory guidance involving systems for existing detention and correction facilities refer to A.23.3.1.3 of the 2012 Edition)

21. Add a new section 909.2.1 to read as follows:

“909.2.1 Deactivation of Mechanical Pressurization Systems. The design of pressurization systems shall ensure that smoke is not introduced into the pressurized enclosure so as to result in the untenable contamination of the fresh air. Approved smoke detectors shall be installed at each intake in such approved manner that the operation of the fan providing mechanical pressurization to the enclosure where smoke is detected shall be deactivated upon detection of smoke.”

22. Add a new subsection 912.2.3 to read as follows:

“912.2.3 Location of fire department connections. The location of fire department connections for automatic sprinkler systems shall be as approved by the Fire Chief as set forth in accordance with Section 912 and Section 501.5 of this *Code*, as adopted by 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.”

23. Add a new section 914.7.3 to read as follows:

“914.7.3 Limited Use Special Amusement Buildings: Special amusement buildings not open to the public in excess of 45 days in a twelve month period shall be permitted, provided all of the following conditions are met:

1. Portable fire extinguishers with a minimum of a 2A:10B:C rating are placed within 25 feet of each activity or viewing station, so as to be readily accessible and visible to staff;
2. A smoke detection system is placed throughout the facility with a smoke detector located at each activity or viewing station and located throughout corridors and halls not to exceed a spacing more than 15 feet (4.6 m) from a wall or more than 30 feet (9.1 m) on center. Where there is no ceiling or cover over activity or viewing stations, or over exit access routes, other than the standard ceiling, smoke detectors shall be placed so that their area of coverage does not exceed the approval listing of the detectors;
3. Emergency lighting shall be provided which will cause illumination of the means of egress upon loss of power to lighting circuits for the means of egress routes serving the special amusement building. In addition, all staff shall be provided with flashlights;
4. Personnel dedicated for the sole purpose of performing fire watch duties as defined in Chapter 2 of the *International Fire Code* and as be deemed necessary for specific circumstances by the authority having jurisdiction, shall be provided in such numbers to ensure the entire special amusement space is surveyed at least every 30 minutes starting 30 minutes prior to public occupancy. Such personnel shall be provided with a direct communication device for communication with all viewing or activity stations throughout the facility. In addition such personnel shall be provided with appropriate training for the operation of portable fire extinguishing equipment;
5. Communication to the responding fire department or emergency dispatch center is available from the facility (a regular telephone or at least two cell phones are acceptable);
6. “NO SMOKING” signs shall be posted at entrances to the building. Receptacles for the discard of smoking material shall be located a minimum of 15 feet (9.1 m) from the structure and shall be clearly identified by applicable signage;
7. Documentation of fire watch tours required by item 4 above is maintained. The documentation, at the minimum, shall note the time when the tour was conducted the name of personnel conducting the tour, and information about any hazards identified and actions taken to remove such hazards. Such documentation shall be readily available to the code official upon request.”

(j) Modifications to Chapter 10:

1. Delete sections 1001 through 1030 in their entirety and substitute in their place the following:

“1001.1 General. (A) Proposed (new) buildings or portions thereof approved for construction as set forth in 103.3 of this *Code*, shall be provided with means of egress and related safeguards as set forth by NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, as adopted this Chapter. (Refer to **Table 102.13, CODES REFERENCE GUIDE**)

(B) Buildings and structures existing and approved prior the effective date of this Chapter 120-3-3, as set forth in 103.3 of this *Code*, having means of egress and related safeguards conforming to NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, under which they were approved and constructed shall be considered as complying with this *Code*. Means of egress and related safeguards in existing buildings constructed without approval, may be considered as complying with this code section if, in the judgment of the authority having jurisdiction, they do not constitute a distinct hazard to life. Where, in the judgment of the authority having jurisdiction, the means of egress or related safeguards provided constitute a distinct hazard to life, the

hazardous condition or conditions shall be remedied based on the provisions for existing buildings of the *Life Safety Code* as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3.

(C) Exit discharge termination dispersal areas may be utilized where authorized and designed in accordance with 7.7.1.5 of the *Life Safety Code*, as adopted by Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.”

2. Add the following section 1001.2 to read as follows:

“1001.2 Overcrowding and Life Safety Hazard Prevention. Overcrowding or admittance of any person beyond the approved capacity of a building or a portion thereof shall not be allowed. It is the responsibility of the manager and the person in charge of a building, structure, or portion thereof not to allow an overcrowded condition or any condition which constitutes a life safety hazard to exist, and to take prompt action to remedy an overcrowded condition or life safety hazard when evidence of such a condition is noted, or when advised or ordered by the Fire Code Official or his/her representative. (Refer to 107.6)

1001.2.1 Decreases in the Occupant Load. For authorized decreases in the occupant load approved by the fire code authority having jurisdiction, the actual number of occupants for whom each occupied space, floor or building is designed, although less than those determined by calculation, shall be permitted to be used in the determination of the design occupant load.

1001.2.2 Increases in the Occupant Load. For approved increases in the occupant load by the fire code authority having jurisdiction, refer to 7.3.1.5 of Subsection 7.3.1 of NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, as adopted by the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.

1001.2.3 Overcrowded Condition or Life Safety Hazard Determined. The fire code official, upon finding any overcrowded conditions or obstructions in aisles, passageways or other means of egress, or upon finding any condition which constitutes a life safety hazard, shall be authorized to cause the event to be stopped until such condition or obstruction is corrected. In addition, a structure, building, room or designated portion thereof shall be deemed overcrowded if the total of occupants exceeds the exit capacity of the structure, building, room or area involved.”

(k) Modifications to Chapter 11:

1. Delete 1101.1 and substitute in its place the following:

“1101.1 Scope. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to existing buildings constructed prior to the effective date of this Chapter 120-3-3.

2. Delete 1101.2 and substitute in its place the following:

“1101.2 Intent. The intent of this chapter is to provide a minimum degree of fire and life safety to persons occupying buildings by providing for existing building rehabilitation activities including repair, renovation, modification, reconstruction, change of use or occupancy classification, and additions to such buildings.

3. Delete 1101.3 and substitute in its place the following:

“1101.3 Permits. Construction permits for buildings falling under State jurisdiction, as set forth in O.C.G.A. 25-2-13, shall be required for the activities noted in 4601.1 when the criteria of O.C.G.A. 25-2-14(d) for an existing building to be classified as a proposed (new) building or structure are met. For local jurisdictions, permits shall be required as set forth in Section 105.7 of this *Code* and the *International Building Code*.

4. Delete Sections 1102 through 1104 and substitute in their place a new 1102 to read as follows:
“SECTION 1102 FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES”

“1102.1 General. The intents and purposes of this section shall be met through the application of the applicable provisions of this *Code*, the *Life Safety Code*, and other codes and standards as adopted by Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner, as they apply to existing conditions and routine maintenance of fire and life safety protection systems and devices. For building rehabilitation activities, including repair, renovation, modification, reconstruction, change of use or occupancy classification, and additions to such buildings, the definitions and requirements of Chapter 43, of the *Life Safety Code*, adopted by Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner shall apply.”

(l) Modifications to Chapter 20:

1. Delete section 2003.5 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“2003.5 Dispensing of flammable and combustible liquids. No dispensing, transfer or storage of flammable or combustible liquids shall be permitted inside any building or structure.

Exceptions:

1. *As provided in Chapter 57 of this Code, provided, the provisions are not less protective than the provisions of any applicable Codes and standards adopted by the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.*

2. *When the procedures used follow the guidelines and requirements set forth in NFPA 410 – Standard for Aircraft Maintenance, adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3.”*

2. Delete sections 2006.1 through 2006.21.1 in their entirety and substitute in their place a new paragraph 2006.1 to read as follows:

“2006.1 Aircraft motor vehicle fuel-dispensing stations and Airport Fuel Systems. All aircraft motor vehicle fuel-dispensing stations and airport fuel systems shall be in accordance with Chapter 120-3-11 Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner entitled, ‘Rules and Regulations for Flammable and Combustible Liquids.’”

3. Delete section 2007.1 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“2007.1 General. Helistops and heliports shall be maintained in accordance with Section 2007. Helistops and heliports on buildings or structures shall be constructed in accordance with the *International Building Code* and the requirements set forth by NFPA 418, Standard for Heliports, adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3.”

(m) Modification to Chapter 23.

1. Delete sections 2301.1 through 2301.6 in their entirety and substitute in their place a new paragraph 2301.1 to read as follows:

“2301.1 Scope. Automotive motor fuel-dispensing facilities, marine motor fuel dispensing facilities, fleet vehicle motor fuel-dispensing facilities and repair garages shall be in accordance with Chapter 120-3-11 Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner entitled, ‘Rules and Regulations for Flammable and Combustible Liquids.’”

Exception: This chapter shall apply to hydrogen motor fuel-dispensing and generation facilities as specified in section 2309 and repair garages where referenced by subsection 406.6, entitled, ‘Repair Garages,’ of the International Building Code.

2. Delete sections 2303 through 2308 and all other paragraphs there-under, and section 2310 and all other paragraphs thereunder in their entirety without substitution.

(n) Modification to Chapter 31:

1. Delete 3106.5.2 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:
“3106.5.2 Cooking Operations. Cooking operations shall be evaluated and comply with NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*, as adopted by Chapter 120-3-3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner.”

(o) Modification to Chapter 50:

1. Add two new exceptions 12 and 13 to section 5001.1 to read as follows:
“12. Storage, transportation, use, dispensing, mixing and handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids as outlined in Chapter 120-3-11 Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner entitled, ‘Rules and Regulations for Flammable and Combustible Liquids.’
13. Storage, handling, and transportation of liquefied petroleum gas (LP-Gas) and the installation of LP-gas equipment pertinent to systems for such use as outlined Chapter 120-3-16 Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner entitled, ‘Rules and Regulations for Liquefied Petroleum Gases.’”

2. In Table 5003.11.1, add superscript “k” to Oxidizers in the Material column and add the following footnote “k” to read as follows:

“k. Group M occupancies with Class 2 and Class 3 oxidizers exceeding these quantities shall comply with the applicable provisions of NFPA 400, *Hazardous Materials Code* as adopted by this Chapter 120-3-3.”

(p) Modifications to Chapter 56:

2. Delete sections 5601 through 5607 and all related paragraphs there under in their entirety and substitute in their place the following:

“**5601. Explosives and blasting.** The provisions of Chapter 120-3-10 Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner entitled, ‘Rules and Regulations for Explosives and Blasting Agents’ shall govern the possession, manufacture, storage, handling, sale and use of explosives, explosive materials and small arms ammunitions.”

3. Delete section 5608.1 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“5608.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS. In addition to the requirements of this Section for the display of fireworks the provisions of O.C.G.A. Title 25, Chapter 2, and Chapter 120-3-22, Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner, shall apply. Where there may be a conflict between a provision of this Section and a provision of the above referenced law or regulation, the provision of the above referenced law or regulation shall apply. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit the use of fireworks by railroads or other transportation agencies for the signal purposes or illumination, or the sale or use of blank cartridges for a show or theater, or for signal or ceremonial purposes in athletics or sports or for the use by military organizations.”

2. Insert a new section 5608.11 to read as follows:

“5608.11 Retail display and sale. (a) Fireworks as defined in the Official Code of Georgia (O.C.G.A.) Title 25, Chapter 10 in 25-10-1 (a)(1) shall not be made available for sale at retail or wholesale, except as provided in O.C.G.A. 25-10-10. (b) Non-explosive sparkling devices as defined in O.C.G.A. 25-10-1(b) are permitted for retail sales to the public, provided, however, it is unlawful for any such devices to be sold to any person under 18 years of age (O.C.G.A. 25-10-2(b)(1)). In addition, it is unlawful to sell such items to any person by any means other than an in-person, face-to-face sale. Further, such person shall provide proper identification to the seller at the time of such purchase. The term ‘proper identification’ means any document issued by a governmental agency containing a description of the person, such person’s photograph, or both, and giving such person’s date of birth and includes without being limited to, a passport, military identification card, driver’s license, or an identification card authorized under O.C.G.A. Sections 40-5-100 through 40-5-104. (c) In areas where devices are stored or displayed for retail sales, at least one pressurized-water type portable fire extinguisher complying with NFPA 10, as adopted by this Chapter shall be located not more than 20 feet and not closer than

15 feet from the storage or display location. In addition, “NO SMOKING” signs complying with Section 310 shall be conspicuously posted in areas of such storage or display, unless in a building where smoking is clearly marked as prohibited.”

(q) Modification to Chapter 57:

1. Add a new non-applicability paragraph number 12 to section 5701.2 to read as follows:

“12. The storage, transportation, use, dispensing, mixing and handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids as outlined in Chapter 120-3-11 Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner entitled, ‘Rules and Regulations for Flammable and Combustible Liquids.’”

(r) Modifications to Chapter 61:

1. Delete Chapter 61 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

“**CHAPTER 61 LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GASES.** The provisions relating to the storage and handling of liquefied petroleum gases shall be those in NFPA 58, *Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code*, as adopted by Chapter 120-3-16, Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner. (Refer to **Table 102.13, CODES REFERENCE GUIDE**)”

(s) Modifications to Chapter 80:

1. Add an Explanatory Note at the start of the Chapter to read:

“Replace the NFPA Standard Reference numbers with the year edition with the same NFPA Standard Reference numbers and titles however; each year edition shall be those as adopted by the Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner Chapters 102-3-3, 120-3-10, 120-3-11 and 120-3-12.”

(4) NFPA 2, 2020 Edition Hydrogen Technologies Code

Modifications: None

(5) NFPA 3, 2018 Edition, Guide for the Commissioning and Integrated Testing of Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems Modifications:

(a) Modifications to Chapter 1:

1. Add a new subsection 1.1.3 to read as follows:

“**1.1.3** This document is recognized strictly as a recommended practice for fire prevention and fire protection. Recommendations may be based on the document where deemed appropriate by the authority having jurisdiction. The document is not in the form of a stand-alone enforceable code or standard, and it is not adopted as a minimum state code or standard. It may be used in conjunction with and in the support of applicable provisions of other adopted codes or standards, or it may be adopted and enforced by a local jurisdiction under local ordinance.”

(6) NFPA 10, 2018 Edition, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers

Modifications:

(a) Modification to Chapter 6:

1. Delete 6.1.3.8.1 in its entirety and insert in its place the following (6.1.3.8.2 and 6.1.3.8.3 remain unchanged:

“**6.1.3.8.1** Portable fire extinguishers having a gross weight not exceeding 40 lb. (18.14 kg) shall be installed so that the top of the extinguisher is not more than 48 in (1.19 m) above the floor.”

2. Delete 6.1.3.10.5 in its entirety and substitute in its place the following:

6.1.3.10.5 Cabinets or wall recesses for fire extinguishers shall be installed that the top of the opening for the fire extinguisher is at 50 in. (1.27 m) above the finished floor.

6.1.3.10.5.1 The provisions of 6.1.3.10.5 shall not apply to existing installations.