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MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE DIVISION OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL BULLETIN 2009-6, as amended

June 28, 2010

LIGHT WEIGHT TRUSS CONSTRUCTION

The Mississippi Legislature during the 2009 Regular Legislative Session passed Senate Bill 2487, Light Weight Truss Construction, which requires the owner of a commercial building located in the State of Mississippi which has a floor or roof constructed with truss construction to attach to the building an emblem that identifies the building as having truss construction. This bill was codified as Miss. Code Ann. § 45-11-301.

During the 2010 Regular Legislative Session, House Bill 1176 was passed which amended Miss. Code Ann. § 45-11-301. Bulletin 2009-6 is hereby amended to reflect the changes made by House Bill 1176.

Scope:

Miss. Code Ann. § 45-11-301 applies to any building, with the exception of detached one- or two-family residential structures, that has a floor or roof constructed with truss construction. Pursuant to House Bill 1176, Miss. Code Ann. § 45-11-301 has been amended to provided that buildings constructed prior to July 1, 2010, shall not be subject to the provisions of this statute unless or until the building is renovated or expanded.

For the purposes of this Bulletin and Miss. Code Ann. § 45-11-301, the term "truss" shall mean structural members, such as boards, timbers, beams or steel bars, joined together in a rigid framework.

Emblem:

Miss. Code Ann. § 45-11-301 sets forth the following requirements regarding the emblem that is to be affixed to the building in order to identify the building as having truss construction.

1. The emblem must be permanently affixed to the left of the main entrance door at a height of between four (4) feet and six (6) feet above the ground;

2. The emblem must be of a bright and reflective color or made of a reflective material, and must be made of aluminum;
3. The emblem must be in the shape of an isosceles triangle measuring at a minimum six (6) inches horizontally and three (3) inches vertically; and,
4. The emblem must have conspicuously printed on it the following letters, as appropriate, based on the type of truss construction used in the building being identified by the emblem:
 - a. "F" to signify a floor with truss construction;
 - b. "R" to signify a roof with truss construction; or,
 - c. "F/R" to signify both a floor and roof with truss construction.

The emblem should not be removed or obstructed. The specifications for and depictions of the emblem are attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

Enforcement:

House Bill 1176 amends Miss. Code Ann. § 45-11-301 to require that the contractor performing the work shall be responsible for compliance with this statute.

Violation:

Failure of a county or municipality to enforce the provisions of Miss. Code Ann. § 45-11-301 may be considered a violation of the eligibility requirements for fire protection funds as set forth in Bulletin 2002-1, Eligibility Guidelines Administered by the Mississippi Department of Insurance and Bulletin 2005-4, Guidelines for the Legal Use of State Fire Protection Funds.

Effective Date:

This Bulletin shall replace the previous Bulletin 2009-6, as amended, and shall be effective on and after July 1, 2010.

If there are any questions concerning this Bulletin, contact the State Fire Marshal at (601) 359-1061 or the State Fire Coordinator's Office at (601) 359-1062.


MIKE CHANEY
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