



"City on the Gulf"

CITY OF VENICE FIRE DEPARTMENT

200 Grove Street N.
Venice, Florida 34285

Chief John Reed

July 12, 2010

Greetings,

The State Fire Marshal has implemented a new requirement and I would like to take the opportunity to introduce it to you. This requirement pertains to any commercial or industrial structure and any multi-unit residential structure of three units or more. It is currently in effect and applies to all such structures regardless of when the facility was built or is scheduled to be completed.

The intent of this new requirement is a life saving tool as it will help emergency responders identify a potential life threatening situation. When one of the building types mentioned above is constructed with light weight trusses, an identifier will be required on the exterior of the building. This sign will be a small Maltese Cross identifying the structure's truss type. These support members are very strong and safe under normal conditions yet can become safety hazards when exposed to fire.

I fully understand the stresses associated with our current economic condition. The required sign is relatively inexpensive and available at many of the local sign shops. The full details of this requirement are listed back of this letter. If you have any questions after reading this, please call the Fire Department at 480-3030 during normal business hours and ask to speak to Fire Marshal Jack Stevenson or Fire Inspector Randy Behling. On behalf of all the members of the Venice Fire Department, we appreciate your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Detailed Compliance Information →

John Reed,
Fire Chief

The mission of the Venice Fire Department is to achieve a goal of zero deaths and property loss from fire and to protect the citizens of Venice from the ravages of natural and manmade disasters. This is accomplished through an aggressive fire prevention and public education program, with a focus on highly trained and motivated personnel, outfitted with modern equipment and facilities.



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NOTICE TO COMPLY

Florida Statute, Section 633.027, (2008). Requires the owner of any commercial, industrial or multiunit residential structure of three units or more constructed of light-frame trusses, to install a symbol adopted by rule of the State Fire Marshal’s Office. **Light-frame truss-type construction means a type of construction whose primary structural elements are formed by a system of repetitive wood or light gauge steel framing members.** This rule also establishes the dimensions, color, and location of the symbol to be applied to every commercial, industrial and multiunit residential structure of three units or more constructed of light-frame trusses.

If your building meets these criteria you must comply with this rule. The State Fire Marshal rule(s) 69A-3.012 for Uniform Code buildings or 69A60.008 for Minimum Code buildings were adopted December 13, 2009. These rules will require you to install the necessary symbol(s).

Where the owner of the structure and the authority having jurisdiction disagree as to the use of light-frame truss-type construction within the structure, the owner shall be granted not more than 45 days to provide written verification from a licensed engineer or licensed architect; otherwise, the owner shall comply with the rule.



Lightweight Truss Floor

Lightweight Truss Roof

Lightweight Truss Roof & Floor

- Symbols must be made of an all weather material and contrasting to background.
- Maltese Cross shall measure 8 inches horizontally and 8 inches vertically.
- Maltese Cross shall be a bright red reflective color.
- Maltese Cross shall be within 24 inches to the left of the main entry.
- Maltese Cross shall be not less than 4 feet above grade, walking surface, or finished floor.
- Maltese Cross shall be not more than 6 feet above grade, walking surface, or finished floor
- Additional signs to be installed as determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.
- The complete rule is available online at the State Fire Marshal’s web site under Rules of the State Fire Marshal or at the Fire Department’s Administration Office.

Jack Stevenson
Fire Marshal