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MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE REGULATIONS RELATING TO TRANSPARENT GLASS DOORS IN MERCANTILE ESTABLISHMENTS AND IN PUBLIC AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

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DEFINITIONS

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of these regulations.

- .01 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the State Department of Health.
- .02 "Department" means the Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.
- .03 "Glazing" means the act, art or trade of setting glass in a sash or frame.
- .04 "Owner" means the owner of the premises, or the lessee of the whole thereof, or the agent in charge of the property.
- .05 "Commercial building or structure" means a building or structure whose occupants are engaged in, related with, deal with, or are occupied with commerce.
- .06 "Mercantile establishment" means a place where one or more persons are employed in which goods, wares or merchandise are offered for sale and includes a building, shed or structure, or any part thereof, occupied in connection with such establishment.
- .07 "Public building" means a factory building, an office building, a mercantile building, a motel or hotel building, a theatre building, a warehouse building, an apartment building, a state or municipal building, a school, hospital, college, university, library or museum building, a building containing a place of public assembly maintained or leased for pecuniary gain, or any other building open to the public.
- .08 "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.
- .09 "Sidelights" means fixed panels of transparent glass which form part of or are immediately adjacent to and within six feet horizontally of the vertical edge of any opening in which doors are located.
- .10 "Transparent glass" means material predominantly siliceous in character which is not opaque and through which objects lying beyond are clearly visible. For the purpose of this regulation, rigid transparent plastic material shall be construed as transparent glass.
- .11 "Transparent glass door" means a door manually or power actuated, fabricated of transparent glass or transparent safety glazing materials with a transparent area more than 18 inches wide and with a glazing sill less than 18 inches high.
- .12 "Transparent safety glazing materials" means materials which will clearly transmit light and also minimize the possibility of cutting or piercing injuries resulting from breakage of the material. Materials covered by this definition include, but are not limited to, laminated glass, tempered glass, wire glass, and rigid plastics.

SCOPE

- .13 This regulation applies throughout the State of Maryland to all transparent glass doors and fixed adjacent transparent glass sidelights in mercantile establishments and in public and commercial buildings and structures. After the effective date of these regulations, it shall be unlawful to install in any building in the State any glazing materials not in conformity with the glazing standards of the Building Officials' Conference of America, Inc. (BOCA) Basic Building Code, 1965 Edition, 1968 Accumulative Supplement, except as noted in Section .14-.19.

EXCEPTIONS

- .14 Fixed adjacent transparent glass sidelights 18 inches or less in width with opaque stiles at least one and three-quarters inches in width shall be exempt from the requirements of this regulation.

- .15 Where the ground, floor or equivalent surface area in the path of approach to a fixed adjacent transparent glass sidelight from either side for a minimum distance of three feet from such sidelight is so arranged, constructed or designed as to deter persons from approaching such sidelight or a permanent barrier is installed in the path of approach, the sidelight shall be exempt from the requirements of this regulation. Decorative pools, horticultural planting or similar installations shall be considered as indicating that the ground, floor or equivalent surface area is not a path of approach. Benches and similar barriers which are securely fastened to the floor or wall to prevent their removal shall be considered as blocking the path of approach provided they shall be not less than 18 inches in height from the ground, floor or equivalent surface and extend across at least two-thirds of the total width of the glazed area of the sidelight.
- .16 Transparent glass doors with a glazing sill at least 18 inches above the ground, floor or equivalent surface immediately adjacent, shall be exempt from the requirements of this regulation.
- .17 Fixed adjacent transparent glass sidelights supported by opaque sill and wall construction and having a glazing sill at least 18 inches above the ground, floor or equivalent surface immediately adjacent shall be exempt from the requirements of this regulation.
- .18 Display windows in any establishment, building or structure which fall within the definition of a sidelight shall be exempt from the requirements of this regulation if the top of supporting sill and wall construction is not less than 18 inches above the ground, floor or equivalent surface immediately adjacent and the interior area is occupied with merchandise or similar displays to clearly indicate to the public that it is not a means of ingress or egress.
- .19 Dwelling units occupied solely by the owner and his immediate household are exempt from these regulations.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MARKING

- .20 General: All transparent glass doors and fixed adjacent transparent glass sidelights shall be marked as hereinafter required, regardless of the type of glazing material used in their construction. Marking of all transparent glass doors and fixed adjacent transparent glass sidelights within six feet horizontally shall be of an opaque nature placed as hereinafter described in Section .21 below, and shall be of such design as to be readily discernible to any person approaching the doors and sidelights from any direction.
- .21 Marking Locations: Transparent glass doors and fixed adjacent transparent glass sidelights shall be marked in two areas on the glass surface thereof. One such area shall be located at least 30, but not more than 36 inches and the other at least 60 but not more than 66 inches above the ground, floor or equivalent surface below the door or sidelight.
- .22 Marking Dimensions: The marking design shall be at least four inches in diameter if circular or four inches in its least dimension if elliptical or polygonal, or shall be at least 12 inches in horizontal dimension if the marking is less than four inches in its least dimension. In no event shall the vertical dimension of any marking, including lettering, be less than one and one-half inches in height.
- .23 Marking Methods: Any of the following methods may be used to alert persons to the presence of transparent glass doors and fixed adjacent transparent glass sidelights in their path of movement.
- A. Adhesive strips not less than one and one-half inches in vertical dimension extending across at least two-thirds of the total glazed area.
 - B. Decals
 - C. Paint, gilding or other opaque marking materials.
 - D. Protective grilles at least four inches wide, extending the full width of the door, at least thirty inches, but not more than thirty-six inches from the ground, floor or equivalent surface.

RESPONSIBILITY

- .24 The owner of any building used as a mercantile establishment or a public or commercial building or structure shall be responsible for compliance with the provisions of this regulation.

PENALTY

- .25 Any person, who upon conviction of violating any of the provisions of this regulation, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each offense.