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TECHNICAL  
POLICY AND PROCEDURE NOTICE #6/99

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TO: Distribution

FROM: Richard C. Visconti, R.A. *W*

DATE: March 24, 1999

SUBJECT: OMISSION OF SPRINKLERS FROM CERTAIN SPACES IN  
RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS – LOCAL LAW # 10/99

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EFFECTIVE: Immediately

PURPOSE: To clarify when sprinklers can be omitted from clothes closets, linen closets, pantries, water closets, water closet compartments, bathrooms, general toilet rooms and shower rooms in buildings classified in Occupancy Group J-2 and J-3.

REFERENCE: Administrative Code (A.C.) §27-956(b).

DEFINITIONS: For the purpose of this Technical Policy & Procedure Notice, the words and terms contained herein shall have the following meanings:

- (1) A clothes closet, linen closet or pantry is a closet restricted to the storage of apparel, linens and/or food within a dwelling unit.
- (2) A water closet is a flushable toilet.
- (3) A water closet compartment is a physically demised space accessory to a dwelling unit and containing either a water closet or a water closet and a lavatory. A water closet compartment may contain a dressing table.

RESCINDED

- (4) A **bathroom** is a physically demised space accessory to a dwelling unit and containing, at a minimum, a lavatory, bathtub or shower stall and a water closet.
- (5) A **general toilet room** is a physically demised space containing water closets and lavatories and providing the required sanitary facilities serving dwelling units.
- (6) A **shower room** is a physically demised space providing means of bathing by overhead spray.

**SPECIFICS:**

**A. CLOTHES CLOSETS, LINEN CLOSETS AND PANTRIES**

Pursuant to A.C. §27-240 spaces classified in occupancy groups having a higher fire index or the same or lower fire index of the occupancy group classification of the building shall be separated from adjoining spaces in accordance with A.C. §27-339 and Table 5-2 or 5-1 as applicable. The provisions of either table do not apply to closets seventy-five (75) square feet or less.

Sprinklers can be omitted from clothes closets, linen closets and pantries. However, such closets or pantries exceeding seventy-five (75) square feet shall comply with fire segregation requirements of Table 5-1 or Table 5-2 as applicable. In lieu of providing the requisite fire segregation, such storage closets may be sprinklered upon reconsideration by the Borough Commissioner.

A dressing room seventy-five (75) square feet or more is not a clothes closet and shall be sprinklered pursuant to Local Law # 10/99.

**B. WATER CLOSET COMPARTMENTS, BATHROOMS, GENERAL TOILET ROOMS AND SHOWER ROOMS**

Sprinklers can be omitted from these spaces as defined above.

RCV:sr

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