

ORDINANCE NO. 92-28

AN ORDINANCE TO BE KNOWN AS THE HERNANDO COUNTY MECHANICAL CODE: PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE, 1991 EDITION; PROVIDING FOR ADMINISTRATION; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 3 OF THE MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 4 OF THE MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 5 OF THE MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 6 OF THE MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 9 OF THE MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERANCE OF PARTS; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR VIOLATIONS, REMEDIES, AND PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA  
93 AM -4  
MAY 21 2:21

FILED

SECTION 1. ADOPTION OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE, 1991 EDITION, AND APPENDIX A AS PROMULGATED BY SOUTHERN BUILDING CODE CONGRESS INTERNATIONAL, INC., PROVIDING FOR DELETION OF CHAPTER 1, AND MODIFICATIONS TO CHAPTERS 3, 4, 5, 6, 9

There is hereby adopted by the County of Hernando, Florida, for the purpose of establishing and prescribing rules and regulations for the installation of mechanical systems, including alterations, repairs, replacement, equipment, appliances, fixtures, fittings, and/or appurtenances thereto, including ventilation, heating, cooking, air conditioning and refrigeration systems, incinerators, and other energy-related systems, that certain mechanical code known as the Standard Mechanical Code, as recommended by the Southern Building Code Congress International, Inc., a non-profit and non-political servicing organization with its principal offices at Birmingham, Alabama, being particularly

the 1991 Edition and Appendix A thereof. The same is hereby adopted and incorporated herein as fully as if set forth in haec verba except as noted elsewhere herein and from the date upon which this ordinance shall take effect, the provisions thereof shall be controlling in the installation of mechanical systems, including alterations, repairs, replacement, equipment, appliances, fixtures, fittings, and/or appurtenances thereto, including ventilation, heating, cooking, air conditioning and refrigeration systems, incinerators, and other energy-related systems within the unincorporated areas of the county.

## **SECTION 2. ADMINISTRATION**

Refer to the Standard Building Code, 1991 Edition, Chapter 1 - Administration as modified by County Ordinance No. 92-25.

## **SECTION 3. MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 3 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE**

Chapter 3 of the Standard Mechanical Code is hereby modified by adding Subsections 301.2.1, 302.2(3), 303.1.1, 303.3.1.1, 303.3.1.2, 303.3.3, 303.3.4, 303.5.5, 308.1.2.1, 308.2.2.1, 308.6.1.1, 308.8.3, 308.9.5, 309.1.6, 309.1.7, 309.1.8, 309.1.9; and amending Subsection 308.2.4 as follows:

### **301.2.1**

Exceptions: When specially designed or a package of modified non-listed equipment is required, then such requirement shall be certified in writing by a mechanical engineer, registered in the State of Florida. The Building Official may require sufficient evidence to enable him to judge whether the non-listed equipment meets the requirement of this code.

### **302.2(3)**

Attic units must be clearly marked showing total heat strip load, actual connected load, and model number of air handler with numbers a minimum of four (4) inches in height.

### 303.1.1 - Equipment Mounting

- (1) It is the responsibility of the installing contractor to ascertain that the roof structure on existing buildings is capable of safely carrying the operating weight of the equipment to be set.
- (2) On roof-top units, when wood supports are used, they shall be pressure treated, properly sized, placed in approved pitch pans and installed to distribute equipment weight.
- (3) All ground mounted equipment shall be adequately supported by poured-in-place or precast concrete of sufficient area to entirely support the base of the ground mounted equipment. Small masonry units (bricks, concrete blocks, pavers, etc.) shall be prohibited.
- (4) Outside condensing units will conform to zoning setback requirements.

#### 303.3.1.1

Air handling equipment installed in the attic shall be supported from the top of the roof trusses and shall not rest on the bottom chord of roof trusses. On conventional construction, the ceiling joist shall adequately handle the additional load.

Truss members and components shall not be cut, notched, spliced or otherwise altered in any way without written concurrence and approval of the design engineer. No additional loading of any member (i.e., HVAC equipment, etc.) shall be permitted without such additional load being incorporated in the engineering design.

#### 303.3.1.2

All equipment that is located in an attic, ceiling, or furred space which is greater than 15 feet in height from the finished floor shall be readily accessible and shall meet the access and floor requirements of 303.3.

#### 303.3.3

Vertical air handlers located on the second floor shall have a float switch or external auxiliary drain pan installed.

#### 303.3.4 - Access Opening

- (1) The access opening shall be as close as possible to the air handler; not more than 8 inches away.
- (2) The access opening shall be located in front of the blower access panel.
- (3) Alternate access may be used with ceiling height 8 ft. 6 in. maximum with air handler placed directly in front of access opening.

If any of these conditions cannot be met, then Subsection 303.3 of The Standard Mechanical Code (Attic Installation) shall apply.

#### 303.5.5

Outdoor condensers located more than 3 feet off of the ground on platforms on elevated houses shall have a 30 inch deep by width of unit work area facing the service side of the unit.

#### 308.1.2.1

The pipe section shall be sleeved in the direction of air flow, connected with tape. No screws shall be used.

#### 308.2.2.1

The bathroom exhaust fan shall not terminate through ventilated soffits.

#### 308.2.4

Where natural ventilation as specified in Subsection 2001.4.2, Standard Building Code\*, cannot be achieved, an approved air treatment system providing 2 cu. ft. of air per minute per sq. ft. of floor area shall be installed to exhaust from lavatories, toilets, bathroom, restroom.

**\*NOTE:** Window must be placed where it may be reached quickly, not requiring the climbing over or upon a plumbing fixture, or not requiring the use of a portable ladder for the operation of the window.

#### EXCEPTIONS:

1. For lavatories, toilets, bathrooms, and restrooms in one and two family dwellings, exhaust air may be reduced to a minimum of 1 cu. ft. per minute per sq. ft. of floor

area.

2. For private toilet rooms with not more than one water closet and one lavatory, exhaust air may be reduced to a minimum of 1 cu. ft. per minute per sq. ft. of floor area.

#### 308.6.1.1

For a low usage "residential style" cooking appliance limited to 4 burners in a commercial setting (e.g. firehouse, daycare center, adult congregate living facility (ACLF) in residential home only, etc.), the following 5-part system may be utilized in lieu of a commercial grease hood system:

- (1) Self-contained UL approved fire suppression system hood installed according to manufacturer's instructions;
- (2) range venting shall be minimum 22 gauge galvanized metal;
- (3) every duct system shall have a clearance from combustible construction of not less than 18". This clearance may be reduced to not less than 3" provided the combustible material is protected with materials as approved for 1 hour fire resistance on the duct side. Ducts shall not pass through interior walls or partitions having a fire resistance rating of 2 hours or more.
- (4) range venting shall terminate through the roof;
- (5) range vent shall be sealed, installed in direction of airflow, with no screw fasteners.

#### 308.8.3

Stationary outdoor or indoor down flow ranges:

- (1) if used outdoors, shall be listed for UL outdoor use;
- (2) shall use 6 in. or 3-1/4 in. x 10 in. 26 GA galvanized or 24 GA aluminum duct only;
- (3) shall have recommended wall cap, shall not have dryer vent cap;
- (4) shall have no more than three 90 degree elbows with 6 in. duct or 3-1/4 in. x 10 in. duct;
- (5) underground venting may be permitted using P.V.C. pipe only (P.S.M. 12454-B, SDR-35, ASTM D 3034) vented to atmosphere;
- (6) may be vented through roof using approved material

keeping 1 inch clearance from combustibles; length determined by manufacturer's recommendations. If roof cap is installed, back draft damper and 1/2 in. mesh screen shall be installed in roof cap;

- (7) may be vented through back of cabinet with 8 ft. high wall separating exhaust outlet and range top;
- (8) all joints shall be taped with UL181AP tape, no screws or nails shall penetrate duct wall;
- (9) only one range per duct system shall be used;
- (10) male-female connection shall be in the direction of air flow;
- (11) duct shall not terminate directly adjacent to range top;
- (12) outdoor range vent exhaust outlet shall not terminate within 2 feet of electric motor.

#### **308.9.5**

When the dryer manufacturer is unknown and the duct length is greater than specified in 308.9.3, a booster fan may be utilized subject to the approval of the Building Official. The booster fan and system shall meet the following criteria:

1. Shall be accessible for repair and replacement;
2. The fan blade shall be of non-clogging design;
3. Shall be designed for the dryer operating temperature range;
4. Shall be designed for proper removal of heat, moisture and lint;
5. Shall operate when the dryer operates;
6. Other methods may be used per Subsection 102.7.

When more than one dryer utilizes a common exhaust system, the following criteria shall be used:

1. The common duct shall comply with Subsection 307.3 of the Standard Mechanical Code.
2. The fan motor and blade (and filter if used) shall comply to Section 307.4 of the Standard Mechanical Code.
3. The fan shall run any time one or more dryers are operating.
4. This system shall be designed for proper removal of heat, moisture and lint by a registered engineer, architect or

mechanical contractor.

**309.1.6**

All solar systems shall be designed and installed according to the Florida Standard Practice for Design and Installation of Solar Domestic Water and Pool Heating Systems (FSEC-G p.7-80, January, 1985).

**309.1.8**

All solar systems shall be certified by the Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC), and each collector shall have the FSEC label properly affixed.

**309.1.9**

All solar systems' application for permit shall be accompanied by the FSEC Information Sheet and FSEC Installation Sheet.

**SECTION 4. MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 4 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE**

Chapter 4 of the Standard Mechanical Code is hereby modified by adding Subsection 406.1.1 as follows:

**406.1.1**

Refrigerant lines shall be brazed shut at the rough-in inspection.

**SECTION 5. MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 5 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE**

Chapter 5 of the Standard Mechanical Code is hereby modified by amending Subsections 503.1, 506.1.4; and adding Subsections 504.1.1.1, 506.2.1.1, and 515.2.1 as follows:

**503.1**

All ducts shall be constructed of iron, steel, aluminum or other approved material. Loose fibered glass batt insulation shall not be installed in any recirculating air system.

**504.1.1.1**

All metal and fibrous duct joints, longitudinal seams and penetrations shall be vapor sealed with the taping systems recommended by the manufacturer and used in obtaining the UL Class 1 duct label.

**506.1.4**

Fibrous glass duct board and duct linings with a flamespread rating 0g 25 or less and a smoke development rating of 50 or less shall be interrupted for a minimum of 6" upstream and 6" downstream from the heat source involving electrical resistance or fuel burning heaters.

**506.2.1.1**

All supply air systems and return air systems installed in an attic, ventilated crawl space or other nonconditioned area shall be insulated, including wall cavities used for a return air system.

**515.2.1**

All return air ducts used in recirculating air systems shall have a firestat installed.

**SECTION 6. MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 6 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE**

Chapter 6 of the Standard Mechanical Code is hereby modified by adding Subsections 601.1, 603.2.1, and 607.4 as follows:

**601.1**

All construction, installation, alteration and repair of Fire Sprinkler, Fire Suppression, Ansul, Halon, or related systems shall conform to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 12-A, 12-B, 13, 13-A, 13-D, 14-17, 20, 22, 24, 71, 72-A, 72-B, 72-C, 72-D, 72-E, 96, 231 & 231-C.

**603.2.1**

All horizontal condensate drains over occupied areas shall be insulated.

**607.4**

Petroleum tanks (regular gas, unlead, and diesel fuel) shall be installed according to NFPA 30 and Florida Statute Chapter 17-761 - Rules of the Department of Environmental Regulation. Minimum setbacks for fuel storage tanks shall be in accordance with the following chart:

**DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR TANKS:**

From Building Foundation	From Property Line
Gallon Capacity	
0 - 4,999 - 10 ft.	10 ft.



5,000	-	9,999	-	20 ft.	20 ft.
10,000	-	19,999	-	30 ft.	30 ft.
20,000	-	39,999	-	40 ft.	40 ft.
40,000	-	up	-	50 ft.	50 ft.

**SECTION 7. MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 9 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE**

Chapter 9 of the Standard Mechanical Code is hereby modified by adding Section 901.1 as follows:

**901.1 - Exclusion of Standard Gas Code**

All referenced standards concerning fuel gas which name the Standard Gas Code shall uniformly refer to NFIPA 54 and NFIPA 58 to the exclusion of the Standard Gas Code.

**SECTION 8. SEVERANCE OF PARTS**

Should any section, paragraph, sentence, phrase, clause or other part or provision of this ordinance be declared by any court to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the part declared to be invalid.

**SECTION 9. REPEALER CLAUSE**

Upon the effective date of this ordinance, those previously enacted ordinances and amendments thereto which regulate the construction activities addressed by this ordinance, namely Hernando County Ordinance No. 91-05 and subsequent amendments thereto, are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 10. VIOLATIONS, REMEDIES, AND PENALTIES**

Any entity violating any provision of this ordinance shall be subject to the penalties provided for herein. The Director or his authorized representative shall issue notice to all entities violating any provision of this ordinance and shall order that such violations cease. Should any entity fail to comply with such notice, or order, the Governing Body or its authorized official may institute appropriate action to bring such entity before a court of law for adjudication. Any entity violating any

provision of this ordinance shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined or imprisoned or both fined and imprisoned, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 125.69 of the Florida Statutes.

**SECTION 11. INCLUSION IN THE CODE**

It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners of Hernando County, Florida, and it is hereby provided that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances of Hernando County, Florida. To this end, the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention, and that the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section", "article", or other appropriate designation.

**SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This ordinance shall become effective as provided by law.

ADOPTED in Regular Session this 22nd day of December, 1992, A.D.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

By *John Richardson*  
JOHN RICHARDSON, CHAIRMAN

Attest *Michelle L. Huntsman*, Deputy Clerk  
KAREN NICOLAI, CLERK

