

Office of the Fire Marshal
Kern County Fire Department
Fire Prevention Unit

2820 M St. • Bakersfield, CA 93301 • www.kerncountyfire.org
Telephone 661-391-3310 • FAX 661-636-0466/67 • TTY Relay 800-735-2929



Apartment Check List

Dear Property Owner or Manager,

State law requires a yearly fire and life safety inspection of each apartment building/complex. Officers from the Fire Marshal's Office conducted an inspection at your property on _____. Kern County Board of Supervisors adopted the resolution on October 22, 2019 for all R2 occupancies (apartments). The fee for annual inspection is \$145.00. In order to ensure your property is in compliance, an inspector will be verifying compliance of the items below:

Visible Address Sign

- Minimum 4" height with a ½ stroke of contrasting color visible from street

Fire Department Access

- Fire lanes properly marked & unobstructed
- Check Knox Box & if Knox Box is needed

Smoke Alarms

- Minimum one smoke alarm in each sleeping area/bedrooms, in hallways or area outside of sleeping areas/bedrooms & on each story (including basements)
- CO2 Devices – one outside of each sleeping area/bedrooms (a CO/smoke combo can be used)
- Functioning properly with a 10-year replacement program
- Hardwired with battery backup or tamper-resistant 10-year battery

Fire Extinguishers

- 2A10BC provided every 75 ft. of travel distance mounted, visible and in an accessible cabinet
Serviced annually by a licensed company
Exception: 1A10BC rated fire extinguisher available in every unit

Electrical

- Electrical outlets, switches, junction boxes are covered with proper cover plates
- Minimum 36" clearance in front of electrical panels
- No extension cords used as permanent wiring

Housekeeping/Proper Storage of Combustible Materials or Waste

- No combustibles stored in equipment rooms
- No combustibles stored in exit corridors
- Hallways clear of obstructions
- Under stairs – no storage of combustible materials
- Compressed gas cylinders chained to a fixed structure or in carts to prevent falling
- Ceiling tiles fixed in place (no holes or openings in ceiling or wall)
- Laundry rooms – check for accumulation of combustible materials, such as lint

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Water Heater

- Minimum 18” clearance around all water heater(s)
- Water heater(s) should be double strapped

Maintenance of Exits

- Unobstructed & operable (36” clearance)
- Working exit signs & emergency egress lighting
- Means of egress diagrams/fire emergency guide

Automatic Fire Sprinkler System (if applicable)

- 5-year certification
- Unobstructed – nothing hanging from sprinkler heads
- Water supply valves chained open and/or monitored
- Fire Department Connection (FDC) unobstructed and clear of all debris

Fire Protection System (if applicable)

- Kitchen hood system - semi-annual certification
- Kitchen hood properly cleaned

Fire Alarm System (if applicable)

- Monitored by listed Central Station

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R-2 APARTMENT OWNER STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

LOCATION: _____

OWNER NAME: _____

MGMNT. COMPANY (if applicable): _____

PHONE: _____

NUMBER OF UNITS: _____

The State of California is now mandating apartments with three and more units to be inspected annually by the local fire department for fire and life-safety hazards in accordance with the California Health and Safety Code 13146.2. Inspections are to be conducted in each unit. In cases where there are no vacant units available to inspect, the property owner or management company may certify the following statement to verify all units follow the attached requirements.

I, _____, certify that all units listed as referenced above contain working smoke/CO detectors in all areas required by the Fire Code. In addition, all units contain an 1A:10BC in each apartment unit OR a 2A:10BC every 75ft of travel distance mounted on outside of building. In addition, each fire extinguisher has been serviced within the last 12 months or manufactured in the calendar year.

*Also, I was given a copy of the APARTMENT CHECKLIST form on _____
that contains a complete list of compliance items. (DATE)*

Owner/Manager

Date

Attachment: Apartment Check List