



CITY OF RIVERSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN: 2022-027

APPROVED BY: C. Kodat, Fire Marshal, 1/1/2023

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE USE OF CANDLES AND OPEN-FLAME DECORATIVE DEVICES IN ASSEMBLY OCCUPANCIES

Open Flame Devices - 2022 California Fire Code (CFC) Section 308 –Title 19, Section 3.25 (a) and (b)

Open Flame Devices:

1. Open flame devices are prohibited in every Group A, E, I, R-2.1, R-3.1 and R-4 occupancies.
Exceptions:
 - Fuel burning elements of approved appliances shall not be considered as open flame devices.
 - Upon approval of the enforcing agency, open flame devices may be used under the following conditions.
 - When necessary for ceremonial or theatrical purposes under such restrictions as may be deemed necessary to avoid danger of ignition or combustible materials or injury to occupants.
 - In approved and stable candle holders on individual tables of dining establishments.
 - Under no circumstances shall handheld open flame devices such as exposed candles be permitted for any purpose in any occupancy within the scope of these regulations.

Religious Ceremonies:

1. The Fire Marshal has determined that participants in religious ceremonies are allowed to carry handheld candles. Members of the congregation are allowed to hold but not carry lighted candles.
2. Handheld candles shall not be passed from one person to another while lighted.