February 28, 2011

INFORMATION BULLETIN 2011-03 (MH)

TO: Manufactured Home Manufacturers
    Manufactured Home Dealers and Salespersons
    Manufactured Home Interested Parties
    Department-Approved Third-Party Agencies (MH)
    City and County Building Officials
    Mobilehome Park Owners
    Division Staff

SUBJECT: MANUFACTURED HOME, MOBILEHOME AND MULTIFAMILY MANUFACTURED HOMES – FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

This Information Bulletin announces revisions to regulations applicable to the design and installation of fire sprinkler systems in manufactured homes (MH), mobilehomes and multifamily manufactured homes (MFMH). The revisions apply to all units constructed or altered on or after March 12, 2011, that contains a fire sprinkler system required by local ordinance or one that is owner-requested. The amended regulations:

• Clarify HCD’s preemption of local government ordinances relating to the design and installation of fire sprinkler systems in MH and MFMH units.
• Provide a reference to Health and Safety Code, Section 18691 in the Mobilehome Parks Act, which provides specific limited ability and authority for local governments to enforce a locally adopted fire prevention code.
• Require any person selling, renting, or leasing a MH, mobilehome, or MFMH to provide a disclosure notice stating that the installed fire sprinkler system will not operate properly unless the water pressure available at an installation site is adequate. It further requires the disclosure notice be provided and signed by a buyer prior to signing purchase documents.
• Updates information required on the “Fire Sprinkler System Information and Installer Certification” label referenced in the regulations.

The amended regulations may be reviewed at http://www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/mhp/. Any questions or concerns regarding the fire sprinkler system regulations should be directed to Kevin Cimini, Manufactured Housing Program Manager, at (916) 445-3338.

Kim Strange
Deputy Director