



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING FLORIDA ELEVATORS



ATTENTION: Elevator Owners, Elevator Construction
and Maintenance Industry

Number: 2000-06

Date: 2000 November 7

SUBJECT: Elevator Regulatory News Update

The 2000 Florida Legislature significantly amended Chapter 399, Florida Statutes (FS), changing the structure and duties of the Bureau of Elevator Safety. Most visible of these changes is the privatization of periodic inspections for elevators and related devices formerly performed by the bureau. Transition news will be communicated through information releases in this format, also available on our website. Please take a moment to read the following information.

As a result of this privatization, elevator certificate-of-operation holders are now responsible for timely performance of periodic inspections. *We will not provide notices regarding inspections due.* As soon as possible, we will post the date of the latest inspection for all Florida elevators, referenced by serial number, on our website.

Routine safety inspections are now required to be performed, *either* 1) biennially by a certificate-of-competency holder for elevators maintained under a service maintenance contract, *or* 2) annually by a third party inspection service certified as a qualified elevator inspector, for elevators having no maintenance contract. Elevators serving only two adjacent floors *and* which are covered by a service maintenance contract will require no inspection, as long as the contract remains in force.

ACCIDENT REPORTING – By law (section 399.125 FS), any accident causing injury or death must be reported to the bureau within 5 days by the certificate-of-operation holder. Accident report forms are available on our website.

INSPECTION FORMS. All inspections performed by private inspectors must be recorded on the form prescribed by the bureau. Inspection companies may contact us, as detailed below, to obtain an initial supply of forms.

NEW CONSTRUCTION, OR ALTERATION / MODERNIZATION INSPECTIONS. Because our inspection staff now consists of 7 inspectors statewide, it is more critical than ever that requests for inspection on new construction or alterations/modernization be made only when the elevator contractor deems the equipment ready to pass. Please do not request an initial inspection simply to create a “punchlist” to complete the installation. Most failed initial inspections are simply the result of premature inspection requests. Because our inspectors are fully scheduled well in advance, premature requests may result in a return inspection performed as the inspector’s schedule allows. Your cooperation will improve our ability to deliver prompt service, minimize failed inspections, and reduce repeat visits to your job site, eliminating delays and added expense for both the bureau and the owner or contractor.

As required in section 399.05, FS, the *construction permit holder* should request an inspection in writing at least 7 days in advance. Canceling scheduled inspections with less than 48 hours notice may result in delays of 7 days or more. No change has been made to Temporary Operating Permits.

NEW ELEVATOR SAFETY CODE. Effective October 4, 2000 the bureau has adopted the American National Standard Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators, ASME A17.1, 1996 Edition, by amendment to 61C-5, Florida Administrative Code. Special attention should be directed to revisions in 61C-5.001, 61C-5.004, 61C-5.011 and 61C-5.013. The revised rule 61C-5 is available on the Internet.

NEW BROWARD COUNTY ELEVATOR SAFETY PROGRAM. Pursuant to section 399.13 FS, Broward County has contracted with the bureau to establish its own elevator safety program. Effective November 1, 2000, Broward will process elevator construction permits and perform all routine, construction and complaint inspections (private inspections are not necessary in areas with a local program). The bureau will continue to issue certificates of operation for the current period, and Broward will issue renewals for the period beginning August 1, 2001. Their program contact information is: Building Code Services Division, 955 S. Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316; telephone 954-765-5043.

For further information, contact us toll free at 800-749-6368, or on the Internet at:
MyFlorida.com

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
DIVISION OF HOTELS & RESTAURANTS / BUREAU OF ELEVATOR SAFETY
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