



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AND FIRE DEPARTMENT
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TO: San Antonio Fire Department and Development Services Department Associates
FROM: Carl Wedige, Deputy Fire Chief – SAFD, Fire Marshal
DATE: April 15, 2019
FILE: Code Interpretation Manual

INTERPRETATION NUMBER: CI2019-003

TITLE: Exterior Projection Sprinkler Protection: Retail/Shell Only

CODE EDITION: 2016 Edition of NFPA 13

SECTION: 2016 Edition of NFPA 13 Section 8.15.7: EXTERIOR PROJECTION, §8.15.7.5

PURPOSE: To clarify what additional fire sprinkler review documents are needed for retail/shell shopping centers with non-combustible building projections under which no combustibles are stored.

QUESTION: My project is a retail/shell building with an exterior projection, over two feet, built with non-combustible construction. There will be no combustible storage underneath the projection. Designers were once required to submit a letter from an owner specifically stating that there would be no combustible storage underneath in order for the sprinkler plans to be approved. Do I need an owner's letter for the plans to be approved if the plans are clearly marked?

ANSWER: No. An owner's letter is not required as long as notes clearly depicted on the submitted fire sprinkler plans read that the projection is over an area designed for pedestrian use, is of non-combustible construction, and has no combustible storage underneath. This applies only to exterior projections for retail/shell buildings.

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