



# OKLAHOMA CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Fire Marshal's Office

### Interpretation

<b>Interpretation #:</b> OKCAHJ-2017-03	<b>Subject of Interpretation:</b> Open Flame Cooking Devices	
<b>Code Reference:</b> IFC 308.1.4		
<b>Reviewed By:</b> Robert Crisp	<b>Title:</b> Assistant Fire Marshal	<b>Effective Date:</b> 5/1/2007
<b>Approved By:</b> Harold Thompson	<b>Title:</b> Fire Marshal	<b>Revision Date:</b> 10/16/2017

#### **Purpose:**

To provide guidance concerning the use and storage of exterior residential cooking devices (grills, smokers, etc.) on and under exterior balconies of residential apartment buildings and townhouses. The provisions listed in this document do not apply to one- and two-family dwellings.

#### **Description of Code Reference:**

International Fire Code (IFC) states charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction.

#### **Policy based on the Interpretation of the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ):**

The City of Oklahoma City Municipal Ordinance 20-22 (Maintaining a Fire Hazard) and the International Fire Code section 308.4.1 states open-flame cooking devices shall not be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction. Balconies made of wood and other natural products are defined as combustible construction. Vinyl siding and other flammable coverings including wood overhangs also meet this criteria.

In maintaining a safe environment from the threat of fire or injury for all occupants of apartment buildings and townhouses, the Fire Marshal Office has deemed that the use of outdoor cooking devices, **to include electric grills**, in proximity to combustible construction, exterior walls of structures, on balconies, or other locations which may cause a fire to start, as being a fire hazard. This shall include the storage of cooking devices on balconies and in any exterior storage closets located on balconies.