



PALM HARBOR FIRE RESCUE

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James S. Angle
Fire Chief

Dear Business Owner:

Re: Notice of New Structure Marking Law – Aldridge / Bengé Firefighter Safety Act

The Palm Harbor Fire Rescue District is providing this notice as a courtesy to its business community.

Effective on 12-13-2009, the Aldridge-Benge Firefighter Safety Act memorializes two Orange County firefighters who lost their lives in 1989 due to a light-frame roof collapse while fighting a fire.

Florida Statute, section 633.027 and Florida Administrative Code, rule(s) 69A-3.012 require the owner of any commercial, industrial, or multi-unit residential structure of three units or more constructed of "light-frame truss-type construction" to install symbols adopted by rule in a manner sufficient to warn persons conducting fire control and other emergency operations of the existence of light-frame truss-type construction in the structure. "light-frame truss-type construction" means a type of construction whose primary structural elements are formed by a system of repetitive wood or light gauge steel framing members.



Light-Frame Floor Truss



Light-Frame Roof Truss



Light-Frame Roof & Floor Truss

This rule establishes the dimensions, color, and location of the symbol to be applied to every applicable structure that is constructed of "light-frame truss-type construction". The symbols must be placed within 24 inches of the left side of the main entrance to the bldg. It must be between 4 and 6 feet above grade, walking surface, or finished floor. Depending on the number of main entrances and their locations, additional symbols may be required.

The most common examples of "light-frame truss-type construction" includes, but is not limited to; wood roof or floor trusses joined together with metal connector plates, engineered lumber roof or floor I-beams, and light gauge steel channel truss systems.



If a dispute arises of whether or not the building has light-frame truss-type construction within the structure, the owner shall be granted no more than 45 days to provide written verification from a licensed engineer or licensed architect; otherwise, the owner shall comply.

Truss signs & decals may be purchased from various sign vendors or on-line by using a generic search of Truss Signs - Florida. An installation fact sheet is also available on the fire departments web site @ www.palmharborfd.com

The complete final rule can be viewed @ www.flrules.org/Gateway/View_notice.asp?id=8006979