



# BREA FIRE DEPARTMENT

## FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

Date Issued: February 14, 2018  
Last Revision: February 14, 2018

Topic: **CANDLE AND FUEL BURNING DEVICE REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION**  
Reference #1: 2016 California Fire Code - Chapter 3 / Open Flame Requirements

**Note:** *This information is being provided by the Brea Fire Department as a summary of the 2016 California Fire Code (CFC) which is adopted by City Ordinance in the Brea Municipal Code. This information is intended to be used as a brief summary of the CFC to be used as a quick reference guide and is not all inclusive and does not supersede other adopted codes and regulations.*

### **Candles**

The use of candles in an occupancy or area classified as a Public Assembly requires a permit. A model or pictures, with dimensions clearly visible, must be submitted to the Fire Prevention Division for approval.

- The device or holder shall be designed so that it will return to the upright position after being tilted to an angle of 45 degrees from vertical.
  - **EXCEPTION:** Units that self-extinguish if tipped over and that do not spill fuel or wax at the rate of more than 1/4 teaspoon per minute if tipped over.
- The flame shall be enclosed, except as follows:
  - Openings on the sides shall not be more than 3/8 inch in diameter.
  - Openings on the top and the distance to the top shall be such that a single layer of tissue paper placed on the top will not ignite in 10 seconds.
- Chimneys shall be made of noncombustible materials and shall be securely attached to the open-flame device.
  - **EXCEPTION:** The chimney is not required to be attached to any open-flame that will self-extinguish if the device is tipped over.
- Shades, where used, shall be made of noncombustible materials and securely attached to the open-flame device holder or chimney.
- The use of candelabra with flame-lighted candles is prohibited by policy of the City of Brea.
- Class I, II liquids and/or LPG shall not be used. (Sterno may be tested -No gasoline, camp fuel or lamp oil.)
- Fuel canisters must be safely sealed for storage.
- Candles shall not be left unattended when lit.
- Floating and hand-held candles shall not be permitted.
- The use of candles may require a standby Fire Safety Officer at the discretion of the Fire Code Official.
- Permits are not required for battery operated simulated candles.

**Candles Used in Religious Ceremonies**

- Candles used in churches and similar places of worship shall be limited to areas out of reach by those not associated with the religious ceremony.
- Candelabras shall be secured in a fashion to prevent being tipped over.
- Candelabras shall be high enough that clothing cannot come in contact with lit candles.
- The use of candles may require a standby Fire Safety Officer at the discretion of the Fire Code Official.
- Permits are not required for battery operated simulated candles.
- Under no circumstances shall hand held open flame devices such as exposed candles be permitted for any purpose in any Assembly or other occupancy within the scope of California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 1 regulations. Title 19 CCR 3.25(b).

**Fuel Burning Appliances/Devices**

- The following requirements apply to devices and appliances used for warming food or beverages.
- Class I and Class II liquids are prohibited.
- There shall be no means to adjust the height of the flame.
- Liquid or solid fuel devices must self-extinguish when tipped over.
- Fuel canisters shall be securely contained within a holder or affixed so as to prevent being displaced or tipped over.
- Maximum canister volume is 8 fl. oz.
- All materials within 12 inches of the open flame device shall be non-combustible.
- The use of candles may require a standby Fire Safety Officer at the discretion of the Fire Code Official.
- Fuel burning devices shall not be left unattended when lit.

**The Fire Chief or designee is authorized to halt the use of open flames or candles.**

Thank you for taking the time to review these requirements. Please keep in mind that individuals are responsible to obey all related codes and to check with the Fire Department to obtain all necessary permits and pay applicable fees.

**I have read and understand the above information and agree to comply with these requirements.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Event Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Event Time:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Event Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location Address:** \_\_\_\_\_