



BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

FBC 8TH EDITION (2023) FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#34)

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Charles M. Kramer, Esq.

Board Administrative Director
Dr. Ana Barbosa

— Established 1971 —

DATE: December 14, 2023
TO: All Fire Code Officials
FROM: Dr. Ana Barbosa, Administrative Director 
SUBJECT: Painting of Sprinkler and Cover Plates on Concealed Sprinklers

At its regularly scheduled meeting on December 14, 2023, the Board of Rules and Appeals approved the 8th Edition of the Florida Fire Prevention Code. The Formal Interpretation relates to the painting of sprinkler heads and cover plates on concealed sprinklers.

The Florida Fire Prevention Code, NFPA 1, Section 13.3.3.5.1.6 states: *Sprinklers shall not be altered in any respect or have any type of ornamentation, paint, or coating applied after shipment from the place of manufacture [25:5.4.1.7].*

6.2.6.2* Painting.

6.2.6.2.1 Sprinklers shall only be painted by the sprinkler manufacturer.

6.2.6.2.2 Where sprinklers have had paint applied by other than the sprinkler manufacturer, they shall be replaced with new listed sprinklers of the same characteristics, including K-factor, thermal response, and water distribution.

6.2.6.2.3 Where cover plates on concealed sprinklers have been painted by other than the sprinkler manufacturer, the cover plate shall be replaced.

Formal Interpretation:

Sprinkler and sprinkler cover plates shall not be altered by painting as supported by the provisions found in NFPA 1 and NFPA 13.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 15, 2023

*** PLEASE POST AT YOUR PERMIT COUNTER ***