



Miami Beach Fire Department
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION
STANDARDS



TOPIC: **Storage Over Doors**

STANDARD NO: EXINSP -S07
Revision 0

This FPS is to address storage found over exit doors during inspections. This policy is intended to protect occupants and firefighters.

Any storage over exit doors or above the means of egress shall be removed immediately since the storage will impede egress in the event of a fire. There shall not be any shelves along the wall over any exit door or any exit access door. Shelves on the wall must terminate at least 24 inches away from the door frame on each side. No shelves and no storage over the door would be permitted in any building. In the event of a fire, the shelves/storage can fall and block the means of egress or fall on occupants while attempting to evacuate. In addition, the potential of falling debris presents a safety hazard to firefighters going inside to rescue occupants and/or to execute fire suppression action.

The Florida Fire Prevention Code-2007 Edition, NFPA 1, Section 14.4.4. states:

There shall be no storage above any component of the means of egress unless it is on a separate floor or mezzanine constructed in accordance with the Florida Building Code.

Although not specifically stated in the Code, the inspector must address storage over windows in the same manner as doors. Firefighters use windows for ventilation, rescue, etc. Any storage falling in front of windows will hinder firefighting operation and could cause injury to firefighters.


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Fire Marshal

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