



**MIKE CAUSEY**  
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER & STATE FIRE MARSHAL

**BRIAN TAYLOR**, CHIEF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Fire Code Officials/Fire Chiefs and County/City Managers

FROM: Brian Taylor  
Chief State Fire Marshal

DATE: March 17, 2020

SUBJECT: Section 106 Periodic Fire Inspections/Construction Inspections

During the past week, the President of the United States and the Governor of North Carolina have declared a state of emergency. The current situation we are all in is alarming on many levels.

Our office has received many calls and emails regarding periodic fire inspections and construction related inspections. Section 106 of the North Carolina Fire Code require inspections to be performed based upon your locally approved schedule, but in no case less frequently than that prescribed in the code.

Given this serious situation we are facing, it is our understanding that many jurisdictions are trying to delay or temporarily stop performing inspections. While the state of emergency remains in effect, strict adherence with the state mandated inspection schedule is not expected.

While we understand the importance of taking precautions to prevent exposure to the virus, the following inspections should still be conducted:

- Imminent hazard complaints
- Re-inspections for life safety issues
- Construction related inspections
- Occupancies with minimal risk

When inspectors arrive at businesses and jobsites, they need to take precautions to prevent exposure to the virus. An inspector may refuse to perform an inspection if the location is unsafe.

Please forward this information to your managers.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact us at [cliff.isaac@ncdoi.gov](mailto:cliff.isaac@ncdoi.gov) (T)919-605-9652 or [charlie.johnson@ncdoi.gov](mailto:charlie.johnson@ncdoi.gov) (T) 919-888-0162

**OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL**