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OSFM Policy for the Omission of Required Sprinkler Protection of Porches Attached to One- and Two-Family Dwellings Protected by Automatic Sprinkler Systems Designed in Accordance with NFPA 13D, 2016 Edition

For automatic fire sprinkler systems designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13D, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes*, 2016 Edition, as currently referenced by the Maryland Building Performance Standards, automatic sprinkler protection shall be permitted to be omitted from attached porches where all of the following conditions apply:

1. Only one wall of the porch shall be permitted to be attached to the remainder of the dwelling at an angle of 180 degrees or less. A wall separating a porch from two or more sides of a dwelling at more than 180 degrees shall be considered as one continuous wall. Porches with more than one wall attached to the dwelling unit shall not be considered to meet the requirements of Paragraph 8.3.4 of NFPA 13D, 2016 ed. permitting the omission of sprinkler protection in open **attached** porches.
2. The outside walls of the porch shall provide sufficient openings to permit the venting of smoke, heat, and other products of combustion. Such walls shall be open or consist of screen materials, or combination thereof, for at least 50% of the area of the outside perimeter walls of the porch.
3. The porch shall not serve as the sole means of egress from interior portions of the dwelling unit.
4. Heating or air-conditioning is not provided in the porch area by permanently installed building service equipment.

References are made to the following requirements of NFPA 13D, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes*, 2016 Edition.

8.3.4

Sprinklers shall not be required in garages, **open attached porches**, carports, and similar structures.

8.3.6

Sprinklers shall not be required in covered, unheated projections of the building at entrances/exits **as long as the dwelling unit has another means of egress**.