



# COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT

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## CITY OF COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT

### FIRE PREVENTION STANDARD

STANDARD TITLE:	402.017 LUMINOUS EGRESS PATH MARKINGS	
STANDARD NUMBER: <b>402.017</b>	EFFECTIVE DATE: <b>1 October 2022</b>	REVISION DATE: <b>1 October 2022</b>

### ***PURPOSE***

This policy clarifies the minimum requirements for the installation of photoluminescent exit path markings in new buildings that are three or more stories in height, and retroactive installation in existing three or more (or four or more) stories in height, depending on occupancy type.

Photoluminescent markings aid in the evacuation from buildings in the event of failure of both the power and emergency back-up power to the means of egress system. Photoluminescent material is charged by exposure to light and will emit luminance after the activating light source is unavailable. The markings covered by this policy are not designed to provide enough light to illuminate a dark exit path; however, they will provide luminescent signs and outlines of the egress path, stairs, handrails, and obstacles. These markings will allow occupants to discern the egress path elements in dark conditions. The markings are generally required to be located low to the ground in case of smoke and to be readily visible in a crowd. They are in addition to, and not as a substitute for, the required means of egress system components required under the California Building Code (CBC) and California Fire Code (CFC).

### ***APPLICATION***

This policy provides minimum requirements for photoluminescent exit path markings in new and existing buildings.

### ***OPERATIONAL POLICY***

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### ***OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE***

1. New Buildings (constructed after December 31, 2011).
  - a. All new buildings of three or more stories in height must be provided with approved photoluminescent exit path markings in all enclosed exit stairways.
  - b. New buildings are required to use the installation requirements found in the currently adopted CFC, Section 1025.
2. Existing buildings (constructed before January 1, 2012).



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- a. All Group E, I, R1 and R2 occupancies in buildings of three or more stories in height must be provided with approved photoluminescent exit path markings in all enclosed exit stairways no later than January 1, 2012.
  - b. All other occupancies in buildings four or more stories in height must be provided with approved photoluminescent exit path markings in all enclosed exit stairways no later than January 1, 2012.
  - c. Existing buildings may use Coalinga Fire Department (CFD) installation requirements Option 1 or Option 2 (see below).
3. Exception: Exit path markings installed before 2007 may continue to exist as installed, if they are in proper working order.

### ***PROCESS***

- A. Buildings constructed after December 31, 2011, must use the installation requirement found in the current edition of CFC 1025, Luminous Egress Patch Markings for the leading edge of each stair step.
- B. Buildings constructed before January 1, 2012, may use the CFD installation requirements Option 1 or Option 2 for the horizontal leading edge of each stair step.
  - a. Option 1: A minimum one inch and a maximum of two inches (25 mm) contrasting marker of photoluminescent material on both side edges of the step. These markers shall be placed a minimum of 0 inch to a maximum of ½ inch from the leading edge of the step parallel to the nose of the step or landing.
  - b. Option 2: A minimum one inch and a maximum of two inches "zig-zag" pattern contrasting marker of photoluminescent material on both sides of the step. This shall be a continuous pattern along the walls of the stair step.



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### ***INFORMATION***

All installed photoluminescent materials shall be exposed to a minimum of one foot-candle of illumination for not less than 60 minutes prior to periods when the building is occupied and continuously during the building occupancy.

Motion sensor activated lighting is prohibited in stairways addressed by this policy.

Timers on stairwell lighting addressed by this policy, if used, shall be set to turn on the lights not less than 60 minutes prior to periods when the building is occupied.

Owners must maintain the required photoluminescent signs and markings in good repair. Every twelve (12) months, owners must perform a visual inspection of the signs and markings with the normal lighting turned on. Signs and/or markings that are missing, damaged, loose or that show signs of wear shall be noted and properly repaired or replaced.

### ***DEFINITIONS***

This section intentionally left blank.

### ***CROSS REFERENCES***

*California Building Code*  
*Chapter 10, Means of Egress*

*California Fire Code*  
*Section 1025, Luminous Egress Path Markings*

*Coalinga Municipal Code*  
*Section 10-51025, Luminous Egress Path Markings*

*Fire Prevention Manual*  
*Section 401.017 Luminous Egress Path Markings Specifications*