

## **VENTURA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ORDINANCE NUMBER 34**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VENTURA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT REPEALING ORDINANCES NO. 29 AND 32, AND ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE 2025 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE TOGETHER WITH APPENDIX CHAPTERS D AND P, PORTIONS OF THE 2024 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, PORTIONS OF THE 2025 CALIFORNIA WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE CODE, PORTIONS OF THE 2024 INTERNATIONAL WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE CODE, AND PORTIONS OF TITLE 19 OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, WITH ADDITIONS, DELETIONS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO.

The Board of Directors of the Ventura County Fire Protection District (Fire District) ordains as follows:

### **ARTICLE 1 - ADOPTION OF THE VENTURA COUNTY FIRE CODE AND VENTURA COUNTY WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE CODE**

**1.1 Findings.** The Board of Directors finds the following:

1. Every three years the State of California adopts a new fire and wildland-urban interface code, as part of the California Building Standards Code, which becomes effective within the jurisdiction of the Ventura County Fire Protection District 180 days after publication by the California Building Standards Commission.
2. The International Fire Code has been published and adopted, as amended, by the California Building Standards Commission into the California Code of Regulations as Title 24, Part 9, titled the California Fire Code.
3. The International Wildland-Urban Interface Code has been published and adopted, as amended, by the California Building Standards Commission into the California Code of Regulations as Title 24, Part 7, titled the California Wildland-Urban Interface Code.
4. The Fire District may establish more restrictive standards reasonably necessary to provide fire protection for life and property because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 13869.7.
5. The Fire District has established more restrictive standards that are contained within Article 3, Section 903, Article 3, Appendix B, and Article 4 Section 604.11 of this ordinance.
6. Findings supporting the more restrictive buildings standards made by the Fire District shall be filed with the California Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 13869.7.

In addition, the findings shall be on file with the Ventura County Clerk of the Board.

**1.2 Purpose.** The purpose of this ordinance is to adopt the items outlined in Section 1.4 of this ordinance to govern the safeguarding of life and property from fire, explosion hazards and hazardous conditions and to regulate the issuance of permits and collection of fees.

**1.3 Authority.** This ordinance is adopted pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Sections 13869, 13869.7, 17958.7, and 18941.5 which allow a fire protection district to adopt modifications or changes to the California Fire Code and the California Wildland-Urban Interface Code that are reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological, and topographical conditions.

**1.4 Adoption.** Article 3 of this ordinance shall be known as the “Ventura County Fire Code”, and may be cited as such. Article 4 of this ordinance shall be known as the “Ventura County Wildland-Urban Interface Code”, and may be cited as such. Together they will be referred herein as “this Code”.

For the purpose of prescribing regulations governing conditions hazardous to life and property from fire, explosion or hazardous materials, those certain portions of the referenced codes and ordinances specified in the subsections below except such portions as are hereinafter added, deleted, modified or amended by Article 3 and Article 4 of this Code are hereby adopted by reference as the Ventura County Fire Code and Ventura County Wildland-Urban Interface Code respectively pursuant to Section 13869 et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code, and are incorporated as fully as if set out at length herein.

**1.4.1** The specified portions adopted by the California State Fire Marshal and designated by the Matrix Adoption Table for each Chapter of the California Code of Regulations Title 24, Part 9 known as the 2025 California Fire Code published by the International Code Council, together with Appendix Chapters D and P.

**1.4.2** The specified portions of the California Code of Regulations Title 19, Division 1 known as the “Regulations of the State Fire Marshal” designated by the Matrix Adoption Table for each Chapter of the California Code of Regulations Title 24, Part 9 known as the 2025 California Fire Code published by the International Code Council.

**1.4.3** The specified portions of the 2024 International Fire Code not adopted as part of the California Fire Code by the California State Fire Marshal as published in the 2025 California Fire Code by the International Code Council with the exception of those deleted portions that are designated in Table 1.4.3 of this Code.

**1.4.4** The specified portions adopted by the California State Fire Marshal and designated by the Matrix Adoption Table for each Chapter of the California Code of Regulations Title 24, Part 7 known as the 2025 California Wildland-Urban Interface

**CHAPTER 56**  
**EXPLOSIVES AND FIREWORKS**

Section 5601.1.3 is amended to read as follows:

**5601.1.3 Fireworks.** The possession, manufacture, storage, sale, handling and use of fireworks, including those labeled as “Safe and Sane” as defined by California Code of Regulations Title 19, are prohibited.

Exceptions:

1. Storage and handling of fireworks as allowed in Article 3, Section 5604.
2. Manufacture, assembly and testing of fireworks as allowed in Article 3, Section 5605 *and Health and Safety Code Division 11.*
3. The use of fireworks for fireworks displays *pyrotechnics before a proximate audience and pyrotechnic special effects in motion pictures, television, theatrical or group entertainment productions* as allowed in *Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 6 Fireworks reprinted in Article 3, Section 5608 and Health and Safety Code Division 11.*
4. The possession, storage, sale, handling and use of specific types of Division 1.4G fireworks where allowed by applicable laws, ordinances and regulations, provided that such fireworks and facilities comply with the 2006 edition of NFPA 1124, CPSC 16 CFR Parts 1500 and 1507, and DOTn 49 CFR Parts 100-185, as applicable for consumer fireworks *and Health and Safety Code Division 11.*

Section 5601.7 is amended to read as follows:

**5601.7 Seizure.** The Fire Code Official or any law enforcement officer is authorized to remove or cause to be removed or disposed of in an approved manner, at the expense of the owner, explosives, explosive materials or fireworks offered or exposed for sale, stored, possessed, or used in violation of this chapter or Title 19.

**ARTICLE 5 - EFFECTIVE DATE**

This ordinance shall be effective 30 days from the date of its final passage or January 1, 2026, whichever is later.

In addition, upon ratification by the legislative body of the County of Ventura or of any city where Article 3, Section 903; Article 3, Appendix B; and Article 4, Section 604.11 are adopted to apply, pursuant to subdivision (c) of Health and Safety Code Section 13869.7, the aforementioned provisions shall apply upon the effective date of this Ordinance or upon the date of said ratification or adoption by the County or any city, whichever is later.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: Directors LaVere, Gorell, Long, Parvin, Lopez

NOES: Directors none


ABSENT: Directors none

  
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CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
COUNTY OF VENTURA

ATTEST:

SEVET JOHNSON  
Clerk of the Board of Directors  
County of Ventura, State of California



By:   
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Deputy Clerk of the Board