

**AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT AN ELECTRICAL CODE  
FOR THE CITY OF MOBILE**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOBILE, ALABAMA, as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** That, pursuant to Alabama Code Section 11-44-8 (1975), the 1999 Edition of the National Electrical Code, along with this Ordinance, which has been on file in the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Mobile, Alabama, pursuant to a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Mobile, Alabama, on May 15, 2001, is hereby adopted as the "Electrical Code of the City of Mobile."

**SECTION TWO:** A copy of this Ordinance shall be published pursuant and according to law, after its adoption, but it shall not be necessary for the said Electrical Code to be published in a newspaper, nor shall the same be spread at length upon the minutes of this Council, but this Ordinance shall be recorded in said minutes.

**SECTION THREE:** The said Electrical Code shall be in full force and effect on and after the 12th day of June, 2001, and all Ordinances heretofore adopted by the City of Mobile in conflict are hereby repealed.

**SECTION FOUR: ADMINISTRATION**

**100 Scope**

(a) The provisions of this code shall apply within the corporate limits of the City of Mobile, and to all City owned property not located in the corporate limits of the City of Mobile, to electric conductors and equipment installed within or on public and private buildings and other premises, including parking lots, carnivals, yards and industrial substations; also, the conductors that connect the installations to a supply of electricity, and other outside conductors adjacent to the premises. All electrical systems shall be properly permitted and inspected as required by this code.

(b) No provision of this code shall be held to cover installations in mines, ships, railway cars, automotive equipment, or the installation on equipment employed by a railway, electric or communication utility used in the exercise or its function as a utility and located outdoors or in buildings to which there is no public access.

(c) Nothing in this code shall prevent any homeowner from making an electrical installation within his/her own property boundaries, providing such electrical work is done by himself and is in a building used exclusively by him or his/her family. Such

privilege does not convey the right to violate any of the provisions of this code, nor is it to be construed as exempting any such property owner from obtaining a permit and paying required fees therefor.

(d) Nothing in the Electrical Code of the City of Mobile will be construed to relieve or lessen the responsibility or liability of any person, firm or corporation for injury or damage to any person or property caused by or resulting from any malfunction or defects of any nature in any electrical work performed by said person, firm, or corporation or in any electrical equipment owned, controlled, installed, operated or used by them. Nor shall the city, or any officer, agent, or employee thereof, incur or be held as assuming any liability by reason or in consequence of any permit, permission, certificate of inspection, inspection, or approval authorized therein, or issued or given as herein provided or by any reason or consequence of any actions done or acts performed pursuant to any provision of this Code.

## **SECTION FIVE: APPLICABILITY**

**101 General.** Where, in any specific case, different sections of this code specify different materials, methods of construction or other requirements, the most restrictive shall govern. Where there is a conflict between a general requirements and a specific requirement, the specific requirement shall be applicable.

**101.1 Other laws.** The provisions of this code shall not be deemed to nullify any provisions of local, state or federal law.

**101.2 Application of references.** References to chapter or section numbers, or to provisions not specifically identified by number, shall be construed to refer to such chapter, section or provision of this code.

**101.3 Referenced codes and standards.** The codes and standards referenced in this code shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to prescribed extent of each such reference. Where differences occur between provisions of this code and referenced codes and standards, the provisions of this code shall apply.

**Exception:** Where enforcement of a code provision would violate the conditions of the listing of the equipment or appliance, the conditions of the listing and manufacturer's instructions shall apply.

**101.4 Partial invalidity.** In the event any part or provision of this code is held to be illegal or void, this shall not have the effect of making void or illegal any of the other parts or provisions.

**101.5 Existing structures.** The legal occupancy of any structure existing on the date of adoption of this code shall be permitted to continue without change, except as is specifically covered in this code , the Property Maintenance Code or the International Fire Code, or as is deemed necessary by the Electrical Official for the general safety and welfare of the occupants and the public.

**101.5.1 Additions, alterations or repairs.** Additions, alterations or repairs to any structure shall conform to that required for a new structure without requiring the existing structure to comply with all of the requirements of this code, unless otherwise stated. Additions, alterations or repairs shall not cause and existing structure to become unsafe or adversely affect the performance of the building.

**101.6 Historic buildings.** The provisions of this code relating to the construction, alteration, repair, enlargement, restoration, relocation or moving of buildings or structures shall not be mandatory for existing buildings or structures identified and classified by the state or local jurisdiction as historic buildings, including those listed on the National Register of Historic Places or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, when such buildings or structures are judged by the Electrical Official to be safe and in the public interest of health, safety and welfare regarding any proposed construction, alteration, repair, enlargement, restoration, relocation or moving of buildings.

## **SECTION SIX: ORGANIZATION**

**102 Restrictions on Employees.** No officer or employee connected with the department, except one whose only connection is a member of the board established by this code, shall be financially interested in the furnishing of labor, material, or appliances for the construction, authorization, or maintenance of a building. No such officer or employee shall engage in any work, which is inconsistent with his/her duties or with the interest of the department.

**102.1 Liability.** The Electrical Official or employee charged with the enforcement of this code, while acting for the jurisdiction in good faith and without malice in the discharge of the duties required by this code or other pertinent law or ordinance, shall not thereby be rendered liable personally and is hereby relieved from personal liability for any damage accruing to persons or property as a result of any act or by reason of an act or omission in the discharge of official duties. Any suit instituted against an officer or employee because of an act performed by that officer or employee in the lawful discharge of duties and under the provisions of this code shall be defended by legal representative of the jurisdiction until the final termination of the proceedings. The Electrical Official or any subordinate shall not be liable for cost in any action, suit or proceeding that is instituted in pursuance of the provisions of this code.

**102.2 Identification.** The Electrical Official shall carry proper identification when inspecting structures or premises in the performance of duties under this code.

**102.3 Department Records.** The Electrical Official shall keep official records of applications received, permits and certificates issued, fees collected, reports of inspections, and notices and orders

issued. Such records shall be retained in the official records for the period required for the retention of public record.

## **SECTION SEVEN: QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTRICIANS**

**103 Creation of Board of Examiners.** There is hereby created a board to be known as the "Board of Electrical Examiners" which shall be composed of the Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee of the City of Mobile who shall serve as Chairman and seven (7) duly qualified and competent persons to be appointed by the City Council of the City of Mobile. In addition to the Electrical Official, the Board members shall be appointed from nominees submitted by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 505, the National Electrical Contractors Association, the Master Electricians Association of Alabama, the Alabama Power Company and the Associated Builders and Contractors Association of South Alabama. In addition to these nominees, the City Council shall appoint one certified Journeyman Electrician, one certified Master Electrician. Each member of the "Board of Examiners" shall serve a term of four years, but any person appointed to fill a vacancy shall be appointed to serve only for the unexpired term. Members shall be eligible for reappointment. This Ordinance shall not serve to vacate any appointment made prior to the effective date of the Amendment. No member shall receive compensation for service on the Board.

## **SECTION EIGHT: CERTIFICATION**

**104 Certification.** It shall be unlawful and an offense against the City of Mobile for any person to work as a Master Electrician, Journeyman Electrician or Maintenance Electrician without first obtaining a "Certificate of Competency" as hereafter provided.

### **104.1 Certificate of Competency.**

(a) The Board of Electrical Examiners herein created shall hold examination on the second Wednesday of each January and July provided that each such day is not a legal holiday; if so, the examinations shall be held on the next regular business day following. The examination shall be proctored by the Board and shall be based upon the provisions of this Code and upon good electrical practices and procedures. The Board shall establish examinations for Master Electricians, Journeyman Electricians, and Special Systems.

(b) Anyone desiring to obtain a Master, Journeyman or Special Systems Certificate of Competency shall make application to the Board of Examiners at least thirty (30) days prior to the examination date, signifying his/her intentions to take such examination and whether he intends to take the examination as a Master Electrician, Journeyman Electrician or Special Systems. If the applicant desires to take the Master Electrician examination, he/she will pay to the City of Mobile an examination fee of One Hundred fifteen and no/100 (\$115.00) or have proof of state certification. If the applicant

desires to take the Journeyman Electrician examination or Special Systems examination, he/she will pay to the City of Mobile an examination fee of Sixty-five and no/100 (\$65.00), or have proof of State Certification.

(c) Anyone desiring a Certificate of Competency as a Maintenance electrician shall present suitable evidence by an employer. Upon presentation of such evidence, the Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee shall issue a Certificate, subject to the final approval of the Board; and such Certificate shall expire five years after the date of issuance, or change of employment, whichever is the sooner. The issuance fee for a Certificate of Competency as Maintenance Electrician shall be \$65.00.

(d) The applicant shall submit with his/her application four (4) photographs of his/her head and shoulders being in size 1 inch by 2 inches. These photographs shall then become the property of the Board of Examiners. In the event the applicant is successful in the examination and is issued a Certificate of Competency, the Board shall cause one of the photographs to be attached to such Certificate of Competency. Such Certificate of Competency shall state on the face thereof that the holder of the same is qualified as stated thereon at any time he/she is doing electrical work in the City of Mobile or on City owned property not in the Corporate Limits of the City of Mobile.

(e) Any person shall be eligible for examination as a Master Electrician who has been in actual employment as a certified Journeyman Electrician for at least one (1) year, or has passed a previous examination with the City of Mobile as a Master Electrician, or has a professional electrical engineering license, or such experience in the electrical field as shall be approved by the Board of Electrical Examiners, or has had five (5) years of such experience in the design of electrical systems and their construction as shall be approved by the Board of Examiners.

(f) Reciprocity with Mobile County and other Alabama Governmental bodies, at the Board's discretion, may be established considering only the applicants who have successfully completed the Experior prepared, proctored and graded examination and having attained a score of 75% for Master Electrician. The reciprocity fee shall be \$100.

(g) When joint ventures are utilized by contractors, all companies involved in such joint venture shall comply with all sections of this ordinance, i.e. business license and other fees, bonding, and insurance requirements, etc.

(h) An applicant for a Certificate of Competency as a Journeyman Electrician must have had at least four (4) years practical experience as an apprentice or a current Journeyman or Master Electrician in another jurisdiction of Alabama or other training approved by the Board of Electrical Examiners.

(i) The Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee is authorized to issue Temporary Certificates of Competency to Journeyman Electricians upon proof that the applicant therefor is qualified to do electrical work in a competent manner; but such Certificate shall be good only to the next examination date of the Board of Examiners.

(j) Competency certificates will be issued to applicants immediately after the successful completion of examinations. Journeyman certificates will expire five years from date of issue. Master certificates will expire the day prior to March first of each year. Each application for a renewal certificate (other than a Master's), or for a duplicate of any certificate in the event that the original certificate has been lost, shall be accompanied by a fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to defray cost of issuing such certificate.

(k) An Active Master certificate may be renewed each year between January 1 and March 1 without a re-examination, under the following provisions:

(l) Persons purchasing a City of Mobile electrical contractor's license will pay a fee of Ten Dollars. (\$10.00). Persons not purchasing a City of Mobile electrical contractor's license will pay a fee equivalent to the amount paid for the minimum electrical contractor's business license.

(m) A person not wishing to keep an "Active" certificate may place his/her Masters certificate on an "Inactive" basis until the next licensing period (January 1 - March 1) at a cost of Ten Dollars (\$10.00). During this regular licensing period (January 1 - March 1) an "Inactive" certificate may be converted to an "Active" certificate by compliance with Section 104.1(k). Also a holder of an "Inactive" certificate may acquire an active Master's certificate at any time during the year by a successful completion of the prescribed Masters examination.

(n) In the event of a holder of a Master's certificate desiring to be on a permanent inactive status, a "Retired Master" certificate shall be issued without cost. A holder of a "Retired Master" certificate may obtain an "Active" Master certificate only by a successful re-examination.

(o) An applicant for a Certificate of Competency as an Associate Journeyman must have had at least two (2) years practical experience as an apprentice of a Journeyman Electrician or Master Electrician, or shall be sponsored by the Electrical Department of the City of Mobile or must have had other training approved by the Board of Electrical Examiners.

(p) The examination for certification as an Associate Journeyman shall be the same as the Journeyman examination. The Certificate of Associate Journeyman may be

converted to a Journeyman Certificate without examination when the holder has acquired a total of four years of practical experience or a combination of two years of training and two years of practical experience in the electrical construction industry. The practical experience must have been under the direct supervision of a certified Journeyman or Master Electrician.

(q) Suspension or Revocation of Certificates of Competency: After a hearing following notice, the Board of Examiners shall have the power to suspend any Certificate of Competency issued by it for a period of not in excess of 30 days, and may revoke Certificates of Competency issued by it, upon evidence presented to it that the holder of such Certificate of Competency has persistently or willfully violated the provisions of this code. When such certificate is revoked then the holder thereof shall not be entitled to apply for a new certificate within six months of the date of such revocation.

(r) Whenever a complaint is made to the Board concerning any holder of a Certificate of Competency, and a request is made to the Board, or the Board determines that such complaints, if true, would justify a revocation of the Certificate of Competency or a suspension thereof, then the Board shall hold a meeting, notice of which meeting shall be given to the holder of the Certificate of Competency in question, not less than 15 days prior to the date set for said meeting, stating the basis of the charges against him, at which meeting the complainant may appear and present evidence as to such charges. The Board will render a decision within five calendar days, either absolving the holder of the Certificate, suspending his/her Certificate, or revoking his/her Certificate, and such decision shall state the reasons for the conclusion reached. The holder of such Certificate shall have the right to appeal to the Board of Appeals as hereinafter set forth, provided that notice of such appeal shall be filed within 30 days from the date of such decision of the Board of Examiners. Such notice of appeal shall be filed with the Secretary of the Board of Appeals who shall immediately notify the Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee of such appeal and direct him to cause the records of proceedings before the Board of Examiners to be certified and filed in the Office within 10 days. The order of the Board of Examiners shall be suspended during the time the appeal is pending.

#### **104.2 Continuing Education Requirements for Active Certificates of Competency Holders**

(a) Each person who is certified by the Board of Electrical Examiners must, as a condition of each renewal of certificate, provide proof of at least fourteen (14) classroom hours of continuing education in one or more courses approved by the Board of Electrical Examiners per three year period.

(b) A person who holds more than one certificate issued by the Board of Electrical Examiners is required to complete the continuing education requirements only once

during each triennium period. Proof of completion by any such person must be submitted with each renewal application.

(c) A person is not required to complete any continuing education requirements for the year in which a certificate is initially issued.

**104.3 Criteria for Continuing Education.** The following programs of continuing education may be used to satisfy the continuing education requirement.

(a) Courses for credit which are business, technical or safety courses relevant to the electrical contracting industry.

**104.4 Approval of Continuing Education Courses**

(a) Any registered course sponsor may submit an application for approval of a continuing education course by filing within the agency.

(b) Each course sponsor must register with the Board of Electrical Examiners prior to submitting any continuing education courses to be conducted by a course sponsor to the board for approval.

**104.5 Audit of Certificate of Completion.** The Urban Development Department shall perform random audits of 10% of the certificate holders to verify compliance with continuing education.

**104.6 Fees.** Fees for registering each continuing education sponsor shall be \$20.00.

## **SECTION NINE: BOND REQUIRED**

**105 Bond.** It shall be required of every electrical contractor as defined in this code to pay a license tax as provided in the general license ordinances of the City of Mobile and to register his/her name and business address in a book provided for that purpose with the Board of Examiners, and in case of removal of his/her place of business to some other location to notify the Board of Examiners of such change so that the register may be corrected; and it shall be the further duty of every such electrical contractor to give good and sufficient bond in the sum of \$10,000.00, in the form to be approved by the City Attorney conditioned to conform to this Electrical Code, and to comply with all other ordinances of the City of Mobile and statutes of the State of Alabama in reference to Electricity. The bond form must be signed by the owner and Master.

## **SECTION TEN: EMPLOYMENT OF MASTER ELECTRICIAN**

**106 Notification.** Every electrical contractor as defined by this code must have continuously in his/her employ a holder of Certificate of Competency as a Master Electrician for the current year.

Whenever any Master Electrician leaves the employ of an electrical contractor it shall be the duty of such contractor to immediately notify the Board of Examiners.

### **106.1 Notice by Master Electrician of Employment.**

(a) Every holder of a Certificate of Competency as a Master Electrician shall notify the Board of Examiners as to his/her place of employment and should his/her place of employment change, then he/she shall also notify the Board of Examiners so that said board may maintain proper supervision over electrical contractors.

(b) In the event of death of the "Active" Master Electrician of record employed by a Contractor, the Contractor shall be permitted to continue operations during the licensed year under the supervision of an "Inactive" Master, if necessary. At the end of this period, the Contractor will be required to employ exclusively, a holder of an "Active" Master's Certificate in order to continue operations.

**106.2 Regulations of Electricians.** It shall be the duty of all holders of a Certificate of Competency as a Master Electrician or as a Maintenance Electrician, to register with the Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee and show the name and address of their regular employer. It shall be their further duty to immediately notify the Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee when they change employment, giving the same information as to their new employer. No holder of a Certificate of Competency as a Master Electrician shall allow his/her name to be used by any other person, firm or corporation for the purpose of obtaining a permit to do electrical work or for the purpose of doing electrical work under their license, as such. It shall be unlawful for any holder of Certificate of Competency as a Journeyman Electrician to do any electrical work, unless he/she is doing such work under the direct supervision of a holder of a Certificate of Competency as a Master Electrician. It shall further be unlawful for any holder of a Certificate of Competency to allow any person employed as a helper, apprentice, or trainee to do any electrical work, except under the direct supervision of a Master or Journeyman. There shall be a minimum of one (1) Journeyman on each construction site. Additional Journeymen shall be required at the discretion of the Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee.

## **SECTION ELEVEN: APPLICATION FOR PERMIT**

**107 Application for permit.** To obtain a permit, the applicant shall first file an application therefor in writing on a form furnished by the department of Urban Development for that purpose. Such application shall:

(a) Identify and describe the work to be covered by the permit for which application is made.

- (b) Describe the land on which the proposed work is to be done by legal description, street address or similar description that will readily identify and definitely locate the proposed building or work.
- (c) Indicate the use and occupancy for which the proposed work is intended.
- (d) Be accompanied by construction documents.
- (e) State the valuation of the proposed work.
- (f) Be signed by the applicant, or the applicant's authorized agent.
- (g) Give such other data and information as required by the Electrical Official.
- (h) Applicant must provide proper identification to verify ownership of property.
- (i) Application for an electrical permit shall be granted only to the homeowner, or to a master electrician or to the master electrician's authorized agent.

**107.1 Time limitation of application.** An application for a permit for any proposed work shall be deemed to have been abandoned 180 days after the date of filing, unless such application has been pursued in good faith or a permit has been issued; except that the Electrical Official is authorized to grant one or more extensions of time for additional periods not exceeding 180 days each. The extension shall be requested in writing and justifiable cause demonstrated.

**107.2 Action on application.** The Electrical Official shall examine or cause to be examined applications for permits and amendments thereto within a reasonable time after filing. If the application or the construction documents do not conform to the requirements of pertinent laws, the Electrical Official shall reject such application in writing, stating the reasons therefor. If the Electrical Official is satisfied that the proposed work conforms to the requirements of this code and laws and ordinances applicable thereto, the Electrical Official shall issue a permit therefor as soon as practicable.

**107.3 Expiration.** Every permit issued shall become invalid unless the work authorized by such permit is commenced within 180 days after its issuance, or if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for a period of 180 days after the time the work is commenced. The Electrical Official is authorized to grant, in writing, one or more extensions of time, for periods not more than 180 days each. The extension shall be requested in writing and justifiable cause demonstrated.

**107.4 Placement of permit.** The building permit or copy thereof shall be kept on the site of the work until the completion of the project.

**107.5 Plans and Specifications.** Plans and specifications must meet the requirements of Section 106.1 of the Ordinance of the City of Mobile adopting the 2000 edition of the International Building Code

**SECTION TWELVE: FEES**

**108 Failure to Obtain Permit.** It shall be unlawful for any person to commence any electrical work before obtaining the necessary permit from the City, and it shall be unlawful for any person to do any electrical work without having first obtained a permit from the City.

**108.1 Payment of fees.** A permit shall not be valid until the fees prescribed by law have been paid. Nor shall an amendment to a permit be released until the additional fee, if any, has been paid.

**108.2 Refunds.** The Electrical Official is authorized to establish a refund policy.

**108.3 Permit Fees shall be as follows :**

**CITY OF MOBILE ELECTRICAL FEES**

**Computer Usage Fee:**

Each permit shall be assessed a \$1.00 computer usage fee.

**Main Service and Service Repairs:**

200 ampere switch or less	\$15.00
400 ampere switch	20.00
600 ampere switch	25.00
800 ampere switch.	30.00
1200 ampere switch	35.00
1600 ampere switch.	40.00
2000 ampere switch.	50.00

**Temporary Service** \$15.00

**Repairs to Outlets or Fixtures** \$15.00

**New Outlets:**

01 - 03	\$5.00
04 - 10	7.00
11 - 15	10.00
16 - 24	15.00
25 - 50	20.00
51 - 75	30.00
76 - 100	40.00

100 - 150 50.00  
Plus \$0.30 per outlet over 200

**Fixtures, Fluorescent Light Ballasts, and Smoke Detectors:**

01 – 10 \$7.00  
11 – 20 9.00  
21 – 30 11.00  
31 – 40 13.00  
41 - 50 15.00  
51 – 60 18.00  
61 – 70 20.00

**Fixtures, Fluorescent Light Ballasts, and Smoke Detectors (continued):**

71 – 80 22.00  
81 – 90 25.00  
91 – 100 30.00  
Plus \$0.30 per fixture over 100

**Ceiling fans:** \$1.00

**Motor Inspection Fees:**

Fractional 1 HP \$ 5.00  
1 1/2 3 HP 6.00  
4 10 HP 8.75  
11 20 HP 11.50  
21 30 HP 13.75  
31 50 HP 15.50  
51 100 HP 17.50  
Above 100 HP 17.50

Plus \$0.20 per each horsepower over 100

Each Generator – Use motor schedule above and add \$2.00.

Other current consuming devices to be charged for as motors.

(Multiply amperes by voltage and reduce to horsepower by dividing 746 watts).

**Electric Signs:**

Sign connection fee \$15.00  
Sign shop fee 10.00

(Transformer or ballast incandescent lamps to be charged according to motor schedule.)

**Heating:**

0.0 kw to 7.9 kw \$5.00  
8.0 kw to 14.9 kw 8.00

15.0 kw to 22.9 kw	10.00
23.0 kw to 37.9 kw	15.00
38.0 kw to 74.9 kw	20.00

**Air Conditioners:**

Window air conditioners and central units to 4 tons	\$12.00
Over 4 tons	1.00 per ton
Re-Locate Air Conditioner Fee	Same as above
Repairs	\$15.00

**Appliances:**

Welding Machine Receptacle	10.00
Range	6.00
Dryer	5.00
Water Heater	5.00

**Special Systems:**

Non-Residential and Commercial	\$25.00
Residential	\$15.00

**Investigation Fee:** \$20.00

**Pool Fee:**

1 HP Motor, 1-4 outlets, Pool Bond \$25.00

**Transformers (1 kw or over):** \$15.00

**Weekend and emergency inspections** \$50.00 – 1<sup>st</sup> hour  
\$25.00 each additional hour

**Direct burial cable, conduit and miscellaneous trench inspections** \$15.00

**108.4 Fees for Re-inspections.** A re-inspection fee shall be charged whenever an inspection is requested and the work is found to be not ready for inspection, or is improperly installed. The amount of said re-inspection fee shall be \$25.00 for each re-inspection.

**108.5 Fees for Late Permits.**

Double normal fee and/or Municipal Offense Ticket

Construction trailers - \$50.00

Manufactured building Act #81-706 Section V (8)

Installation Permit.....\$50.00

Does not include premise wiring.

**108.6 Competency Card Renewal Fees:**

Maintenance Electrician	\$65.00
Journeyman	\$50.00
Duplicate Card Fee	\$10.00

Master Electrician	\$10.00 with Business License
State Issuance Fee	\$25.00
Inactive Master	\$10.00
<b>Competency Card Renewal Fees (continued)</b>	
Renewal Certification Card Penalty	Double Fee

**108.7 Emergency repairs.** Where equipment replacements and repairs must be performed in an emergency situation, the permit application shall be submitted within the next working business day to the Electrical Official.

**108.8 Violation penalties.** Any person who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter or repair electrical work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the Electrical Official, or of a permit or certificate issued under the provisions of this code, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable in accordance with Chapter 1 of the Mobile City Code. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

**SECTION THIRTEEN: INSPECTION**

**109 Inspection Required**

- (a) The Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee shall, during the installation or alteration or extension of an electrical wiring system, make or cause inspections to be made to assure compliance with the provisions of this code.
- (b) No work in connection with an electric wiring system shall be covered or concealed until it has been inspected as prescribed in this code and permission to do so has been given by the Unit of Electrical Inspection of the Urban Development Department.
- (c) The Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee shall within a reasonable time after notice of the completion of the electrical wiring for which a permit is required by this code, make or cause to be made an inspection of such work and such tests as may be necessary to determine that it conforms with the code.
- (d) The Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee shall make or cause to be made a re-inspection of an electrical wiring installation wherever deemed necessary in the interest of public safety. The Chief and Field Electrical Inspectors are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week for emergencies.

(e) If an electrical wiring system upon re-inspection is found to be defective and unsafe, the Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee shall revoke all certificates in effect at that time relating to such systems; and the use of such electrical wiring system shall be discontinued until it has been made to conform to this code and a new certificate of approval has been issued by the Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee.

(f) Upon the making of the final inspection of an electrical wiring system, if the same be approved, then the Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee shall issue or cause to be issued a certificate of approval, as hereinafter provided, and the same shall be attached to the electrical wiring system.

**109.1 Approval required.** Work shall not be done beyond the point indicated in each successive inspection without first obtaining the approval of the Electrical Official. The Electrical Official upon notification, shall make the requested inspections and shall either indicate the portion of the construction that is satisfactory as completed, or shall notify the permit holder or an agent of the permit holder wherein the same fails to comply with this code. Any portions that do not comply shall be corrected and such portion shall not be covered or concealed until authorized by the Electrical Official.

**109.2 Underground inspection.** Underground inspection is to be made after trenches or ditches are excavated, conduit or cable installed, and before any backfill is put in place.

**109.2 Rough-in inspection.** Rough-in inspection is to be made after the roof, framing fireblocking, bracing and rough wiring is in place and prior to the installation of wall or ceiling membranes.

**109.4 Final inspection.** Final inspection is to be made after the building is complete, all required fixtures are in place and properly connected or protected, and the structure is ready for occupancy.

## **SECTION FOURTEEN: NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF ELECTRICAL WORK**

### **110 Notices**

(a) Upon the completion of the Electrical wiring of any Building, and/or upon the completion of any alteration or change or repair, it shall be the duty of the contractor doing the electrical work to notify the Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee that such work is completed, who shall then inspect or cause such wiring or appliances to be inspected, and if approved by him, shall issue and attach a certificate of approval.

(b) It shall be unlawful to use or permit the use of, or to supply current for electric wiring for light, heat or power in a building or structure unless the required certificate of approval has been issued; provided, however, the Electrical Official or his/her duly

authorized designee may in his/her discretion give temporary permission for a reasonable time to supply and use current in parts of an electrical installation before such installation has been fully completed and the Certificate of Approval issued.

## **SECTION FIFTEEN: CONNECTION OR RECONNECTION OF SERVICES**

**111 Connection of service utilities.** No person shall make connections from a utility, source of energy or power to any building or system that is regulated by this code for which a permit is required, until approved by the Electrical Official.

**111.1 Temporary connection.** The Electrical Official shall have the authority to authorize and approve the temporary connection of the building or system to the utility source of energy or power.

**111.2 Authority to disconnect service utilities.** The Electrical Official shall have the authority to authorize disconnection of utility service to the building, structure or system regulated by this code and the referenced codes and standards. In case of emergency where necessary to eliminate an immediate hazard to life or property or when such utility connection has been made without the proper approval. The Electrical Official shall notify the serving utility and whenever possible the owner and occupant of the building, structure or service system of the decision to disconnect prior to taking such action if not notified prior to disconnection. Every proper and legal effort shall be made to notify the owner or occupant of the building, structure or service system as soon as practical thereafter.

## **SECTION SIXTEEN: POWER AND DUTIES OF THE ELECTRICAL OFFICIAL OR HIS/HER DULY AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE**

**112 Right of entry.** Where it is necessary to make an inspection to enforce the provisions of this code, or where the Electrical Official has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in a structure or upon a premises a condition which is contrary to or in violation of this code which makes the structure or premises unsafe, dangerous or hazardous, the Electrical Official or designee is authorized to enter the structure or premises at reasonable times to inspect or to perform the duties imposed by this code, provided that if such structure or premises be occupied that credentials be presented to the occupant and entry requested. If such structure or premises be unoccupied, the Electrical Official shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or other person having charge or control of the structure or premises and request entry. If entry is refused, the Electrical Official shall have recourse to the remedies provided by law to secure entry.

**112.1 Notices and orders.** The Electrical Official shall issue all necessary notices or orders to ensure compliance with this code.

**112.2 Suspension or revocation.** The Electrical Official is authorized to suspend or revoke a permit issued under the provisions of this code wherever the permit is issued in error or on the basis of incorrect, inaccurate or incomplete information, or in violation of any ordinance or regulation or any of the provisions of this code.

**112.3 General.** The Electrical Official is hereby authorized and directed to enforce the provisions of this code. The Electrical Official shall have the authority to render interpretations of this code and to adopt policies and procedures in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies and procedures shall be in conformance with the intent and purpose of this code. Such policies and procedures shall not have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in this code.

## **SECTION SEVENTEEN: CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

**113 Vehicular Signs.** All trucks and similar vehicles used by electrical contractors shall have signs on the body on both sides of same, the full name, address and telephone number of the firm to which it belongs. Lettering may be any color in contrast to the color of the body, but letters must be at least 1-1/2 inches high on firm's name.

**113.1 Interference with Electrical Official.** It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with the Electrical Official or his/her duly authorized designee or any of his/her duly authorized representatives when they are performing any of their duties as set out in this Code or in other ordinances of the City of Mobile.

## **SECTION EIGHTEEN: GENERAL**

### **114 Definitions:**

(a) The term "Electrician" as used in this code shall be held to mean a person who is engaged in the trade or business of electrical construction, and who is qualified under the terms and provisions of this code with the required certificate of competency.

(b) The term "Master Electrician" as used in this code shall be held to mean a person who possesses the necessary qualifications, training and technical knowledge to plan, lay out, and supervise the installation of electrical wiring, apparatus or equipment for light, heat, or power, and who is qualified under the provisions of this code with the required certificate of competency.

(c) The term "Journeyman Electrician" as used in this ordinance shall be held to mean a person who possesses the necessary qualifications, training and technical knowledge to install electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for light, heat or power, and who is qualified under the terms and provisions of this code, and who shall be capable of doing electrical work according to the plans and specifications furnished, and in accordance

with the standard rules and regulations governing wiring installations in the City of Mobile.

(d) The work of "Maintenance Electrician" shall be confined to the existing branch circuits, fixtures, apparatus or equipment connected thereto, contained and used within the premises or building owned, occupied, or controlled by the person, firm, or corporation by whom the Maintenance Electrician is employed. work shall not include the installation or replacement of service conductors, service equipment, or any feeder to any center or centers of distribution. All work performed by him shall comply with the provisions of this code.

(e) The term "Electrical Contractor" as used in this code shall be held to mean a person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of electrical contracting. The person in charge of electrical installation for said person, firm or corporation shall have qualified as a "Master Electrician" according to the terms of this code and shall possess a Certificate of Competency as a Master Electrician for the current year.

(f) The term "Qualified Person" as used in this code shall be held to mean any person qualified under the terms and provisions of this code to perform electrical work, including any home owner who desires to perform electrical work on his/her premises in accordance with the terms and provisions of this code.

(g) The terms "Helper" and "Apprentice" as used in this code shall be held to mean a person who is employed to assist in electrical installations and is not recognized as a qualified Journeyman or Master Electrician.

(h) "Service Repairs" shall be considered to mean repairs to service and meter equipment, electrode grounding, and to the wiring system on the line side of the service disconnect or disconnects. "Repairs" shall be considered to mean repairs to or replacement of wiring devices, ballasts, securing conduits and cables, resplicing, reinsulating, guarding, etc. Replacement of conduits, feeders, and branch circuit conductors and the relocation of receptacles, switches, and outlets shall be considered as new installations.

## **SECTION NINETEEN: WIRING INSTALLATIONS**

### **115 Wiring Installations:**

(a) When rewiring, renovating, or upgrading a wiring system, it shall be the responsibility of the electrical contractor to remove all obsolete and abandoned equipment, wiring, and conduits, where practical.

- (b) All metallic conduits, installed in ground floor slabs, underground and on top of floors in damp and wet locations must be galvanized (or equal) rigid steel construction.
- (c) Separate grounding conductors shall be used for all flexible conduits enclosing branch circuit conductors of electrical appliances and equipment.
- (d) The branch circuit conductors of a range or combination cook top and oven circuit shall be sized according to instructions of manufacturer or shall not be smaller than AWC#6, copper or equivalent.
- (e) In all buildings or structures to be erected and in all buildings or structures now existing within the corporate limits of the City of Mobile, all new and additional electrical wiring for light, heat and power shall be enclosed in raceways except non-metallic sheathed cable is permitted to be used in the wiring of dwellings, apartments, and commercial buildings utilizing only wood frame construction except that non-metallic sheathed cable is not permitted in buildings or structures designed or intended for occupancy by 100 or more persons.
- (f) Temporary Services shall be adequate for any load that may be connected.
- (g) Where a service mast is used for the attachment and support of service drop conductors, it shall consist of rigid steel conduit or equivalent, not less than two inches (trade size) in diameter.
- (h) All sprinkle heads installed in electrical equipment rooms must be shielded to prevent water from entering the electrical panel.
- (i) Except as hereinafter specified, every building or structure in which electricity is used for light, heat or power, shall have the main service disconnect or disconnects located as nearly as practicable to an outside service entrance. This location shall be accessible to the police, firemen, and all occupants of such building or structure.

## **SECTION TWENTY: NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE**

### **116 Listing**

- (a) All electrical work and all materials and appliances used in connection therewith done within the City of Mobile shall conform to the requirements and provisions of the 1999 National Electrical Code, except as changed by the provisions hereof, which said requirements and provisions are hereby adopted and approved as a part thereof as fully and completely as if herein set out in haec verba.

(b) All electrical materials, wiring devices, signs, appliances, and equipment used in electrical installations in the City of Mobile whether wholesale or retail in nature shall bear listing label of a nationally recognized testing laboratory or be approved by the Urban Development Department, Electrical Inspection Unit of the City of Mobile.

## **SECTION TWENTY-ONE: BOARD OF APPEALS**

**117 General.** There is hereby established a Board to be called the Board of Appeals, which shall consist of seven (7) members, who shall be the duly elected and qualified Council Members of the City of Mobile.

**117.1 Rules and Regulations.** The Board shall establish rules and regulations for its own procedure not inconsistent with the provisions of this code. The Board shall meet at regular intervals, to be determined by the Chairman. In any event, the Board shall meet within 10 days after notice of appeal has been received. Every decision shall be promptly filed in writing in the office of the Building Official, and shall be open to public inspection, a certified copy shall be sent by mail or otherwise to the appellant and a copy shall be kept publicly posted in the office of the Building Official for two weeks after filing.

## **SECTION TWENTY-TWO: SPECIAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS.**

### **118 Special Electrical Systems:**

(a) The Board of Examiners created under the provisions of this Code are hereby authorized to issue limited certificates of competency which will authorize the performance of limited electrical work by the holders thereof. On voltages of 50 volts or less, these limited certificates of competency accompanied by installation permits shall authorize the installation of wiring and complete hookup of sound, radio and television receiving equipment, smoke, fire, burglary and other security alarm and recordation systems, banking, photographic, merchandising, dispensing, cleaning, and other electrical and electronic systems, provided these systems are not attached to the electrical wiring system of the building or structure. These limited competency certificates shall not authorize the installation of wiring methods connecting these special systems to the light, power or heating electrical system of the building or structure.

(b) Any person desiring to obtain a certificate of competency limited to the installation of the systems contemplated by this Section of the Electrical Code shall make application to the Board of Examiners (30) days prior to exam date in all respects as

would a Master or Journeyman Electrician, and shall submit to such examination as will be devised by the Board of Examiners, which examination shall be limited to the special field covered by the limited certificate of competency applied for. Applicants for such limited certificate shall pay the same fees as applicants for a journeyman electrician's examination, examination fee shall be \$65.00. Any certificates of competency issued under the provisions of this Chapter shall expire on the same dates and be subject to the same terms of renewal as certificates of competency issued to journeyman electricians. The fees for the reissuance of such limited certificates shall be the same as that for journeyman electricians.

(c) All installations of sound, radio and television receiving equipment, burglar alarm systems, telephone fire alarm systems and audio systems shall comply with the standards of safety as approved and amended by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., the provisions of which are incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference. No such system shall be finally approved by the Electrical Inspector of the City until the same complies with such standards in all respects.

### **SECTION TWENTY-THREE: REVOCATION OF COMPETENCY CARD**

**119 Revocation of Competency Card.** It shall be unlawful and an offense against the City of Mobile, and grounds for revocation of any certificate of competency issued under this Chapter, for any person to commence the installation or to install any system covered by this Chapter without first procuring the necessary permits from the Urban Development Department.

ADOPTED: June 12, 2001

/s/ Glenda A. Morgan, City Clerk