



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

Public Safety Services



V. J. BELLA  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

A. J. FOSTER, JR.  
GOVERNOR

April 22, 1997

Mr. Jerry M. Fowler  
Commissioner Of Elections  
Dept. of Elections & Registration  
P.O. Box 14179  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-4179

*2 DO'S*

*DISTRIBUTE TO ALL INSPECTORS*

*PLEASE ALLOW THE FOLLOWING  
LOCKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR  
ALL VOTING MACHINE WAREHOUSES*

*P. Slaughter  
5/1/97*

Re: Voting Machines Warehouses

Dear Mr. Fowler:

This correspondence is in reply to your request for code clarification or information regarding the use of a hasp and lock on the exterior of the entrance doors of the voting booth storage warehouses located statewide.

The State of Louisiana has adopted the National Fire Protection Association - Standard 101 "Life Safety Code" and all mandatory referenced standards as the codes to be used for the protection of life and property from the threats of fire, explosion and panic.

In accordance with requirements of the adopted standard applicable to your request to be allowed to use a hasp and lock on the exterior of the entrance doors of the voting booth storage warehouses, NFPA 101, Section 5-2.1.5.1 states "Doors shall be arranged to be opened readily from the egress side whenever the building is occupied. Locks, if provided, shall not require the use of a key, tool, special knowledge, or effort for operation from the inside of the building".

You have documented the following locking arrangements for the voting booths as follows. The main entrance doors are locked with the use of a hasp and lock on the exterior side. The buildings used as storages warehouses all have multiple doors, only one of which is locked from the outside; all other doors provide free egress from inside the building. You have stated that the security measures necessary to restrict unauthorized entry requires securing these warehouses by restricting entry to one door which is secured by a lock having a master key system. Keys to the master locks allow single key access for security.

This office shall allow the locking arrangements described herein, provided the door which allows entry to these buildings remains unlocked while these buildings are occupied.

"Is Yours Working" ??

Smoke Detectors Save Lives !!

OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL • 5150 FLORIDA BOULEVARD, BATON ROUGE, LA 70806  
(504) 925-4911 1-800-256-5452

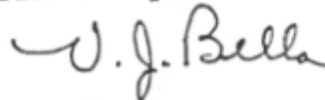
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Mr. Jerry M. Fowler  
Commission of Elections  
RE: Voting Machines Warehouses

This ruling will be distributed to Deputy State Fire Marshals statewide to be applied to all voting booth warehouses.

If you have any questions, you can contact my office at the phone number below.

Sincerely,



V.J. Bella  
State Fire Marshal

vjb/ps/dg

cc: State Fire Marshal Inspection Staff

fowler

0126  
JTB