



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Department of Fire Services



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PETER J. OSTROSKEY
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MEMORANDUM

To: Heads of Fire Department

From: Peter J. Ostroskey
State Fire Marshal

Date: May 1, 2018

RE: **Update to the Fire Code Violations Book (“Red Book”)**

As you are aware, the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations recently adopted the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code, 527 CMR 1.00 (NFPA 1, 2015 edition with MA amendments), effective January 1, 2018.

As a result of the revisions, the Department of Fire Services has updated the familiar “red book” which contains a list of common fire code violations that are typically cited and subject to the civil M.G.L. Chapter 148A enforcement option. The updated “red book” includes modifications to code section citations, as applicable, and has been expanded to include additional common violations. It will facilitate in the completion of the Massachusetts Non-Criminal Fire Code Violation Notice which has been previously approved by the courts and remains unchanged at this time. The approved penalties, as stated in the red book, also remain unchanged: 1st offense - \$100.00; 2nd offense - \$500.00 and 3rd or subsequent offense - \$1,000.00.

Any city or town, who is authorized to write violations pursuant to M.G.L. c. 148A (by proof of the appointment of a designated hearings officer and receipt of Non-Criminal Code Violation Ticket books, as confirmed by the Division of Professional Licensure, Office of Public Safety Inspections (formerly known as the Department of Public Safety)), may request copies of this revised red book for their use.

To request copies of the updated “red book”, please contact Ms. Lynch-Lent at (978) 567-3181 or by e-mail at MaryElizabeth.Lynch@state.ma.us. Please be sure to include the minimum number of “red books” needed by your fire department.

If your community currently does not participate in the c. 148A Ticketing Program, and you would like more information on how to participate, please contact MaryElizabeth Lynch-Lent at the contact information listed above.

“Fire Ticket Books”

In addition, Departments are reminded that the Massachusetts Non-Criminal Fire Code Violation Code Tickets (“ticket books”) were updated in 2015 upon the adoption of 527 CMR 1.00 to reflect the new citation method. The only change from the old ticket is the citation numbering scheme.

“Ticket books” may be ordered at a cost of \$21.80 per book (plus postage costs, which will be assessed at the time of ordering), by contacting:

Lane Printing & Advertising
210. S. Franklin Street
Holbrook, MA 02343
www.laneprint.com
(781) 767-4450

I hope that this information is helpful as we continue to assist you in your code enforcement efforts. If you have any questions, please contact the Code Compliance and Enforcement Unit at (978) 567-3375.