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LARRY S. FISHER
CHAIRMAN

March 6, 2025

Official use Only

410.2, 410.6

Michael Weishan
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Board of Fire Prevention Regulations
527 CMR 12:00 Interpretation Committee
Department of Fire Services
PO Box 1025, State Road
Stow, MA 01775

Request for Interpretation submitted by [REDACTED] on December 26, 2024.

Background:

The Southborough Historical requires clarification of the fire code for our new History and Arts Center. A few months ago, we were given some brass fixtures, a large chandelier and a number of sconces. These fixtures date from the 80s/90s, have modern wiring are UL listed (see photos) and came from another public building in Massachusetts. Though not super antique, they are of very high quality and would save us thousands. We spent considerable time and much expense cleaning these fixtures and replacing the missing glass and shades. During the cleaning process a number of the grounding wires were not properly reattached. We replaced the missing grounds with UL listed grounding wires and hung the fixtures, but after first saying this would be fine, our inspector is now saying this constitutes a "field modification" and violates 410.2. After paying to install these fixtures we have had to remove these fixtures at great expense pending this appeal.

Question 1: Is simply replacing a missing copy ground wire considered a "retrofit?"

Response: No, it is not a retrofit as the work being done is not a recognized retrofit kit.

Question #2: Is simply replacing a missing copper ground wire considered a “field modification?”

Response: No response, the submitted will need to resubmit this question and define what they are trying to do. What type of fixtures are they and if the field modification is code compliant.

Question #3: If the answer to either of these questions is ‘no’, is a licensed electrician legally able to replace the missing grounding wire and rehang our fixtures?

Response: No response, unable to be answered collectively. This will be sent back to the requestor due to lack of specificity.

Question #4: Does the fixture pictured in the first illustration, with UL stickers and original grounding mechanism attached meet code?

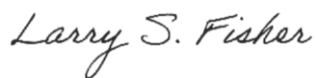
Response: No response, unable to be answered collectively. This will be sent back to the requestor due to lack of specificity.

Question #5: If the answer to question three or four is no, are you able to direct us to an approved resource who can help us?

Response: No response, not within the realm of the committee to answer this.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry S. Fisher".

Larry S. Fisher, Chairman
Board of Fire Prevention Regulations