City of Riverside
Building & Safety Division

POOL FENCE BARRIER REQUIREMENTS

EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 1, 1998

THE FOLLOWING SWIMMING POOL BARRIER REQUIREMENTS ARE MANDATED BY THE CALIFORNIA SWIMMING POOL SAFETY ACT. THE ACT ALSO requires THE SWIMMING POOL CONTRACTOR TO GIVE THE CONSUMER NOTICE OF THESE REQUIREMENTS.

Glass doors and windows within 5 feet of the water's edge and less than 5 feet above grade shall have safety glass.

Pedestrian access gates shall swing AWAY from the pool area and be self-closing and self-latching. (See page 2 for details)

(Where stepping condition exists, see footnote #3)

The door from the garage to the pool area shall be self-closing with a self-latching device mounted not lower than 54 inches above the floor. (See Footnote #1)

Vehicle access gates and gates more than 5 feet wide shall have a self-latching device and shall be equipped with a padlock and shall remain locked at all times when not in use.

Doors providing direct access from the home to the pool area shall be equipped with exit alarms -OR- with self-closing and self-latching devices mounted not lower than 54 inches above the floor. (See Footnote #1)

Pool Safety Covers (See Footnote #2)

Check with Public Utilities Department for clearance information for service drops. (A minimum of 22 feet vertical clearance is required)

5'-0" minimum fence height (as measured from side OPPOSITE the pool)

ALL pool fence barriers must be NON-CLIMBABLE. (See page 2 for details)

FOOTNOTES:

1. If a pool fence barrier is placed between these doors and the pool, these doors need not be equipped with alarms, self-closing or self-latching devices.

2. Pools equipped with approved pool safety covers meeting the performance standards of ASTM - F1346 - 91 need not comply with any of the fence/gate or door provisions.

3. Although most fencing configurations have been shown, it is impossible to anticipate the infinite variety and combinations of materials that may be used. Where climbing or "step" conditions may be encountered, check with the Building & Safety Division.

4. Existing fences surrounding property at the pool area are permitted if ALL of the following conditions are met:
   A) The fence is at least 72 inches above grade, measured on the side of the barrier which faces away from the pool.
   B) The fence has a maximum vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier of 2 inches, or 4 inches when the grade is a solid impenetrable surface such as concrete.
   C) The fence has no openings that will allow the passage of a 4-inch sphere.
VARIUS POOL FENCE TYPES

(NOT ALL POSSIBLE POOL FENCE DESIGNS ARE SHOWN, PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR INSPECTOR FOR MORE INFORMATION)

IF HORIZONTAL MEMBERS ARE LESS THAN 45" APART, VERTICAL SPACING SHALL NOT EXCEED 1-3/4" AND HORIZONTAL MEMBERS SHALL BE ON POOL SIDE.

* NOTE: Spacing from grade level to bottom of fence, may be 4 inches if grade below fence has a solid impenetrable surface such as concrete.

IF HORIZONTAL MEMBERS ARE EQUAL TO OR MORE THAN 45" APART, VERTICAL SPACING SHALL NOT EXCEED 4".

NOTE: If chain link dimensions are larger than shown above, then slats may be woven into the chain link mesh and fastened at the top and bottom.

GATE LATCHING REQUIREMENTS

ALL GATES MUST SWING AWAY FROM POOL, BE SELF-CLOSING & SELF-LATCHING

Protective shield or fencing with no openings greater than 1/2".

Release mechanism shall be located on "pool" side.

Release mechanism may be located on either side if at 60"+ above grade.

Release mechanism shall be located at least 60 inches above grade.

CONDITION 1:
RELEASE MECHANISM LOCATED LESS THAN 60" ABOVE GRADE

CONDITION 2:
RELEASE MECHANISM LOCATED 60" OR MORE ABOVE GRADE

TYPICAL SELF-LATCHING GATE and SPRING CLOSER
CITY OF RIVERSIDE
BUILDING AND SAFETY DIVISION

* Door Protective Verification Form *
(Pool and Spa Barriers)

The California Swimming Pool Safety Act (Health and Safety Code Section 115920) mandates that all doors providing direct access from the residence to a new swimming pool and/or spa be provided with door exit alarms or self-closing and self-latching devices, unless the pool and/or spa is provided with an approved safety cover or the pool and/or spa is isolated from direct access to the home by an approved pool fence and gate enclosure.

IF THE DOOR EXIT ALARM OPTION IS UTILIZED:
a) The alarm must be listed by Underwriters Laboratories (UL) as an exit alarm.
b) The alarm must sound an audible, continuous warning when the door is opened or left ajar.
c) The alarm deactivation mechanism must be mounted at least 54 inches above the floor.
d) The alarm may be battery operated or may be connected to the building's electrical wiring.

IF THE SELF-CLOSING AND SELF-LATCHING DOOR OPTION IS UTILIZED:
a) The release mechanism for the self-latching device shall be placed no lower than 54 inches above the floor.
b) The self-closing device must cause the door to close and latch automatically, without any other assistance.

I, ____________________________, own and live in the dwelling located at:

(Print Property Owner's Name)

______________________________, and do hereby verify that

(Address)

the door alarm(s) or self-closing and self-latching devices on all doors providing direct access to the pool and/or spa area from the home have been installed in compliance with the conditions listed above and with the manufacturer's installation instructions and further that they have been tested and do function properly.

I have read and understand the above requirements and affirm by my signature that all required Items mentioned above have been properly installed and tested.

Signature of Property Owner ____________________________ Date ____________

ATTENTION OWNER-OCUPANT

This is a voluntary verification procedure which recognizes that it may not be convenient or possible for you to have an adult present in the home when the inspection is needed, and therefore allows you to perform those limited inspections identified above. If you prefer a City Building Inspector to perform the exit alarm or self-closing and self-latching device inspection for the door(s) providing direct access from the home to the pool area, you must arrange to have an adult present during the inspection to allow entry into the home. A fence and gate inspection is also required to be conducted by the City Building Inspector prior to filling the pool or spa with water.