3264. PHYSICAL STRUCTURE AND CONSTRUCTION

3264.1 Each physical plant of a facility shall conform to all applicable District and Federal rules and regulations pertaining to construction requirements.

3264.2 Each new construction of a facility, and each addition to or repair, and remodeling of an existing building that is used for the facility, shall conform to the 1996 BOCA National Building Code, to all other applicable District rules and regulations pertaining to building construction and all applicable NFPA standards.

3264.3 Each addition to an existing facility shall comply with the minimum requirements in the latest edition of the Guidelines for Construction and Equipment of Hospitals and Medical Facilities developed by the American Institute of Architects Committee on Architecture for Health with assistance from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

3264.4 For the purpose of this chapter, each conversion of an existing building to a nursing facility shall be considered a new facility.

3264.5 Each existing nursing facility shall comply with all applicable provisions of the current edition of the NFPA National Electrical Code.

3264.6 A facility shall be considered to be in compliance with NFPA requirements as long as the facility:

(a) On November 26, 1982, complied, with or without waivers, with the requirements of the 1967 or 1973 editions of the Life Safety Code and continues to remain in compliance with those editions of the code; Title 22 District of Columbia Municipal Regulations or

(b) On May 9, 1988, complied, with or without waivers, with the 1981 edition of the Life Safety Code and continues to remain in compliance with that edition of the code.

3264.7 When District of Columbia Code requirements conflict with those of the federal or national agencies incorporated by reference above, the more stringent requirements shall apply unless specifically superseded by federal law.