



LABELING SMOKE AND FIRE RATED WALLS **(2015 MSFC and 2015 MSBC)**

Code Reference – MSBC 703.7 – Marking and Identification

703.7 Marking and identification. *Fire walls, fire barriers, fire partitions, smoke barriers* and smoke partitions or any other wall required to have protected openings or penetrations shall be effectively and permanently identified with signs or stenciling. Such identification shall:

1. Be located in accessible concealed floor, floor-ceiling or *attic* spaces;
2. Be located within 15 feet (4572 mm) of the end of each wall and at intervals not exceeding 30 feet (9144 mm) measured horizontally along the wall or partition; and
3. Include lettering not less than 3 inches (76 mm) in height with a minimum 3/8-inch (9.5 mm) stroke in a contrasting color incorporating the suggested wording. "FIRE AND/OR SMOKE BARRIER—PROTECT ALL OPENINGS" or other wording.

Exception: Walls in Group R-2 occupancies that do not have a removable decorative ceiling allowing access to the concealed space.

General Requirements

1. The requirements set forth in this policy shall be in effect for new and existing construction.
2. All penetrations through smoke control or fire rated walls shall be sealed with an approved material.

Specific Requirements

1. The requirements set forth in this policy shall be in effect for all occupancies.
2. In areas with removable ceiling tile the labeling may be placed above the tile.
3. Where the required label would be visible to the public a small label may be allowed to be placed on window and/or door frames with the approval of the code official.

Example

1. Smoke rated walls shall be labeled in the following manner:

SMOKE BARRIER – PROTECT ALL OPENINGS

2. Fire rated walls shall be labeled in the following manner:

FIRE BARRIER (RATING) – PROTECT ALL OPENINGS

Example: FIRE BARRIER (1-HR) – PROTECT ALL OPENINGS

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