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NOTICE OF UPCOMING REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMERCIAL EXHAUST HOOD CLEANING IN RHODE ISLAND

Effective Date: January 1, 2029

To: Commercial Exhaust Hood Cleaning Companies and Business Owners
Subject: Certification, Licensing, and Inspection Requirements for Commercial Exhaust Hood Cleaning Systems

This letter is intended to inform all commercial exhaust hood cleaning businesses and individuals providing commercial exhaust hood cleaning services in the State of Rhode Island of upcoming requirements scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2029.

Beginning January 1, 2029, all individuals performing commercial exhaust hood cleaning services in Rhode Island will be required to obtain certification through the Rhode Island State Fire Marshal's Office. Additionally, all business owners operating commercial exhaust hood cleaning companies will be required to obtain the applicable license and certification through the Rhode Island State Fire Marshal's Office.

Current Cleaning Standards

Until the new requirements take effect, all commercial exhaust hood cleaning activities shall comply with the applicable provisions of **NFPA 1, Fire Code, 2021 Edition, Chapter 50**, and **NFPA 96, Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations, 2021 Edition**, as applicable to the cleaning and maintenance of commercial kitchen exhaust hood systems.

These standards are intended to help ensure that commercial cooking exhaust systems are properly maintained and that the risk of grease fires and related fire hazards is reduced.

Commercial Hood Inspection Requirements

Beginning January 1, 2029, all commercial exhaust hood systems will be required to have an inspection applied to them, issued by the Rhode Island State Fire Marshal's Office, in accordance with the applicable requirements established by the Office.

Commercial kitchen operators, facility owners, and exhaust hood cleaning service providers should prepare for these requirements and ensure that their systems and business practices comply with all applicable fire safety codes and regulations.

Preparation and Compliance

All commercial exhaust hood cleaning business owners and service providers are encouraged to plan ahead for January 1, 2029, implementation date. Businesses should monitor announcements and guidance from the Rhode Island State Fire Marshal's Office regarding certification procedures, licensing requirements, inspection processes, and any additional rules or documentation that may be required.

The purpose of these requirements is to promote consistent industry practices, improve fire safety, and help protect commercial kitchens, employees, customers, and property throughout Rhode Island.

Please retain this notice for your records and share this information with any individuals or businesses involved in commercial exhaust hood cleaning services.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation in preparing for these upcoming requirements.

Sincerely,

David Pastore

David Pastore
Chief Deputy Marshal
Office of the State Fire Marshal