

**PROPOSED**  
**2017 ELECTRICAL CODE**

## SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Add Chapter A-1 Administration to the “2017 Edition of the National Electrical Code.”

### CHAPTER A-1 ADMINISTRATION

#### SECTION A-101 TITLE AND SCOPE

##### A-101.1 TITLE

Provisions in the following chapters and sections shall constitute and be known and may be cited as the "Electrical Code of Jefferson County, Alabama, 2017" hereinafter referred to as "this code".

##### A-101.2 CODE REMEDIAL

- (a) General. This code is hereby declared to be remedial, and shall be construed to secure the beneficial interest and purposes thereof, which are public safety, health, and general welfare, by regulating installation and maintenance of all electrical systems and equipment.
- (b) Permitting and Inspection. The inspection or permitting of any building or plan under the requirements of this code shall not be construed in any court as a warranty of the physical condition of such building or the adequacy of such plan. Neither Jefferson County nor any employee thereof shall be liable in tort for damages for any defect or hazardous or illegal condition or inadequacy in such building or plan, nor for any failure of any component of such building, which may occur subsequent to such inspection or permitting.

##### A-101.3 SCOPE

- (a) Applicability. The provisions of this code shall apply in all unincorporated areas of Jefferson County and also in those parts of said county lying within the corporate limits of municipalities which have not adopted and are not enforcing municipal electrical codes to every electrical installation, including alterations, repairs, replacement, equipment, appliances, fixtures, fittings and/or appurtenances thereto.
- (b) Federal and State Authority. The provisions of this code shall not be held to deprive any federal or state agency, or any applicable governing body having jurisdiction, of any power or authority which it had on the effective date of this ordinance or of any remedy then existing for the enforcement of its orders, nor shall it deprive any individual or corporation of its legal rights as provided by law.

#### A-101.4 MAINTENANCE

All electrical installations and equipment, both existing and new, and all parts thereof shall be maintained in a safe condition. All devices and safeguards which are required by this code shall be maintained in good working order. The owner, or his designated agent, shall be responsible for the maintenance thereof in accordance with this code.

#### A-101.5 ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION OR MAINTENANCE BY HOMEOWNER

It shall be unlawful for any homeowner/ property owner to install or complete maintenance on their electrical systems. A licensed electrical contractor shall be required to perform all electrical installations and maintenance.

### SECTION A-102 ORGANIZATION

#### 102.1 –BUILDING OFFICIAL

A Building Official shall work in the Development Services Department and be appointed by the County Manager.

#### A-102.2 INSPECTORS

The Governing Body of the county may appoint such number of officers, inspectors, assistants, and other employees to carry out the provisions of this code.

#### 102.3 -DEPUTIES

The Building Official may designate as his deputy an employee in the department who shall, during the absence or disability of the Building Official, exercise all the powers of the Building Official.

#### A-102.4 RESTRICTION ON EMPLOYEES

No officer, inspector, assistant or employee connected with the department, except one whose only connection is as a member of the boards established by this code, shall be financially interested in the furnishing of labor, material, or appliances for the construction, alteration, or maintenance of electrical installations or in the making of plans or of specifications therefor, except for property owned by him and after satisfying the Personnel Board rule on conflict of interest. No such officer or employee shall engage in any work which is inconsistent with his duties or with the interests of the department.

#### A-102.5 RECORDS

The Building Official shall keep, or cause to be kept, a record of the business of the department. All records shall be kept for a minimum period of seven (7) years as required by the Records Disposition Authority for County Commissions approved by the Jefferson County Commission on January 16, 2001, and amended by the Authority on April 22, 2015. The records of the department shall be open to public inspection during regular business hours.

## SECTION A-I03 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL

### A-103.1 DUTIES

The Building Official shall enforce the provisions of this code. He or his duly authorized representative shall also, upon application, grant permits for the installation of electrical wiring and equipment, and shall make, or cause to be made, inspections of all new electrical installations and re-inspections of all electrical installations.

### A-103.2 POWERS AND AUTHORITY

The Building Official or his duly authorized representatives may enter any building, structure, or premises in the areas described in Section A-101.3 of this code, to perform any duty imposed upon him by this code, and shall have the authority to cause the turning off of all electrical currents and to cut or disconnect, in cases of emergency, any wire where such electrical currents are dangerous to life or property. The Building Official is hereby empowered to disconnect or order the discontinuance of electrical service to any electrical wiring, devices or equipment found to be defectively installed or otherwise not in conformity with the provisions of this code, until such wiring, devices and equipment and their installations have been made safe.

### A-103.3 STOP WORK ORDERS

Upon notice from the Building Official that work on any electrical installation is being done contrary to the provisions of this code or in a dangerous or unsafe manner, such work shall be immediately stopped. Such notice shall be in writing and shall be given to the owner of such property, or his agent, or to the person doing the work, and shall state the conditions under which work may be resumed. Where any emergency exists, verbal notice given by the Building Official shall be sufficient notice.

### A-103.4 REVOCATION OF PERMITS

The Building Official may revoke a permit or approval issued under the provisions of this code in any case where there has been any false statement or misrepresentation as to a material fact in the application or plans on which the permit or approval was based. Permit fees shall not be refunded in case of a revocation.

### A-103.5 NON-CONFORMING WORK

Any person, firm or corporation engaged in the electrical business, or any person lawfully doing work under the provisions of this code, whose work does not conform to the regulations herein set out, shall on notice from the Building Official make the necessary changes at once in order to remedy the same. If the work has not been so changed after ten days notice from the Building Official, the said Building Official may disconnect the premises on which such work is installed from the electrical services without further notice.

#### A-103.6 UNSAFE CONDITIONS

All electrical installations, regardless of type, which are unsafe or which constitute a hazard to human life, health or welfare are hereby declared illegal and if not corrected or abated in accordance herein the same shall be punishable in accordance with Section A-114 hereof. The Building Official shall notify the owner or agent thereof in writing of the illegal electrical installation along with the notice of a date by which the required correction shall be made. Failure to timely make the required corrections or obtain an extension of the date shall authorize the Building Official to disconnect or order the discontinuance of electrical service to the premises.

#### 103.7 RIGHT OF ENTRY

Whenever necessary to make an inspection to enforce any of the provisions of this Code, or whenever the Director of Development Services has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in any building or upon any premises any condition or code violation which makes such building or premises unsafe, dangerous or hazardous, the Director of Development Services may enter such building or premises in the areas described in Section 101.3.1 at all reasonable times to inspect the same or to perform any duty imposed upon the Director of Development Services by this Code, provided that if such building or premises is occupied, he shall first present proper credentials and request entry. If such building or premises is unoccupied, he shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or other persons having charge or control of the building or premises and request entry. If such entry is refused, the Director of Development Services shall have recourse to every remedy provided by law to secure entry.

When the Director of Development Services shall have first obtained a proper inspection warrant or other remedy provided by law to secure entry, no owner or occupant or any other persons having charge, care or control of any building or premises shall fail or neglect, after proper request is made as herein provided, to promptly permit entry therein by the Director of Development Services for the purpose of inspection and examination pursuant to this Code.

## A-103.8 REQUIREMENTS NOT COVERED BY CODE

Any requirement necessary for the safety of an existing or proposed electrical installation, or for the safety of the occupants of a building or structure, not specifically covered by this code, shall be determined by the Building Official, subject to the right of appeal to the Electrical Board of Adjustments and Appeals.

## A-103.9 LIABILITY

This code shall not be construed as imposing upon Jefferson County any liability or responsibility for damages to any person or property caused by any defect in any electrical installation or equipment mentioned herein or by installation thereof, nor shall Jefferson County or any officer, inspector, assistant or employee thereof, be held as assuming any such liability or responsibility by reason of the inspection authorized hereunder or the certificate of approval issued by the inspector.

Any officer, inspector, assistant or employee, or member of any boards, charged with the enforcement of this code, acting for Jefferson County in the discharge of his duties, shall not thereby render himself personally liable and he is hereby relieved from all personal liability for any damage that may accrue to persons or property as a result of any act required or permitted in the discharge of his duties. Any suit brought against any such officer, inspector, assistant or employee or member of any such boards, arising out of any such act performed by him in the enforcement of any provision of this code shall be defended by the County Attorney until the final termination of the proceedings.

## SECTION A-104 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

### A-104.1 WHEN REQUIRED

Any person, firm or corporation who desires to install wiring, devices or equipment for the transmission, distribution, or utilization of electrical energy for lights, heat or power within or on any building, structure, or premises, or make any alterations, repair, or addition in any such existing wiring, devices or equipment, shall first make application to the Building Official and obtain the required permit therefor, except as stated in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), or (f) of this section.

- (a) No permit shall be required for minor repairs, such as repairing flush and snap switches, replacing fuses, changing lamp sockets and receptacles, taping joints and repairing drop cords.
- (b) No permit shall be required for the installation of wiring, devices or equipment for telephone, telegraph, district messenger or any signaling systems operating at 50 volts or less, when installed by a public utility subject to regulation as such by the Alabama Public Service Commission, or any agency of the United States.

- (c) No permit shall be required for the installation of electric wiring, devices or equipment installed in any building, the major portion of which is occupied by a public utility corporation to transmit and sell or use electric energy, provided such wiring, devices or equipment are for the use of said corporation in its operation as a public utility; provided, however, that permits shall be required for installations in public utility buildings to which the general public has regular access.
- (d) No permit shall be required for maintenance and repairs which is done by or under the immediate supervision of a certified Journeyman or Master Electrician; provided, that permits shall be required in all cases where new circuits, additional load or new equipment is added.
- (e) Unless specifically required elsewhere in this code, no permit shall be required for the installation, maintenance, or repair of the facilities (other than buildings) of a public utility corporation selling electricity regulated by the Alabama Public Service Commission, when such utility is acting in the exercise of its function as a utility.
- (f) Any person, firm or corporation operating any manufacturing plant or establishment which now employs at least 500 persons in Jefferson County on a regular basis (herein called the company), and which regularly employs one or more full time salaried electrical engineers duly registered and licensed under the laws of the State of Alabama, as such, and who desires to install wiring, devices or equipment for the transmission, distribution, or utilization of electrical energy for lights, heat or power within or on any building, structure or premises, or make any alterations, repair, or addition in any such existing wiring, devices or equipment, and not be inspected as required in Section A-107 of this code, shall first make application, signed by said engineer, for the electrical permit, and submit electrical permit fees prior to commencing any electrical work on any such building, structure, or premises, and provided further that the said engineer shall, when electrical work is completed, submit a Certificate-of-Completion on a form provided by the Building Official that shall include the certificate of said engineer and the company that the work was done in compliance with all provisions of this code and all other pertinent county ordinances and codes and that said engineer and company assumes full responsibility therefor.

#### A-104.2 APPLICATION FORM

Permits shall be issued to any person, firm or corporation upon application bearing the signature of his, its or their authorized Master Electrician except as may be approved in Section A-104.1(f). The applicant shall provide the necessary information to complete the application form furnished by the Building Official. Application for a permit can be made in person or by mail or electronically. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to proceed with any electrical installation or repair before the required permit or permission thereof has been issued or granted.

### A-104.3 DRAWINGS AND SPECIFICATIONS

- (a) Application for a permit to install electrical systems or equipment shall be accomplished by drawings and specifications and other necessary information as required by the Building Official to determine accurately the character of the work and compliance with this code; provided, however, that drawings and specifications may not be required in the following types of installations:
1. For one- or two-family dwellings unless, in the opinion of the Building Official, the complexity of the installation is such as to necessitate the filing of plans and/or specifications to ascertain compliance with this code.
  2. For one story buildings of areas not exceeding 7,500 square feet gross floor area unless, in the opinion of the Building Official, the complexity of the installation is such as to necessitate the filing of plans and/or specifications to ascertain compliance with this code.
  3. For electrical work not associated with other construction or renovation, a complete list of work elements, outlined in (c) below, at the discretion of the Building Official, may be accepted in lieu of drawings.
- (b) Drawings required shall clearly illustrate and, together with specifications, shall contain sufficient detail and data to indicate code compliance and character of the work substantially as follows:
1. Floor plan of each floor drawn to a scale of not less than  $1/8" = 1$  foot on a minimum sheet size of eleven inches by seventeen inches (11" x 17") or submit electronically.
  2. Plot plan drawn to a scale of not less than  $1" = 40'$ .
  3. Reference to code: Such drawings and/or specifications shall be specific, and this code shall not be cited as a whole or in part nor shall the term "legal" or its equivalent be used as a substitute for specific information.
  4. All drawings and specifications required shall be submitted in duplicate unless submitted electronically.
  5. When symbols are used, such symbols shall be identified in symbol schedule on drawings.
  6. The Building Official may require that drawings be prepared by an architect or engineer duly registered in the State of Alabama.
- (c) For Electrical or Low Voltage Electrical Building Permits where there are not complete drawings indicating fixtures and wiring, or where, in the determination of the Building Official an additional listing of all the work elements will be required including:



## WIRING TO OUTLETS Including Light Switches

The total number of fixtures, Including Wiring to Fixture Outlets

## CIRCUITS

Number of each type-

0- 20 amperes

30 amperes

40 amperes

50 amperes

60 amperes

100 amperes

125 amperes

150 amperes

200 amperes

Over 200

## SERVICE EQUIPMENT FOR LIGHT, HEAT OR POWER

Number of each type-

Temporary Service

100 ampere switch

200 ampere switch

400 ampere switch

600 ampere switch.

800 ampere switch

1,200 ampere switch

1,201 amperes and over

## SUB-PANEL AND FEEDERS

Number of each type-

100 ampere or less

150 ampere

200 ampere

400 ampere

Over 400 ampere

FANS, the total number and type, including paddle fans and vent/exhaust fans

## INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC APPLICANCES

Number of each type-

Cooktops

Dish Washers

Dryers

Microwaves

Ovens

Ranges

Water Heaters

**DIMMERS**

Number of each type-  
500 - 1,000 watts  
1,000.1 - 5,000 watts  
Above 5,000.1 watts

FUEL DISPENSING UNITS, the number and the wiring for and/installation, new or rewired

MOTORS, wiring for and/or installation

Number of each type-  
Up to 5  
Above 5 hp to 25 hp  
Above 25 hp

GENERATORS, wiring for and/or installation)

Number of each type-  
Up to 10 kw  
Above 10.1-25kw  
Above 25.1-50kw  
Above 50kw

**TRANSFORMERS**

Number of each type-  
Up to 5 KVAR  
5.1 to 50 KVAR  
Above 50 KVAR

**LOW VOLTAGE**

The number of the following types of Low Voltage systems, shall be submitted:

Telecommunication  
Sound  
Burglar Alarm  
Video/Cable TV  
Lawn Sprinkler  
Fiber Optics  
Class II Control  
Energy Management  
Card Access  
Data  
Other  
Total Number of devices

#### A-104.4 EXAMINATION OF DRAWINGS

- (a) The Building Official shall examine or cause to be examined each application for a permit and the drawings and specifications which may be filed therewith, and shall ascertain by such examination whether the electrical installation indicated and described is in accordance with the requirements of this code and all other pertinent county ordinances and codes.
- (b) The Building Official may accept a sworn affidavit from a registered architect or engineer stating that the drawings and specifications submitted of the electrical installation conform to all requirements of this code, and he may without any examination or inspection accept such affidavit, provided the architect or engineer who made such affidavit agrees to submit to the Building Official on the completion of the installation a Certificate-of-Completion that the electrical installation has been installed in accordance with the requirements of this code. Where the Building Official relies upon such affidavit, the architect or engineer shall assume full responsibility for the compliance with all provisions of this code and the architect or engineer shall state in the Certificate-of-Completion that he does assume full responsibility for compliance with all provisions of this code and all other pertinent county ordinances and codes.
- (c) The Building Official may require a sworn affidavit from the registered architect or engineer who prepared the plans stating requirements in the preceding paragraph have been met, whenever in the opinion of the Building Official the size or complexity of the electrical installation requires such affidavit.

#### SECTION A-105 PERMITS

##### A-105.1 ACTION ON APPLICATION

- (a) If the Building Official is satisfied that the work described in an application for permit and the drawings and specifications which may be filed therewith conform to the requirements of this code, and other pertinent county ordinances and codes, he shall issue a permit therefor to the applicant.
- (b) If the application for permit and the drawings and specifications which may be filed therewith describes work which does not conform to the requirements of this code or other pertinent county ordinances and codes, the Building Official shall not issue a permit, but shall return the drawings to the applicant with his refusal to issue such a permit. Such refusal shall, when requested, be in writing and shall contain the reasons therefor.
- (c) A separate permit must be obtained for the work on each structure or building unit including alterations, additions, and general repairs, unless otherwise excepted herein.

##### A-105.2 CONDITIONS OF THE PERMIT

The Building Official shall act upon an application for a permit with plans and specifications as filed, or as amended, without unreasonable or unnecessary delay. A permit issued shall be authority to proceed with the work in accordance with the provisions of this code and other pertinent laws and ordinances. The Building Official shall have authority at any time to require corrections of errors in previously filed plans and specifications. Any permit issued shall become invalid unless the work authorized by it shall have been commenced within six (6) months after its issuance, or if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for a period of six (6) months after the time the work is commenced; provided, that for cause, extensions of time for a period not exceeding six (6) months each, may be allowed in writing by the Building Official. However, the maximum number of extensions shall not exceed three (a total of 18 months). Work permitted under the initial permit shall be commenced within a two (2) year period. Work not completed within a two and one-half (2 1/2) year period shall require a new permit. Cost of the new permit shall be based upon the amount required to complete the project.

#### A-105.3 FAILURE TO OBTAIN A PERMIT

If any person commences any work on an electrical installation before obtaining the necessary permit from the County is subject to the penalty prescribed in Section A- 114.

#### A-105.4 WORK COMMENCING BEFORE PERMIT ISSUANCE

No electrical work shall commence until the required permit is obtained. In the event any person shall commence or proceed with any work for which a permit is required by this code, without having first obtained such permit, the person so commencing or proceeding with such work without a permit shall take out a belated permit covering such work before proceeding further. The fees therefor shall be double the specific fees provided by law to be paid for a timely permit covering such work. Each additional violation within a twelve (12) month period of the last violation shall result in a double fee plus twenty-five (25) dollars. The issuance of a belated permit hereunder shall not waive or otherwise affect in any manner a prosecution under Section A-114 of this code.

#### A-105.5 VOIDING OF ELECTRICAL PERMITS

Before an electrical permit can be voided, it shall be the duty of the general contractor to issue a statement to the Chief Electrical Inspector, on their company's letterhead requesting the electrical permit to be voided. In the same manner, a homeowner may also request that an electrical permit be voided. The homeowner shall present to the Chief Electrical Inspector a written or typed statement, along with their signature, and a copy of their State Issued ID to be placed on file with their statement. There shall not be another permit issued until the former permit is listed as void.

#### A-105.6 EMERGENCY PERMITS

Nothing herein shall make it unlawful for the Building Official to issue a permit prior to receiving the required application and fee for work under emergency conditions, as may be determined by

said Building Official, provided all information required in written application under Section 104 of this Code is given orally along with request for emergency permit. Any person, firm or corporation obtaining an emergency permit or inspection shall within five (5) days (Sunday and holidays excluded) after the issuance of such emergency permit or the giving of such emergency inspection, remit to the Building Official, at his office, fees in the amount required for such permit and/or inspection together with written application required under Section A-105 of this Code. If such fees are not paid within the above five (5) days, a double fee shall be charged in accordance with Section A-106.6.

An emergency permit or inspection may be given only under the following conditions:

When it is necessary to immediately repair electrical wiring, devices or equipment in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of occupants of any building or structure.

### SECTION A-106 FEES

#### A-106.1 GENERAL

Before any permit is granted herewith, the person making application for such permit shall pay to the County a fee in such amount as specified herein. If the electrical work is a part of an overall permit for construction or renovation of a structure, the fees are included in the building fee. If the electrical work or the low voltage electrical work is independent of an overall building permit the fees shall be as follows:

- (a) For a valuation up to and including \$5,000, the fee shall be \$50.00.
- (b) For a valuation over \$5,000, the fee shall be \$9 per thousand or fraction thereof.
- (c) Mobile homes and Construction Trailers (for work not covered by the initial building permit placement fee) permits shall have a flat fee as follows:

100 amp & AC unit. .... \$50.00  
200 amp & AC unit... ... \$65.00

- (d) Inspections

Incomplete or failed inspections.....\$55.00 Each  
After Hours inspections fee:  
Up to 4 hours .....\$300.00  
Each additional hour.....\$75.00

#### A-106.2 BUILDING/ELECTRICAL/LOW VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL PERMIT VALUATIONS

If, in the opinion of the Building Official, the valuation of the electrical work appears to be underestimated on the application, the permit shall be denied, unless the applicant can show

detailed estimated costs to meet the approval of the Building Official. Permit valuations shall include total costs for the work.

#### A-106.3 FEES, HOW PAID

All fees for permits and inspections required under this code shall be paid to the offices of the Development Services Department in the Birmingham Courthouse in person or electronically.

#### A-106.4 REFUND OF FEES

Permit Fees - Refund of fees paid for an electrical permit can be made if the following conditions have been met:

1. No work has begun under said permit; and
2. The filing by the permit holder of a refund claim with Jefferson County within six (6) months of the date of issuance of said permit. Provided, however, where the claim for refund involves the duplicating or permitting of the same job more than once, no refund shall be made on the most current permit after sixty (60) days from date of issuance of most current permit.

There shall be an administrative charge of \$50.00 on all refunds, and there shall be no refund of a minimum permit fee.

#### A-106.5 FEES FOR ADDITIONAL WORK

In the event that, during the performance of the work permitted under the permit, additional work is required, it shall be unlawful for the person who secured the original permit to fail to immediately remit to the Building Official, an amount equal to the additional fees for permits and inspections incurred by the additional work.

### SECTION A-107 INSPECTIONS

#### A-107.1 INSPECTION REQUIRED

All new electrical work and such portions of existing systems as may be affected by new work or any change shall be inspected to insure compliance with all the requirements of this code and to assure that the installation and construction of the electrical system is in accordance with approved plans.

#### A-107.2 NOTIFICATION

- (a) Advance Notice/Concealed Work

It shall be the responsibility of the master electrician to give reasonable advance notice to the Building Official when electrical work is ready for test or inspection.

When any part of a wiring installation is to be hidden from view by the permanent placement of parts of the building, the person installing the wiring shall notify the Building Official, and such parts of the wiring installation shall not be concealed until they have been inspected and approved by the Building Official; provided, that on large installations where the concealment of parts of the wiring proceeds continuously, the person installing the wiring shall give the Building Official reasonable notice and inspection shall be made periodically during the progress of the work.

(b) Reinspection

If the Building Official finds that the work will not pass the inspection, the permittee shall be required to make necessary corrections and the work shall then be resubmitted for inspection. Where additional inspections are necessary there shall be an additional fee as provided for in Section A-106.3.

(c) Inspection: Unsafe Installations

The Building Official may make, periodically, a thorough reinspection of the installation of all electrical wiring, electrical devices and electrical equipment and when such installation of any wiring, devices or equipment is found to be in a dangerous or unsafe condition, the Building Official shall proceed in accordance with Section A-103.5 hereof.

(d) Inspections

It shall be the duty of the electrical contractor to ensure that a current licensed journeyman/master electrician is present during all inspections.

Upon the completion of the installation of the electric wiring, devices and equipment which have been authorized by issuance of a permit, it shall be the duty of the person installing the same to notify the Building Official who shall inspect the installation within a reasonable time. It shall also be the responsibility of the master electrician to ensure that the premises, work, and personnel are available and accessible to the Building Official or his representative for inspection and to provide personnel and assistance as necessary to complete the inspection. If the work is found to be fully in compliance with this code and does not constitute a hazard to life and property, he shall, upon request, issue to such person, for delivery to the owner, a certificate of approval.

When a certificate of approval is issued on temporary work, such a certificate shall be issued to expire at a stated time and shall be revocable by the Building Official at his discretion. A preliminary certificate may be issued on certain specified portions of an uncompleted installation; such a preliminary certificate shall be revocable at the discretion of the Building Official.

If, upon inspection, the installation is not found to be in full compliance with this code, the Building Official shall at once notify the person performing the installation, including a statement of the defects which have been found to exist.

(e) Delayed Inspection and Penalty

On any job for which a permit has been obtained and a period of more than 90 days elapsed without request for an inspection, an inspection shall be made and should it be ascertained that the work has been completed for which an inspection is required and no inspection has been requested as otherwise required by this code, a delayed inspection penalty fee shall be paid as provided in Section 106. Payment of this fee shall not include payment of any other inspection charges incurred due to defective material, workmanship, equipment, apparatus, or the lack of equipment, apparatus, or personnel required for inspection or tests.

## SECTION A-108 APPROVALS

### A-108.1 INITIAL CONNECTIONS

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to make or to allow connections from a source of electrical energy to any electrical wiring, devices or equipment for the installation of which a permit is required, until approval has been given by the Building Official authorizing such connection and the use of such wiring, devices or equipment.

### A-108.2 RECONNECTIONS

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to make connection from a source of electrical energy to any electrical wiring, device or equipment which has been disconnected or ordered to be disconnected by the Building Official or the use of which has been ordered by the Building Official to be disconnected until approval has been given by the Building Official authorizing the reconnection and use of such wiring, devices or equipment.

### A-108.3 APPROVED MATERIALS, APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND METHODS

(a) Regulation of Electrical Goods Installed

All electrical materials, apparatus, fittings, appliances, devices and/or appurtenances, shall bear the manufacturer's name, trademark or other identification symbol along with markings giving operating voltage, type of current, wattage, and/or other pertinent information as may be necessary to determine the character of the material, apparatus, fitting, appliance, devices and/or appurtenance and the use for which it is intended.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, to remove, alter, change, mar and/or deface any manufacturer's name, trademark, symbol, and/or markings required in immediate preceding paragraph of this section.

(b) Approved Electrical Goods Defined



No electrical material, apparatus, fitting, appliance, device and/or appurtenance shall be installed by any person, firm or corporation, until such material, apparatus, fitting, appliance, device and/or appurtenance shall have been submitted to a nationally recognized testing laboratory for examination and testing. Only electrical materials, apparatus, fittings, appliances, devices and/or appurtenances labeled or listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, shall be considered as having complied with the foregoing regulation or requirement.

## SECTION A-109 QUALIFYING ELECTRICIANS

### A-109.1 GENERAL

Before any person, firm or corporation shall engage in the electrical business within the area described in Section A-101.3 of this code, he shall be qualified as set forth herein, and a license shall be obtained from the City, County and State as required. Bonds are no longer required in Jefferson County.

### A-109.2 DEFINITIONS

- (a) The term "electrical construction," as used in this code, shall include all work and materials used in installing, maintaining or extending a system of electrical wiring for light, heat or power and all appurtenances, apparatus or equipment used in connection therewith, inside of or attached to any building or structure, lot or premises.
- (b) The term "electrical contractor," as used in this code, shall mean a person, firm or corporation who is engaged in the business of electrical construction and who is qualified under the terms and provisions of State Law and this code.
- (c) The term "master electrician," as used in this code, shall mean a person certified in accordance with State Law who possesses the necessary qualifications, training and technical knowledge to plan, layout and supervise the installation of and install electrical wiring, apparatus and equipment for light, heat and power, as covered by the terms and provisions of this code.
- (d) The term "journeyman electrician," as used in this code, shall mean a person who possesses necessary qualifications, training, and technical knowledge to install electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment lighting, heating, or power or control. He or she shall work under a master or state certified electrical contractor and shall be capable of doing work according to plans and specifications furnished to him or her and in accordance with standard rules and regulations governing such work.
- (e) The term "apprentice electrician," as used in this code, shall mean a person certified in accordance herewith performing electrical work under the direct supervision of a master or journeyman electrician.

- (f) The term "direct supervision" as used in this code, shall mean close supervision given on the same premises or under the same roof with the supervised.

#### A-109.3 ELECTRICAL EXAMINING BOARD

There shall be an Electrical Examining Board consisting of nine members, namely, the Building Official, the Chief Electrical Inspector, a registered engineer who practices electrical engineering, two Jefferson County electrical contractors, two journeyman electricians, a master electrician and an attorney. The members of the board, other than the Building Official and the Chief Electrical Inspector shall be appointed by the Jefferson County Commission for a term of four years. The Jefferson County Commission may replace any member of the board at any time and without notice. The Building Official shall be chairman of the Board and in his absence the Chief Electrical Inspector shall act as chairman. No member of the Board shall receive compensation for his services as such. Five members of said Board shall constitute a quorum. At least five affirmative votes shall be necessary to determine any decision to be rendered by the Board.

#### A-109.4 QUALIFICATIONS OF JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIANS

The Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors shall determine the qualifications of every person who may apply for certification as journeyman electrician in accordance with their law. Such applicants shall make written application for said journeyman certificate to the Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors.

#### A-109.5 QUALIFICATIONS OF MASTER ELECTRICIANS

It shall be the duty of the Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors to pass upon the qualification of every person who may apply for certification as a master electrician in accordance with their law.

#### A-109.6 RECIPROCITY

Notwithstanding the foregoing, it shall be lawful for the Electrical Examining Board to reciprocate and accept a valid, current, unrevoked Certificate as a Master or Journeyman Electrician issued by the Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors.

#### A-109.7 MEETING OF THE BOARD

Board will meet when required and called by the Building Official at the office of the Building Official in Room B200, Jefferson County Courthouse. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the chairman at any time.

#### A-109.8 APPRENTICE REGISTRATION

Any person who shall apply for registration as an apprentice electrician upon form provided for that purpose by the County shall be registered as such by the Chief Electrical Inspector without examination and upon payment of a \$10.00 fee.

The certificate of registration shall be valid for only the calendar year in which issued and dated and shall expire December 31 after date of issue.

Registered apprentices may renew the registration by paying an annual fee of \$10.00. The apprentice must provide at the time of renewal of registration an annual report from his employer documenting the hours worked and type of work performed for the past one-year period.

#### A-109.9 RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY

- (a) Every certificate of competency issued by Jefferson County whether apprentice, journeyman, or master, and whether original or renewal shall be required to present a copy of a valid state issued driver's license and the card that is intended for renewal. The renewed card shall be valid for only the calendar year in which it is issued and dated. This certificate shall expire December 31 after the date of issue.
- (b) Any holder of a valid master certificate of competency for the current or preceding calendar year shall not be entitled to a renewal certificate without first having obtained certification from the Alabama Electrical Contractors Board. Upon presentation of the state certificate of competency, and payment to the Building Official in the amount of \$50.00, a Jefferson County master electrician certificate will be issued. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business of a master electrician or electrical contractor in any period in which he does not hold a valid master electrician certificate of competency. *The fee for renewal will be \$30.00.*
- (c) Any holder of a valid journeyman certificate for the current or preceding calendar year shall not be entitled to a renewal certificate without first obtaining certification from the Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors. Upon presentation of the state certificate of competency, and payment to the Building Official in the amount of \$20.00, a Jefferson County journeyman electrician certificate will be issued. It shall be unlawful for any person to work as a journeyman electrician in any period in which he does not hold a valid journeyman electrician's certificate of competency.
- (d) If a holder of a certificate of electrical competency with Jefferson County allows this certificate to lapse for a period of five years or less, the holder shall be allowed to obtain a current Jefferson County master/journeyman electrician card, after presentation of a current State of Alabama Electrical competency card and payment of all past due annual renewal fees. Any card that has lapsed longer than five years, the applicant will be required to have in their possession a current competency card from the Alabama Electrical Contractor's Board.

- (e) Any holder of a “P” or grandfathered card shall not be entitled to a renewal card. A certificate of competency from the Alabama Electrical Contractors Board shall be obtained before a Jefferson County certificate as a master or journeyman electrician will be issued. The “P” or grandfathered card shall no longer have recognition in the Jefferson County jurisdiction. All master and journeyman electrician’s certificate holders must have a certificate of electrical competency from the Alabama Electrical Contractors Board. All provisional State cardholder’s must have Jefferson County listed on their state provisional license before being issued a Jefferson County master/journeyman electrician card.
- (f) Jefferson County shall no longer issue Maintenance Electrician certificates. Any electrician certificate holder must first obtain a certificate of competency from the Alabama Electrical Contractors Board.

#### A-109.10 REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION OF CERTIFICATE

The Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors has the power to revoke or suspend any certificate if, after hearing, an act by a certificate holder warrants such action. Such action taken by the State Board of Electrical Contractors shall also render the Certificate of Competency issued by Jefferson County invalid.

The Jefferson County Electrical Examining Board shall have power to suspend any Certificate of Competency issued by Jefferson County for a definite period not exceeding sixty days, if after hearing; it determines that the holder has been guilty of any violation of this code. This revocation in no way affects the holder's state issued certificate unless the Alabama Board has taken action to revoke their certificate.

#### A-109.11 APPEAL FROM ACTION OF BOARD

Every decision of the Electrical Examining Board shall be final, subject, however, to such remedy as any aggrieved party might have at law or in equity. It shall be in writing and shall indicate the vote upon the decision. Every decision shall be promptly filed in the office of the Building Official, and shall be open to public inspection. The Electrical Examining Board shall, in every case, reach a decision without unreasonable or unnecessary delay.

#### A-109.12 DUTY OF EMPLOYER

No electrical contractor shall work any person on any job in the county in the capacity of either a master electrician or a journeyman electrician or an apprentice electrician, unless such person shall have in his possession a valid certificate for the capacity of the work performed, issued to him as hereinabove provided in this code.

#### A-109.13 UNLAWFUL TO DO BUSINESS WITHOUT CERTIFICATE

As herein used the word "certificate" shall mean a certificate of competency issued in accordance with Section A-109 hereof.

It shall be unlawful:

- (1) For any person other than a holder of a current certificate to do any electrical installation or construction work in the county; or,
- (2) For any holder of a current certificate to employ as an assistant in any such work any person other than a holder of a certificate; or,
- (3) For any holder of a current master or journeyman certificate to require a registered apprentice electrician to do any such work other than under his direct supervision; or,
- (4) For any registered apprentice electrician to do any such work other than under the direct supervision of the holder of a current master or journeyman certificate; or,
- (5) For any person than a holder of a current master or journeyman electrician certificate to make any alterations or additions to the wiring systems of the person, firm, company, or corporation by whom he is employed.

Anything hereinabove to the contrary notwithstanding, it shall not be unlawful for any public utility corporation to transmit and sell electrical energy, or any employee of such public utility corporation to do any such work as a part of the public utility business of such corporation.

#### A-109.14 INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF ILLEGAL WIRING OR EQUIPMENT

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to permit the installation of any electrical wiring, apparatus, or other appurtenances upon his premises, works, ways, machinery or plant except in strict accordance with all provisions of this code; it shall be further unlawful for any person to maintain, operate or attempt to operate any electrical wiring, apparatus, equipment, or other appurtenances in or upon his premises, works, ways, machinery or plant which has not been installed in strict accordance with this code.

#### A-109.15 VEHICULAR SIGNS

All trucks and similar vehicles used by electrical contractors shall have painted on the body of both sides of same, the full name and address of the firm to which it belongs. Lettering may be any color in contrast to the color of the body, but letters must be at least 2 1/2 inches high on firm's name.

## A-109.16 ALLOWING ONE'S NAME OR LICENSE TO BE USED TO OBTAIN PERMIT FRAUDULENTLY

No person, firm or corporation engaged in the electrical business shall allow his, its or their names to be used by any other person, firm or corporation directly or indirectly, to obtain a permit for any work under his, its or their names or license; nor shall he, it or they make any misrepresentations or omissions in his, its, or their applications. No person holding a master certificate shall represent more than one business as such master.

## SECTION A-110 ELECTRICAL BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS

### A-110.1 APPOINTMENT

There shall be an Electrical Board of Adjustments and Appeals consisting of seven (7) members. The members of the Electrical Examining Board with the exception of the Building Official, and the Chief Electrical Inspector, shall constitute the Electrical Board of Adjustments and Appeals.

### A-110.2 QUORUM

Four members of said board shall constitute a quorum. At least four (4) affirmative votes shall be required to transact any business. No board member shall act in a case in which he has a personal interest.

### A-110.3 RECORDS

The Building Official shall act as Secretary of the Electrical Board of Adjustments and Appeals and shall make a detailed record of all its proceedings, which shall include names of the members present, the reasons for the board's decisions, the vote of each member participating therein, and any failure of a member to vote.

### A-110.4 PROCEDURE

The board may establish rules and regulations for its own procedure not inconsistent with the provisions of this code. The board shall meet at the call of the Chairman or Building Official and within twenty (20) days after notice of appeal has been received.

## SECTION A-111 APPEALS

### A-111.1 TIME LIMIT

- (a) Whenever the Building Official shall reject or refuse to approve the mode or manner of construction proposed to be followed or materials to be used in a building or structure, or

when it is claimed that the provisions of this code do not apply, or that an equally good or more desirable form of construction can be employed in any specific case, or when it is claimed that the true intent and meaning of this code or any of the regulations thereunder have been misconstrued or wrongly interpreted, the owner of such building or structure, or his duly authorized agent may appeal from the decision of the Building Official to the Electrical Board of Adjustments and Appeals. Notice of appeal shall be in writing on form provided by the county and filed with Building Official within twenty (20) days after the decision is rendered by the Building Official. A fee of \$50.00 shall accompany such notice of appeal. The fee is nonrefundable.

- (b) In case of electrical work which, in the opinion of the Building Official, is unsafe or dangerous, the Building Official, may, in his decision, limit the time for such appeal to a shorter period.

SECTION A-112  
DECISIONS OF THE ELECTRICAL BOARD  
OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS

A-112.1 VARIATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

- (a) Upon appeal and after hearing, the Electrical Board of Adjustments and Appeals, may vary the application of any provision of this code to any particular case when, in its opinion, the enforcement thereof would do manifest injustice, and would be contrary to the spirit and purpose of this code or public interest, or when, in its opinion the interpretation of the Building Official should be modified or reversed.
- (b) A decision of the Electrical Board of Adjustments and Appeals to vary the application of any provision of this code or to modify an order of the Building Official shall specify in what manner such variation or modification is made, the conditions upon which it is made and the reason therefor.

A-112.2 DECISIONS

- (a) Every decision of the Electrical Board of Adjustments and Appeals shall be final, subject, however, to such remedy as any aggrieved party including the Building Official might have at law or in equity. It shall be in writing and shall indicate the vote upon the decision. Every decision shall be promptly filed in the office of the Building Official, and shall be open to public inspection.
- (b) The Electrical Board of Adjustments and Appeals shall, in every case, reach a decision without unreasonable or unnecessary delay.
- (c) If a decision of the Electrical Board of Adjustments and Appeals reverses or modifies a refusal, order, or disallowance of the Building Official, or varies the application of any

provision of this code, the Building Official shall immediately take action in accordance with such decision unless appealed.

#### SECTION A-113 EXCAVATIONS-PUBLIC SAFETY

A permit shall be obtained by any person, firm or corporation for each excavation for the installation, maintenance, extension, and alteration of any pipe, cable, conduit, or appurtenance on a right-of-way of any county street, highway or any public easement. All work shall be done in accordance with applicable laws and ordinances of Jefferson County.

#### SECTION A-114 VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this code or failing to comply with any of the provisions of this code after ten (10) days written notice from the Building Official shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500) or thirty (30) days in jail, or both, and a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50) per day, each day during the continuance of the violation.

#### SECTION A-115 AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTRICAL CODE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA 2017

When removing, replacing, or upgrading any residential panel, the Electrical Contractor shall upgrade the breaker requirements for protection of the residence in accordance with Article 210.12 (A) of the 2017 National Electrical Code.

If any section, sub-section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this code.

Article A-21 0.11 (a) Add the following sentence to the end of this section: "For the purpose of determining the number of branch circuits, general purpose outlets shall be calculated at 180 volt amperes." For example: 10 outlets on 15 amp circuit; and 13 outlets on 20 amp circuit.

#### SECTION A-116

The Jefferson County Department of Development Services shall no longer complete reconnections/ or meter resets without an electrical contractor first obtaining an electrical permit. All meter resets and power restorations that the Utility Company requires an electrical inspection will require an electrical contractor to obtain a permit before an inspection by the Development Services Department of Jefferson County.



ARTICLE 230.3 INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS  
FOR SERVICE CONDUCTORS AND FEEDERS

Service conductors supplying a building or other structure shall not pass through the interior of another building or other structure.

Feeders in residential multiple-occupancy or tenancy buildings from service drop or lateral to distribution panels shall be installed in rigid metal conduit, IMC, EMT, or rigid non-metallic conduit either in slab, basement or crawl space under a building, or in such a manner that the raceway will not pass through one occupancy or tenancy to reach another, except the vertical portion from the first floor to the panel.

Delete references to approved cable and to 230.28

ARTICLE 230.28 SERVICE MASTS AS SUPPORTS

Where a service mast is used for support of service drop conductors, it shall be a minimum size of 2" rigid metal or IMC conduit. It shall be of adequate strength or be supported by braces or guys to withstand safely the strain imposed by the service drop. Where raceway-type service masts are used, all raceway fittings shall be identified for use with service masts. Only power service-drop conductors shall be permitted to be attached to a service mast.

Delete other references

ARTICLE 550.32 (B) MANUFACTURED HOMES

The manufactured home service equipment shall be permitted to be installed in or on a manufactured home, provided that all of the following conditions are met.

- (1) The manufactured home is secured to a permanent foundation that complies with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Permanent Foundation Guide for Manufactured Housing.
- (2) The installation of the service equipment shall comply with Article 230.
- (3) Means shall be provided for the connection of a grounding electrode conductor to the service equipment and routing it outside the structure.
- (4) Bonding and grounding of the service shall be in accordance with Article 250.
- (5) The manufacturer shall include in its written installation instructions one method of grounding the service equipment at the installation site. The instructions shall clearly state that other methods of grounding are found in Article 250.
- (6) The minimum size grounding electrode conductor shall be specified in the instructions.

- (7) A red warning label shall be mounted on or adjacent to the service equipment. The label shall state the following:

**WARNING  
DO NOT PROVIDE ELECTRICAL POWER  
UNTIL THE GROUNDING ELECTRODE(S)  
IS INSTALLED AND CONNECTED  
(SEE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS).**

Where the service equipment is not installed in or on the unit, the installation shall comply with the other provisions of this section.