MISSISSIPPI INSURANCE DEPARTMENT
501 N. WEST STREET, SUITE 1001
WOOLFOLK BUILDING
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39201
www.mild.ms.gov

BULLETIN 2014-5
MISSISSIPPI INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

COMPLIANCE STANDARDS FOR SALE OF BURGLAR BARS

I. Purpose and Scope


II. Standards

In accordance with current law, any burglar bars offered for sale or installation to the public in the state of Mississippi shall meet the following minimum specifications in the International Code Council (ICC), Chapter 3, Section R310 Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings and incorporated into the Mississippi Code Annotated as stated below.
Section R310 Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings

a. **R310.4 Bars, grilles, covers and screens.** Bars, grilles, covers, screens or similar devices are permitted to be placed over emergency escape and rescue openings, bulkhead enclosures, or window wells that serve such openings, provided the minimum net clear opening size complies with Sections R310.1.1 to R310.1.3, and such devices shall be releasable or removable from the inside without the use of a key, tool, special knowledge or force greater than that which is required for normal operation of the escape and rescue opening.

i. **R310.1.1 Minimum opening area.** All emergency escape and rescue openings shall have a minimum net clear opening of 5.7 square feet (0.530 m²).

ii. **R310.1.3 Minimum opening width.** The minimum net clear opening width shall be 20 inches (508 mm).

III. Enforcement

Any person violating these provisions, upon conviction, “shall be fined in an amount not to exceed One Thousand Dollars ($1,000.00), and in the case of continuing violations without reasonable effort on the part of the defendant to correct such violation, each day of violation thereafter shall be a separate offense.”


The Fire Code Enforcement and Inspection Division of the State Fire Marshal’s Office shall enforce the provisions of this bulletin in their respective jurisdictions in accordance with the Mississippi Fire Prevention Code.

In any county or municipality that has adopted a fire prevention code with standards not less stringent than the Mississippi Fire Prevention Code, the provisions and enforcement mechanism thereof shall apply instead of the Mississippi Fire Prevention Code.

Questions may be directed to the State Fire Marshal’s office at (601) 359-1061.

[Signature]

MIKE CHANEY
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE