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**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY**

**MEMORANDUM 010
MRL ELEVATOR LOBBIES
OPERATION OF SPRINKLERS**

Date December 23, 2020
To: Inspectors and Elevator Contractors
From: Gus Guadamuz
Re: Sprinklers in Elevator Lobbies

Where a controller is located or configured to be maintained, repaired or replaced in the lobby area, the lobby is then considered a control work space area. Lobby push button stations are not considered control work space areas.

With the introduction of Machine Room Less Elevators, control and machine locations have created unique conditions with sprinkler operation in elevator lobbies. Sprinklers located in control work space areas that direct application of water to elevator control work space areas in elevator lobbies cause unsafe conditions. The power to the elevator controller should be disconnected before the sprinkler is activated.

On November 4, 2020 the Elevator Safety Board approved a resolution as follows:

Sprinklers located in elevator lobby work space areas are to have shunt trip operation to preclude unsafe conditions and unsafe operation of the elevator per section 2.8.3.3.2. This applies to all new installations after November 4, 2020.

A17.1 Section 2.8.3.3.2. Where the elevator is located or its enclosure configured such that the application of water from sprinklers could cause unsafe elevator operation, means shall be provided to automatically disconnect the main line power supply to the affected elevator.

The Deputy Chief Elevator Inspector is to request shut trip operation of lobby sprinklers located in control work space areas during the plan review and permitting process. The inspector is to confirm this at the time of acceptance inspection and testing.

Gus Guadamuz
Deputy Chief Elevator Inspector