



**CHARLOTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
Fire Prevention Bureau**

Code/Procedural Interpretation

CFD Interpretation: Fire Sprinklers in Unfinished Spaces

Date: May 27, 2014

Code Reference: NFPA 13

Subject:

Are fire sprinklers required to be installed in unfinished areas of new buildings?

Interpretation:

Yes. While buildings during the construction or renovation phase will commonly have sporadic fire sprinkler protection due to varying areas or floors being completed at varying time schedules, any floor or area that will be left "unfinished" with no active construction shall be protected with fire sprinkler protection. Sprinkler heads in these "unfinished" areas shall comply with the normal spacing and positioning requirements established in NFPA 13.