



**Midwest City Fire Marshal's Office**

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**Administrative Ruling 2020-08**

**Subject:** Shower Curtains or Similar Items used as Personal Protective Barriers  
**Effective:** August 11, 2020  
**Code Reference:** 2015 International Fire Code, Section 803 – *Interior Wall and Ceiling Finish and Trim in Existing Buildings*

**Scope:**

To determine if “*Shower Curtains*” or similar items may be used to create separation for personal protective barriers in commercial structures.

**Notice:**

Shower curtains or other similar items **may not be used** as personal protective barriers unless they comply with NFPA 286, UL 723, or ASTM E84.

Interior finish requirements based on occupancy classification shall have a flame spread index not greater than that specified in Table 803.3 for the group and location designated.

Any item being utilized as a “partition” must be submitted to the Midwest City Fire Marshal’s office for verification and written approval prior to their installation and use. All items have to meet Section 803 of the International Fire Code and may not constitute an obstruction of the fire suppression system in accordance with NFPA 13 *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*.

**Approved:**

Bert Norton  
Fire Chief

Duane Helmberger  
Fire Marshal