

Roof Deck Certification

Revised January 14, 2014

A requirement for roof deck certification was established by the City of Boston in 2008:

http://www.cityofboston.gov/images_documents/2008_01%5B1%5D_tcm3-18889.pdf

To comply with this requirement, an initial roof deck certification needs to be completed by a registered architect and then the roof decks must be re-certified every five years. This is very similar to the fire escape affidavit requirement except for the fact that there is no standard affidavit format for roof deck certification. Below are excerpts from the bulletin describing this requirement:

Existing roof decks which have been previously permitted through the ISD must comply with the ordinance by having the premises certified....the owner must file an affidavit from a Massachusetts registered architect or engineer certifying that the roof deck is in compliance with the applicable regulations at the time of the original permit issuance. Once a roof deck has been documented with ISD, the roof deck must be re-certified as required in section 4.4 below every five (5) years.

A placeholder document has been added to the SLI tracking system for all Boston properties with known roof deck structures. The placeholder document was created with a 06.30.09 expiration date - which was the date when the roof deck certification ordinance went into effect for the Boston properties.

If you have had a roof deck certification performed by a registered architect or engineer in the past 5 years, just submit this document to the SLI tracking system as you would for any other SLI document. If you have not had a roof deck certification performed by a registered architect or engineer, you will either need to have this certification performed or remove your roof deck.

The FCI has provided two vendor recommendations for architects who have experience with roof deck certifications, (although you are free to use any registered architect or engineer to perform this work):

Paul Hajain of Hajain & Associates (LCA alum) - ph@hajian.com, (617) 926-8282

Robert L. Fondren, Architect - bob@robertfondren.com, (617) 794-5517

Please note that the AILG suspension of roof deck use will remain in place until an organization submits their roof deck certification documentation to the SLI tracking system.

Please contact Scott Klemm at sklemm@fsilg.coop or 617.452.4053 for further assistance with obtaining a roof deck certification.