

ORDINANCE

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CECIL COUNTY

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CECIL COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING CHAPTER 200 OF THE CECIL COUNTY CODE, ENTITLED BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, BY ADDING NEW SECTION 200-7 REQUIRING ADDRESS NUMBERS ON IMPROVED REAL PROPERTIES.

WHEREAS, Many improved real properties in Cecil County do not have their address numbers displayed; and,

WHEREAS, Ambulance, fire and police vehicles are often delayed by the absence of address numbers when responding to calls; and,

WHEREAS, In an emergency situation, this delay could result in damage to private and public property, danger to public safety, and often the loss of human life; and,

WHEREAS, The Board of Cecil County Commissioners hereby find that it is necessary to require the display of address numbers in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Cecil County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ESTABLISHED by the Board of County Commissioners of Cecil County that Chapter 200 of the Cecil County Code, entitled Building Construction, be and is hereby amended by adding the following section:

Section 200-7 Address Numbers

I. Address Numbers of Improved Properties

- A. In this section, the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (1) "County Representative" means:
 - (a) any member or employee of:
 - (i) the Cecil County Sheriff's Department
 - (ii) the Cecil County Permits & Inspections Office
 - (iii) the Cecil County Office of Planning & Zoning
 - (iv) the Cecil County Department of Public Works, or
 - (v) the Department of Emergency Management Services.
 - (2) "Owner" means:
 - (a) the individual, partnership, firm, association, corporation, or other entity whose name appears on the tax records of the County for any property subject to the provisions of this section.

B. Duty of property owners.

It shall be the duty of every owner of improved real property to display and maintain street numbers indicating the address assigned to the property. The number shall be displayed in accordance with the provisions of subsection C.

C. Display guidelines.

- (1) The number shall be displayed in a location clearly visible from the road upon which the address number is assigned.
- (2) Numbers shall be placed on both sides of the mailbox. However, if any of the conditions listed below exist, then the number must also be displayed as described in number 3 and/or number 4 of this subsection:
 - (a) There is no mailbox.
 - (b) The mailbox is on the opposite side of the road from the home.
 - (c) There are multiple mailboxes at the location, or the home which goes with the mailbox is not clearly identifiable.
- (3) Numbers may be placed on the dwelling or principal structure only if they are clearly visible from the road off of which it is addressed and the view of the number is not obstructed by trees, shrubs, porches, etc.
- (4) Numbers may be placed on a private sign, post, or large rock at the entrance of the driveway, as long as the numbers are clearly visible from the road.
- (5) Numbers shall be of sufficient size as to meet the display criteria herein described and in no case shall said numbers be less than three (3) inches in size.
- (6) Numbers shall be plain block numbers, not script or written numbers.
- (7) Numbers shall be set on a background of contrasting color.
- (8) Wherever practicable, said number shall be placed near a light or some source of illumination so that it may be readily seen at night.
- (9) Numbers shall not be placed on utility poles or County/State road sign posts.

D. Display of other numbers prohibited.

The display of any address number other than the number authorized or assigned by the Office of Planning & Zoning is expressly prohibited.

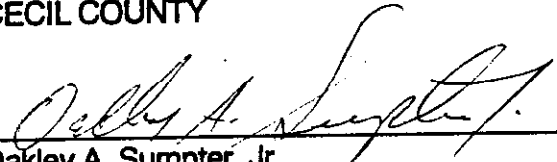
E. Noncompliance and violations.


- (1) Any dwelling or principal structure erected, repaired, altered or modified after the effective date of this chapter shall have the certificate of occupancy withheld until the assigned address number is displayed in accordance with this section.


- (2) A county representative who observes a violation of this section shall notify the Office of Planning and Zoning via a standard form developed by said office.
- (3) The Office of Planning and Zoning shall issue a warning by certified mail which shall notify the owner:
 - (a) that they are in violation of this section,
 - (b) of the requirements of this section, and
 - (c) how to comply with the requirements.
- (4) The warning shall be on a standard form developed by the Office of Planning and Zoning.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND ESTABLISHED that in all other respects Chapter 200 of the Cecil County Code, entitled Building Construction, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.


THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
CECIL COUNTY


Oakley A. Sumpter, Jr.


William C. Marlove


Larry L. Truslow, Jr.

Attest:


David M. Culver
County Administrator

Date introduced: 2/4/97

Date adopted: 2/18/97