

ADVISORY NO. 15.1: USE OF OPEN FLAMES OR LIGHT DURING THEATER PRODUCTIONS

The use of open flames or light is addressed in the Ohio Fire Code, Article 3 (1301:7-7-03), General Precautions Against Fire, (H) Section F-307.0 Open Flame or Light, Item 3) F-307.3 Candles and Item 4) F-307.3.1.

3) F-307.3: A person shall not use or allow to be used, any open flame, burning candle or candles in connection with any public meeting or gathering for purposes of deliberation, worship, entertainment, amusement, instruction, education, recreation, awaiting transportation or similar purpose in places of public assembly or education, such as churches, schools, restaurants, or eating establishments, cocktail lounges or bars without first obtaining approval from the fire official.

4) F-307.3.1: Candles shall not be permitted in areas used by occupants to stand, or in an aisle or exit.

The use of candles or open flames for a CCM stage production will not be a "blanket-approval" for all productions, nor is this recommended. The use, would be on an individual production by production basis and only when the effect of "electric candles" will not accomplish the individual Directors' portrayal of the script.

The use of open flames and/or candles will require that additional precautions be exercised by the entire production staff in order to prevent the accidental spread of fire on the stage.

Additional questions should be addressed to the Department of Public Safety, Fire Safety Inspectors Unit at 556-4992.