

BUILDING CODE MANUAL COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING AND SAFETY DIVISION Based on the 2014 LACBC

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RELEASE DEVICES ON SECURITY BARS

Security bars or grills placed over sleeping room windows or bedroom exterior doors, which provide the required emergency escape or rescue, shall be openable or removable from within the room without the use of a key, tool, special knowledge, or effort. In addition, main entrance doors, with security bars and grilles, shall also conform to these specific requirements of Sections 6712 and 6715.

The following list is a description of the intended performance criteria for the release devices. Devices which function within the scope of the performance criteria may be tested and accepted (signed off) by field personnel. The performance of other release devices beyond the following scope shall be referred to the Research Section.

- 1. Security bars shall swing open at least 90 degrees.
- 2. The clear area after release of security bars shall provide at least the same net clear openable area and dimensions as is required for the escape window.
- 3. Release device(s) using a foot stirrup shall have sufficient clearance to the carpet/finish floor to fully disengage restraint bolts.
- 4. Dual-handle lever release device shall have a rigid connector link.
- 5. Activation handle/button of release device must be installed at a maximum height of 60 inches above the finish floor.

If the field personnel discover security bars or grills that have been installed without permits, then the following Code Enforcement procedures shall be followed:

- The inspector shall make every reasonable effort to contact the property owner or occupant in person or by phone. A notice shall be issued instructing the property owner to obtain permits immediately for the security bars.
- The office manager or assistant must be immediately notified.
- The inspector should follow up within <u>a week</u> to verify that either a permit was obtained or the security bars were removed.
- If the security bars are not in compliance by the follow up inspection, then the office manager shall make a referral to the District Attorney's Office for their immediate action.

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