

**Administrative Ruling #2012-03
Building Development Services
Springfield, Missouri**

Pursuant to General Ordinance 5985, Sub-Article V, Chapter 36, Article III, Land Development Code, the following ruling is hereby made in order to clarify the field testing requirements of fire rated door for proper closing and latching.

Code Reference: International Building Code Sections 716.5.9 Door closing and 716.5.9.1 Latch required.

The issue of how to test for proper closing and latching has been discussed with the fire department, as well as other building officials, locally and out of state. There is no standard test methodology for inspecting fire rated door closer and latch requirements. Based on this research, the following procedure will be used when testing the closing and latching of a fire rated door.

The door shall be opened to a point where the door is approximately at a 45 degree angle to the door frame and then released. If the door closes and latches without any further assistance it shall be deemed to meet the code requirements for self-closing and latching.

Chris Straw, Director
Building Development Services

Date