

# High-Pile Combustible Storage Packet

## CHAPTER 32 SECTION 3205.6 FOR BUSINESSES PLANNING TO STORE COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE BUT NOT INTENDING TO HIGH-PILE

### Chico Fire and Rescue



**January 2017**

**If you have any questions or comments regarding the information contained within,  
or if you need assistance interpreting these requirements, please contact:**

**Chico Fire Community Risk Reduction Division  
Fire Code Enforcement  
411 Main Street, 2nd floor  
Chico, California 95928  
Tel: (530) 897-3400**

## CHAPTER 32 PACKET

There are a large number of buildings with ceiling heights above 12 feet that are occupied by businesses which, for one reason or another have bought, rented, or leased a structure that is **capable of high-piled combustible storage**, but will not be using the building for this purpose. For these types of structures, the C.F.D. has adopted an amendment to Fire Code that is specifically designed for this. We call it our "NO STORAGE ABOVE 12 FEET" declaration, or in the case of **high-hazard** materials, "NO STORAGE ABOVE 6 FEET." In section 3205.6 it allows the Fire Code Official to require a visual method of indicating the maximum allowable storage height. Storage below this height **does not require High Piled Storage permit (other permits may be required by the fire code)**.

With this, a business who needs a high ceiling, (usually above 14 feet) such as for steel fabrication where a crane will be used within the structure, is permitted to do this as long as the required permits are obtained, and have posted the appropriate signs. If a business wants to use this building for high-piled storage, then the structure would be required to meet all applicable high piled storage requirements. Let's say, however, this occupant only wishes to store up to eight feet of non-high hazard materials, with compliance to this section, they are allowed to do this, provided they comply with the following:

### **Information required on plans to be submitted**

The construction plans for any existing structure or proposed new building that **is not** intended for the storage of high-piled combustibles but has ceiling heights over 12 feet must indicate the following statement:

*According to Chapter 32 of the California Fire Code:*

*"This Facility is not approved for any high-piled storage of combustible materials, and therefore, will not be required to meet California Fire Code Chapter 32 requirements. No storage of any Type I - IV commodities will be permitted above 12 feet, and no storage of any high-hazard commodity will be permitted above 6 feet unless otherwise accepted, in writing, by the Chico Fire Community Risk Reduction Department."*

*Prior to the conversion of the building into a "High-Piled Combustible Storage Facility" at a later date, the owner will be required to comply with all applicable code requirements for the storage of high-piled combustibles which are in effect at the time. A plan shall be submitted for review and approval by the Chico Building and Fire Departments prior to initiating any high piled storage activities.*

One must keep in mind, however, that this is an **agreement** made between the owner and the Chico Fire Department. If a business wishes to conduct high-piled storage activity, and/or is found to be doing so, the fire department will require the owner to bring the facility into full compliance with the provisions of Chapter 32 of the Fire Code.

### **Storage Limitation Signs**

Signs shall be visibly displayed in all buildings or areas that meet the following criteria:

- Have the capabilities for high-piled combustible storage, but the building use does not meet the requirements or intent for high-piled storage.
- Are approved for high-piled combustible storage but have a height limitation for that storage. (For example: fire protection systems have been designed for 20 ft high storage, but ceiling heights are 30 ft).
- Are not approved for high-piled storage, and a permit has not been issued for such activity.

### **Location of sign**

Signs shall be mounted at the height where the storage has been limited to, at 50 feet on center intervals on all walls starting 25 feet from any corner, and on two sides of each column. Signs shall be visibly located.

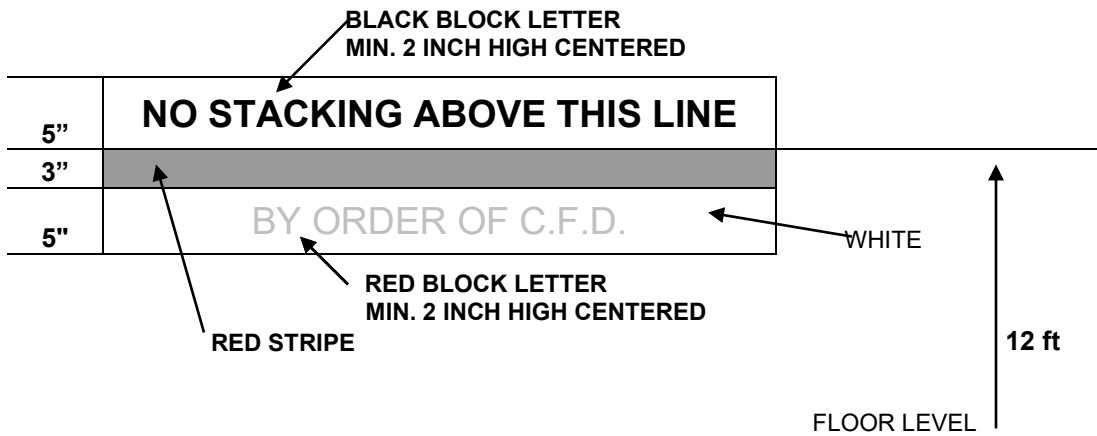
**ATTENTION: The following pages contain two forms, one for ordinary high-piled combustible storage, and the other for high-hazard commodities. Please complete and return the applicable form if your business meets the conditions of this section.**

# CFC CHAPTER 32 SECTION 3205.6

FOR

**BUILDINGS CAPABLE OF STORING HIGH-PILED  
COMBUSTIBLE STOCK, BUT NOT INTENDED TO BE USED  
FOR SUCH PURPOSE OVER 12 FEET**

## **CLASS I – IV COMMODITIES ONLY**



I, the responsible party for this business, understand that these signs are required to be posted throughout all areas meeting the description of high-piled capable areas described in Chapter 32 of the California Fire Code, as amended. I agree not to store combustible materials above this line.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Address of Business

\_\_\_\_\_  
Responsible Party

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Responsible Party Signature

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Office

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number – Fax

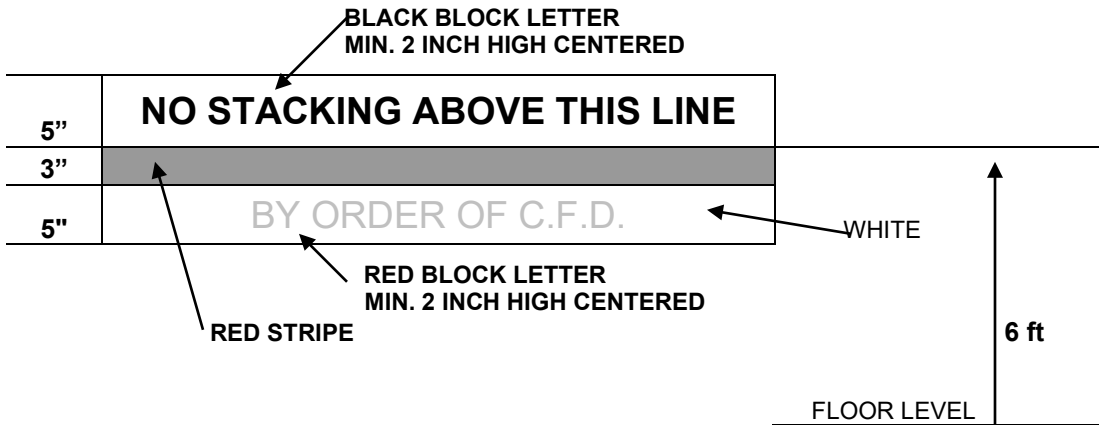
(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Home

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Emergency

# CFC CHAPTER 32 SECTION 3205.6

## FOR

### BUILDINGS CAPABLE OF STORING HIGH-HAZARD COMBUSTIBLE STOCK BUT NOT INTENDED TO BE USED FOR SUCH PURPOSE OVER 6 FEET



I, the responsible party for this business, understand that these signs are required to be posted throughout all areas meeting the description of high-piled capable areas described in Chapter 32 of the California Fire Code, as amended. I agree not to store high-hazard combustible materials above this line.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Address of Business

\_\_\_\_\_  
Responsible Party

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Responsible Party Signature

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Office

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Fax

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Home

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number - Emergency