

POLICY NUMBER: 026-24

POOL AND SPA BARRIER GLAZING

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish a clear and uniform standard for requiring safety glazing within swimming pool and spa barrier assemblies. This policy is intended to reduce the risk of injury associated with broken or shattered glazing located in close proximity to recreational water facilities, and to promote consistent enforcement of applicable California Building Standards Code provisions related to glazing safety.

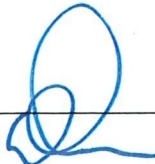
POLICY:

Unless otherwise directed by the Chief Building Official, Building & Safety Division staff shall enforce the following requirements regarding safety glazing within pool and spa barriers:

- Safety glazing shall be required for all new or existing glazing located within a pool or spa barrier when both of the following conditions exist:
 - a. The bottom edge of the glazing is less than sixty inches (60") above the pool side of the glazing; and
 - b. The glazing is located within five feet (5') of a swimming pool or spa deck area. For the purpose of this policy, a pool or spa deck area shall be defined as the solid walking surface within five feet (5'), measured horizontally, from the water's edge.
- For existing installations, properly listed products designed to shield or laminate glazing may be considered acceptable, provided minimum light, ventilation, and emergency egress requirements are maintained in accordance with applicable building codes.

ANALYSIS:

This policy reflects the intent of the building codes to address hazards associated with glazing in close proximity to swimming pools and spas. Broken glazing in these areas can create significant risks, as shards of glass may fall onto deck surfaces where occupants are likely to walk barefoot or engage in pool maintenance activities. Requiring safety glazing or equivalent protection within defined proximity limits provides reasonable safeguards against potential injury, while allowing for the continued use of approved retrofit products that maintain code-compliant light, ventilation, and egress conditions.

Approved: David Dent <i>Deputy Director/Chief Building Official</i>	Signature: 
	Date: 3/4/24