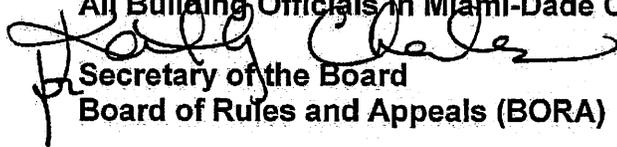


Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources  
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**MEMO**

**TO:** All Building Officials in Miami-Dade County  
**FROM:**   
Secretary of the Board  
Board of Rules and Appeals (BORA)  
**DATE:** May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
**SUBJECT:** BORA Interpretation  
Horizontal Pickets in a Swimming Pool Barrier

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At their meeting of May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the Board considered the content of Section 454.17.1.5 of the 5<sup>th</sup> Florida Building Code (2014) (Building) and Section R4501.17.1.4 of the 5<sup>th</sup> Florida Building Code (2014) (Residential) in relation to the allowable spacing between horizontal pickets for a pool barrier application.

The Board interpreted that any spacing between horizontal pickets will create a climbable condition, defeating the intention of a pool barrier protection, in doing so the Board rendered the following interpretation:

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***"When horizontal pickets are used for a private or residential pool barrier, the horizontal pickets shall not have any gaps, openings, indentations or protrusions."***

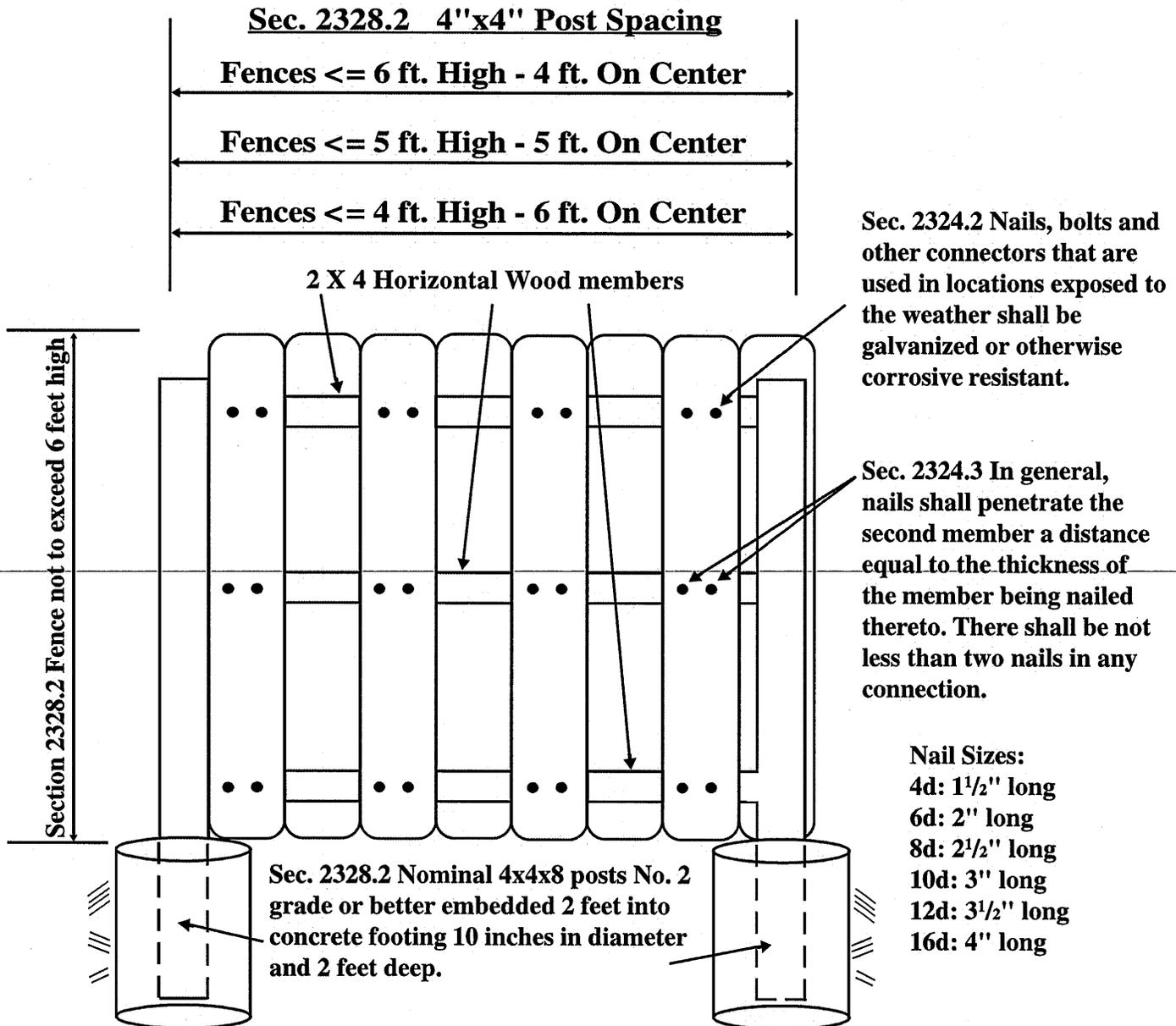
Should you have any questions, please contact Michael Goolsby, Board and Code Administration Division Chief 2 at (786) 315-2508.

# Florida Building Code

## Wood Fences

**Sec. 1615 Fences.** Fences not exceeding 6'-0" in height from grade may be designed for 75 mph (33 m/s) fastest wind speed or 115 mph (40 m/s) 3-second gust.

**Sec. 1615 Wood Fences.** Wood fence design shall be as specified by 2328.



**Sec. 2326.2.10** All posts, poles and columns embedded in concrete which is in contact with ground and supporting permanent structures shall be approved pressure treated wood suitable for ground contact use except naturally durable wood may be used for posts, poles and columns embedded in concrete for structures other than buildings and walking surfaces or in structures where wood is above ground level and not exposed to the weather.

**Sec. 2326.2.6** The expression "naturally durable wood" refers to the heartwood of the following species:

1. Decay resistant - Redwood, Cedars, Black Locust.
2. Termite resistant - Redwood, Eastern Red Cedar.

# FINAL INSPECTION

To be made after installation and completion of all elements of construction

**The following items will be checked at final inspection.**

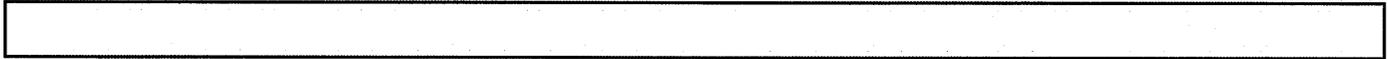
Wood fences shall be designed according to the loads as specified in Section 1615 of Florida Building Code (F.B.C.).

**EXCEPTION:** Unless designed by rational analysis, wood fences not exceeding 6' in height may be constructed to meet the following minimum requirements.

1. Vertical post of P.T. 4"x4" spaced according to detail "A" below.
2. Post shall be embedded 2'0" or 24" into a concrete footing 10" in diameter.
3. Horizontal framing shall consist of a minimum of 3 horizontal rails of 2"x4" P.T. material and shall be fastened with 2-16D nails at each post.
4. All lumber shall be a minimum of #2 grade or better.
5. All fasteners shall be corrosion resistant.

**WARNING:** Premanufactured sections may not comply with this code.

Product Approval may be required.



## City Code Section 5.36(f):

Fences or walls shall be constructed of masonry materials, wood, chain link, P.V.C. or other materials approved by the building code. **The decorative side of wall or fence shall face the exterior or public side.**

