

Certification Instructions

CONTRACTORS & INSTALLERS

1. Construction of Safe Rooms according to the design drawings in “FEMA 320,” Third Edition (August 2008) must be certified by a Mississippi licensed contractor on the Certification Form stating: “This shelter has been constructed according to the blueprints in “FEMA 320,” Third Edition (August 2008).
2. Construction of other residential shelters (no more than 12 occupants) and community shelters (more than 12 occupants), including in-ground or underground shelters, according to the design and construction guidance and standards in “FEMA 320,” Third Edition (August 2008), “FEMA 361” (July 2000), and the “National Performance Criteria For Tornado Shelters” (NPCTS) (August 1999) must be certified by a Mississippi licensed contractor on a Certification Form stating: “This shelter has been constructed in accordance with the Professional Engineer (PE) or Registered Architect (RA) sealed blueprints.”

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS & REGISTERED ARCHITECTS

3. All shelter blueprints or design drawings must be stamped with a Professional Engineer (PE) or Registered Architect (RA) Seal licensed in the state of Mississippi and must state in a conspicuous place on the first blueprint page: “This shelter design complies with the applicable standards as set forth in “FEMA 320,” Third Edition (August 2008), “FEMA 361” (July 2000) and the “National Performance Criteria For Tornado Shelters” (NPCTS) (August 1999). Prefabricated underground shelters must also have PE/RA sealed blueprints that detail how to waterproof the shelter, provide anchorage or ballast to resist flotation forces in saturated soils, and resist lateral soil and groundwater forces and must be installed by a contractor licensed in the State of Mississippi.
4. Shelter occupancy information shall be placed on the notes page of the shelter blueprints stating: “According to “FEMA 361” and “NPTCS” standards, this shelter will accommodate (X) standing adults (5 SF/Person), (Y) people in wheelchairs (10 SF/Person) and (Z) bedridden people.”
5. All shelter designs shall be sealed by a PE/RA licensed in the state of Mississippi. Professional Engineers licensed out of state can contact the Mississippi State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors about receiving a license for Mississippi. Their website is <http://www.pepls.state.ms.us>. Registered Architects out of state can contact the Mississippi State Board of Architect and Landscape Architecture Advisory Committee, by visiting their website <http://www.archbd.state.ms.us>. Additional shelter design and construction guidance is available at the National Storm Shelter Association (NSSA) web page www.nssa.cc.

Contractor/Installer Certification Form

I, (print name) _____ a Mississippi licensed contractor certify that the completed shelter construction/installation at (address: _____) has been constructed according to the blueprints in “FEMA 320,” Third Edition (August 2008) or in accordance with the Professional Engineer (PE) or Registered Architect (RA) sealed blueprints.

Name of Firm and Title _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Mississippi License Number _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ 20 _____

Notary Public _____

My commission expires _____