



OCEAN CITY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
301 Baltimore Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842
410-289-8780

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Hover Boards and the Fire Safety Concern	Memo #: 15-004
	Effective: December 28, 2015
Authority: Deputy Chief David Hartley, Fire Marshal	Internal (FMO Staff)

I have researched the fire safety concerns of hover boards and their use on the boardwalk.

Currently the Consumer Product Safety Commission is aggressively investigating why certain hover boards have caught fire, causing significant damage to residential structures. In particular, they are evaluating fires that occurred during the charging stage and those that have caught fire while in use. At this time, no conclusions have been reported.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission, National Fire Protection Association, and the National Association of State Fire Marshals have all introduced hover board safety tips for consumers. None of the organizations have discouraged the use of hover boards, but instead, have outlined specific safety measures for owners in their use. It would be prudent at this time, and my recommendation, until we have received definitive direction and reasons why the fires occur from the Consumer Product Safety Commission, to not to allow hover boards on the boardwalk.

Until further information is available, knowing hover boards have caused fires, prohibiting hover boards on the boardwalk would reduce the probability that owners would utilize them in Ocean City. Therefore, limiting exposure for residential occupants to a potential fire hazard while in the charging stage and the general public on the wood boardwalk while in use.