



ARC-FAULT CIRCUIT-INTERRUPTER PROTECTION

Section 210.12 requires combination arc-fault circuit interrupter protection for all new 15 and 20 ampere branch-circuits supplying outlets (receptacles, lights, smoke detectors, etc.) in dwelling unit kitchens, family rooms, dining rooms, living rooms, parlors, libraries, dens, bedrooms, sunrooms, recreation rooms, closets, hallways, laundry areas, or similar rooms or areas. The means of AFCI protection may be any of the methods provided in 210.12(A)(1) through (6).

Where an existing branch-circuit wiring is modified, replaced, or extended, the branch circuit shall be protected by one of the following:

1. A listed combination-type AFCI located at the origin of the branch-circuit.
2. A listed outlet branch-circuit type AFCI located at the first receptacle outlet of the existing branch-circuit.

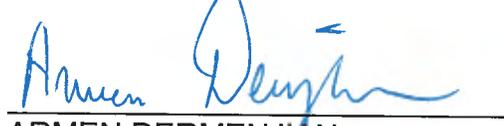
This requirement also applies to service upgrades or panelboard relocations where the new electrical service or panelboard location will require existing branch circuit conductors to be extended more than six feet.

Exception: AFCI protection shall not be required where the extension of the existing conductors is not more than six feet and does not include any additional outlets or devices.

Note that combination-type AFCI breakers are readily available and are easily installed in existing electrical panels. If a combination-type AFCI breaker cannot be installed in an existing panel, a load center or approved enclosure may be installed to accommodate the AFCI.

AFCI protection is in addition to any GFCI requirements for personnel protection.

WRITTEN BY:


ARMEN DERMENJIAN
Electrical Engineer

REVIEWED BY:


MOSTAFA S. KASHE
Chief Electrical Inspector

RECOMMENDED BY:


KIT BAGNELL
Principal Engineer

APPROVED BY:


HASSAN ALAMEDDINE
Assistant Deputy Director