ORDINANCE NO. 2026-33

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF OXFORD CITY CODE, CHAPTER 14 – FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF OXFORD TO ADD A NEW SECTION CONCERNING THIRD-PARTY PROTECTION AND CONTROL, INSPECTION, TESTING, AND MAINTENANCE REPORTING

WHEREAS, the 2021 International Fire Code and the National Fire Protection Association Codes and Standards require periodic testing and maintenance of certain fire protection systems, alarms, devices, equipment and other features; and

WHEREAS, the fire code official is authorized by the 2021 International Fire Code to approve reports of inspection by approved agencies or individuals, and the fire code official is authorized to engage such expert opinion as deemed necessary to report upon detailed or complex technical issues; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 901.6, 901.6.1, and 901.6.3 of the 2021 International Fire Code and Standards, required tests and inspection reports shall be available to the fire code official at all times and such records shall be filed as directed by the fire code official; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oxford has adopted the provisions of the 2021 International Fire Code, the Alabama State Fire Marshall and NFPA 101 (2015 Addition) and the provisions of technical codes and standards and has made the same applicable as the Fire Prevention and Protection Ordinance of the City of Oxford in Chapter 14 of the City Code; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Oxford desires to amend its Fire Prevention and Protection Ordinance to require inspection reports to be provided to the City of Oxford through a third-party inspection reporting system.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OXFORD, ALABAMA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That **Chapter 14, "Fire Prevention and Protection",** of the Code of the City of Oxford, Alabama is hereby amended to add **Section 14.5, "Maintenance and Reporting of Fire and Life Safety Records"** as follows:

THIRD-PARTY INSPECTIONS AND REPORTING SYSTEM.

(a) *Inspections and Maintenance Required.*

The owner of the property where any device, equipment, alarm, system and any other feature is required for compliance of the provisions of this Article or is otherwise installed on the property shall cause maintenance, testing and inspections of all such devices, equipment, alarms, systems and features in accordance with this Code and applicable referenced standards and specified intervals. If following inspection and testing, any device, equipment, alarm, system or any other feature does not meet manufacturer's specifications or fails to perform as intended, then it shall be repaired or replaced in accordance with subsection (e) below.

Maintenance, testing and inspections shall include, without limitation, the following:

FIRE PROTECTION MEASURE	FIRE CODE Ref.	NFPA Ref.
Automatic Fire Sprinkler System	901.6.1, 901.6.2	25
Commercial Hood Cleaning	906.3	96
Commercial Kitchen Hood Suppression System	904.5, 904.13.5	17A, 96
Fire Alarm and Detection System	901.6.1, 907.8	72
Fire Pumps	913.5	20, 25
Standpipe (including 5 yr hydrostatic test)	901.6.1, 905	25

(a) *Qualifications of Inspectors.*

Only qualified personnel shall make inspections or perform testing required by the current editions of the Alabama Fire Prevention Code and the adopted provisions of technical codes. Qualified personnel shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Personnel who are factory-trained and certified for the type and brand of device, equipment, alarm, system, or feature being inspected or tested.

(1) Personnel who are certified by a nationally recognized certification organization approved by the City of Oxford
(2) Personnel who are registered, licensed or certified by Alabama or the City of Oxford to perform the required inspections and testing.
(3) Personnel of the Fire Department.

(b) *Reporting of Inspections and Tests.*
Records of all installations, inspections, tests and maintenance required by Section NFPA 25 and the IFC code 110.3 shall be provided electronically to the City of Oxford designated electronic reporting system. Completed records shall be submitted no later than fifteen (15) days following the applicable installation, inspection, test and maintenance. The submitted report shall contain all information required by the City of Oxford designated electronic reporting system. The fee for any report filed using the electronic reporting system shall be twenty dollars ($20.00).

(c) *Retention of Records.*
Records of all device, equipment, alarm and system inspections, tests and maintenance required by the current editions of the Alabama Fire Prevention Code and the adopted provisions of technical codes shall be maintained on the premises for a minimum of three (3) years following the date of any inspection, test and maintenance and shall be copied to the fire department and its contractors pursuant to either the provisions of the City of Oxford Code or upon the request of the fire code official.

(d) *Repairs.*
If any device, equipment, alarm, system and any other feature fails its inspection or operational test, within thirty (30) days of such inspection or test, the property owner shall make all necessary repairs to make the item fully operational. Defective parts must be replaced with manufacturer approved parts. If repair is not possible, the item must be replaced with devices, equipment, alarms, systems and features in accordance with this Code and applicable referenced standards. Completed records shall be submitted no later than fifteen (15) days following the applicable maintenance, repair or replacement. The submitted report shall contain all information required by the City of Oxford's designated electronic reporting system. The fee for any report filed using the electronic reporting system shall be twenty dollars (20.00).
Additional inspections and testing may be required of the repaired or replaced device, equipment, alarm, system or other feature upon the request of the fire code official."

Section 3. Persons who violate a provision of this chapter or who fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof, or who shall erect, install, alter, repair, fail to repair, or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the fire code

official, or of a permit or certificate used under provisions of this code, shall be subject to the revocation of any business license provided written notice is given at least fourteen days prior to any such business license revocation.

Section 4. All laws and clauses of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of said conflict

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Section 5. If this ordinance or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the ordinance which can be given separate effect and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

Section 6. This ordinance has been provided to the Alabama State Fire Marshall as required by law.

Section 7. This Ordinance shall become effective on January 1, 2027 and by advertising as required by law.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 24th day of November, 2026.

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OXFORD, ALABAMA

Chris Spurlin, Council President

Charlotte Hubbard, Council Member

Phil Gardner, Council Member

Steven Waits, Council Pro Tempore

Mike Henderson, Council Member

APPROVED:

Alton Craft. Mayor

ATTEST:

Alan B. Atkinson, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

I hereby certify that the attached ordinance was duly adopted by the Oxford City Council in regular session assembled on the 24th day of November, 2026, and is recorded in the official minutes of the Oxford City Council.

Alan B. Atkinson, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION

I, Alan B. Atkinson, City Clerk for the City of Oxford, Alabama, do hereby certify this Ordinance was posted in three public places within the City and at Oxford City Hall beginning on the 25th day of November, 2026, as in accordance with the provisions of Code of Alabama, 1975, Section 11-45-8.

Alan B. Atkinson, City Clerk