



**City of Milpitas
Building and Safety Department**

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**EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND
RESCUE OPENING HEIGHT**

Policy:	BDP-BLG28
Effective Date:	3/21/11
Proposed by:	BYC
Last Reviewed/ Revised:	
Reviewed/ Revised by:	LS/BK
Approved By:	Keyvan Irannejad P.E. Chief Building Official

CODE REFERENCE:

2010 CRC Section R310.1

ISSUE:

Section R310.1 of the 2010 California Residential Code requires the emergency escape and rescue openings to have a sill height of not more than 44 inches above the floor. The language seems to require the measurement to be taken to the window sill height, not to the clear opening. However, the Code and Commentary of the 2009 IRC clarifies the intent of Section R310.1 as follows:

“To be accessible from the interior of the sleeping room, attic or basement, the emergency escape and rescue opening cannot be located more than 44 inches above the floor. The measurement is to be taken from the floor to the bottom of the clear opening.”

POLICY:

The height of the emergency escape and rescue opening measured from the floor to the bottom of the clear opening shall be min. 44”.