



# NEWS RELEASE

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**August 20, 2007**

**Subject: OCFA Planning & Development Services Announces New Service**

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Effective August 20, the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) Planning & Development Services Section will begin offering contractors, architects and other design professionals the ability to use the internet to obtain the approval status of construction plans submitted to OCFA for review.

This new service allows customers to search their project's status by either entering a unique service request number assigned to each plan or by entering the address of their project. The system provides useful information such as the approval status, name, phone number, and email address of the staff person assigned to the project. In addition, the system will advise the customer of where the plan can be retrieved when the fire authority review is complete. The available data includes all active construction plans reviewed during previous six month period.

This new service can be accessed through the official OCFA website at [www.ocfa.org](http://www.ocfa.org) and then proceeding to the Fire Prevention Main Page.

OCFA's Planning & Development Services Section typically reviews approximately 1,000 plans per month. It is anticipated that the new project search capability will significantly reduce telephone call volumes while also making this important information available 24 hours per day.

*The Orange County Fire Authority is a joint powers authority that serves more than 1.3 million residents in 22 cities and the unincorporated areas of the county.*