

TAKEN TO ACCESS



Question of the month:

- Q.** What does YLF stand for and how is Sutter Health involved?
- R.** From July 22nd to July 26th, students with various disabilities from all over California gathered at CSU for the annual Youth Leadership Forum. These high school students participate in this program for the purpose of connecting with other students with disabilities and are ready to become the next generation of leaders. The forum was created by the California Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities and other government partners and Sutter Health is one of the major private sponsors. Some of us attended a program culmination luncheon on July 25th and found the event most inspirational. The students were eager to network with all attendees and were clearly inspired by previous participants who've gone on to become fully independent and engaged in society. A heart wrenching moment for me was when as a conversation starter a table facilitator asked one of the students: "Kelsey, if you could have any super power, what would it be?" To which she answered: "To walk"



BURN NOTICE!

We recently received an inquiry regarding applicable accessibility requirements for dimensional signage located behind reception desks. The sign in question stated the name of the affiliate and our Sutter Health logo and consisted of metallic dimensional letters against a blue background. The contrast was subtle and the concern was that it did not meet code requirements for visibility.

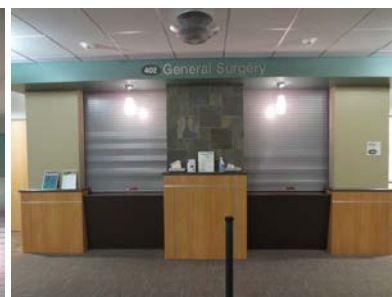
Signs that describe the use of a permanent and functional space or the name of a department are required to comply with finish and contrast based on 2010 CBC 1117B.5.2. However signs for the purpose of displaying company names or logos are specifically excluded from these requirements in the 2010 ADAS section 216.1.

Often, Access Specialists will issue comments that can be misinterpreted as applicable to our company signs and logos, which many tend to be of aluminum or silver finish dimensional letters. While some may argue that the lack of contrast created by aluminum letters against any backdrop is not desirable as we try to promote our brand, the decision to provide higher contrast lettering should be based on marketing strategy and aesthetics and not a broad interpretation of the code.

Below is a gallery of photos gathered while performing monitoring services of newly completed construction projects. Can you tell which do not comply?



The two photos on the top right show blow up views of signage indicating **specific departments inside** a Surgery Center. Due to the reflectivity of aluminum letters the signage tends to blend in with the background. Notice how when viewing the signage from a distance the letters essentially disappear. While a darker soffit would have improved contrast, the nature of metallic material is to reflect the adjacent surfaces and would potentially still lack proper visibility.



These two signs provide affiliate names and logos. However, the first sign includes information about an Imaging department and therefore it's non-compliant. Per 2010 ADAS the second sign is acceptable since it only includes affiliate name and logo.

