# CLARK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING
# Field Inspection Guideline

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| **SUBJECT:** | **Protection of Water Heaters from Damage** | | | **FIG-P-036** |
| ***Effective Date:*** | ***August 11, 2005*** | ***Revised: April 11, 2007*** | ***Approved By:*** | **GJF** |
| ***Code Chapter:*** | ***2006 UPC Section 518.14 (2)*** | | | **Page 1 of 1** |

**Interpretation:**

The 2006 Uniform Plumbing Code, Section 518.4 (2) requires water heaters, installed in a garage, to be suitably guarded against damage, if they are installed in areas where they may be subject to mechanical damage.

**Field Application:**

Water heaters can be considered protected from damage by one of two methods:

1) They must be installed behind adequate barriers as shown on the approved plans or,

2) They must be on an elevated section of the garage floor or,

3) They are located out of the normal path of a vehicle using the garage.

"Out of the normal path" is interpreted as:

1) The water heater is installed within a dedicated alcove or,

2) The water heater is located completely within the space defined by the width of the front garage return walls and parallel with the garage side walls for the entire depth of the garage. Vehicles are assumed to be driving parallel with the side walls of the garage.